
DIGEST

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HB 78 Original

2024 Regular Session

Carver

Abstract: Authorizes the initial proposal for a charter school with a corporate partner to be made to the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) as a Type 2 charter school proposal and broadens the definition of a corporate partner.

Present law authorizes the establishment of charter schools, including types of schools and the chartering process for each. Authorizes a charter school to have a corporate partner, which present law defines as any legal entity registered with the secretary of state, except those holding gaming licenses, that has donated facilities or improvements, such as land, buildings, and renovations (including technology), to the charter school.

Proposed law broadens the definition of "corporate partner" to include regional airports and any federal or state entity or agency, including public postsecondary education institutions. Also modifies the definition to include entities that have either donated *or provided* such facilities or improvements to a charter school.

Present law provides for different types of charter schools according to their authorizer (either a local school board or BESE) and the proposal and authorization process for each, which varies depending on the type of school.

Present law provides that a Type 2 charter school is a BESE-authorized charter school that operates pursuant to a contract between a nonprofit corporation and BESE. Present law limits the conditions under which a charter school can be proposed to BESE as a Type 2 charter school without first being proposed to a local public school board as a locally-authorized school. Proposed law authorizes proposals for schools with corporate partners to be made initially to BESE as Type 2 charter school proposals.

(Amends R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(i) and 3991.1(C)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(iv) and 3991.1(A)(5))