



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 544**

January Session, 2003

Substitute House Bill No. 6690

*House of Representatives, April 24, 2003*

The Committee on Education reported through REP. GIANNAROS of the 21st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING CHARTER SCHOOLS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-66hh of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2002, and June 30, 2003, the  
4 Commissioner of Education shall establish, within available  
5 appropriations and bond authorizations, a grant program to assist  
6 state charter schools in financing (1) school building projects, as  
7 defined in section 10-282, (2) general improvements to school  
8 buildings, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-265h, and (3)  
9 repayment of debt incurred for prior school building projects.  
10 Eligibility for such grants shall be limited to state charter schools  
11 whose charters were renewed in the prior fiscal year pursuant to  
12 subsection (g) of section 10-66bb. The governing [authority] authorities  
13 of such state charter schools may apply for such grants to the  
14 Department of Education at such time and in such manner as the

15 commissioner prescribes. Each state charter school may receive no  
16 more than one grant under this section and no grant under this section  
17 shall exceed five hundred thousand dollars.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 10-66ee of the general statutes is  
19 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
20 *1, 2003*):

21 (c) (1) The state shall, annually, pay in accordance with this  
22 subsection, to the fiscal authority for a state charter school, seven  
23 thousand five hundred dollars for each student enrolled in such  
24 school. Such payments shall be made as follows: Twenty-five per cent  
25 of the amount not later than July fifteenth and September fifteenth  
26 based on estimated student enrollment on May first, and twenty-five  
27 per cent of the amount not later than January fifteenth and the  
28 remaining amount not later than April fifteenth, each based on student  
29 enrollment on October first. (2) In the case of a student identified as  
30 requiring special education, the school district in which the student  
31 resides shall: (A) Hold the planning and placement team meeting for  
32 such student and shall invite representatives from the charter school to  
33 participate in such meeting; and (B) pay the state charter school, on a  
34 quarterly basis, an amount equal to the difference between the  
35 reasonable cost of educating such student and the sum of the amount  
36 received by the state charter school for such student pursuant to  
37 subdivision (1) of this subsection and amounts received from other  
38 state, federal, local or private sources calculated on a per pupil basis.  
39 Such school district shall be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to  
40 section 10-76g. The charter school a student requiring special  
41 education attends shall be responsible for ensuring that such student  
42 receives the services mandated by the student's individualized  
43 education program whether such services are provided by the charter  
44 school or by the school district in which the student resides.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

**ED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Type</b>	<b>FY 04 \$</b>	<b>FY 05 \$</b>
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This bill will result in a cost to the state of approximately \$1,000,000 beginning in FY 04. Funds within the governor’s recommended FY 04 and FY 05 budgets are not sufficient to sustain the increase from \$7,000 to \$7,500. The governor’s budget assumes maintaining the current \$7,000 per student grant.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

sHB 6690

***AN ACT CONCERNING CHARTER SCHOOLS***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill increases the annual state grant for students attending state charter schools from \$7,000 to \$7,500 per student. It also makes a technical change in the charter school law.

Charter schools are public schools authorized by the State Board of Education and funded by the state. They offer specialized programs under renewable "charters" that exempt them from many requirements that apply to other public schools.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003, except for the technical change, which takes effect on passage.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20      Nay 6