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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

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## DIGEST

Present law (R.S. 17:3983(A)(4)(c)) prohibits a charter school from beginning operation by not later than 24 months after final approval of their charter. Extends the time period within which start-up must commence to 36 months if a charter school is engaged in desegregation compliance issues. Provides that if a charter school does not begin operation within these time frames, the charter for the school will be revoked but allows the school to apply for a new charter if the cap on the number of charter schools had not been reached.

Proposed law retains these provisions and further provides that, upon request, the chartering authority may extend the time period within which any charter must begin operation, provided that the school must begin operation by not later than 36 months after final approval of the charter. Removes outdated reference to the cap on the number of charter schools.

Present law (R.S. 17:3983(A)(4)(e)) provides that a charter school may begin operation only in July, August, or September and shall not begin operation sooner than eight months after approval of the charter.

Proposed law removes the provision that restricts the opening date of a charter school to the months of July, August, or September. Provides that the charter school may open sooner than eight months after approval if the chartering authority agrees to a lesser time period.

Effective August 15, 2011.

(Amends R.S. 17:3983(A)(4)(c) and (e))