



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 519**

February Session, 2008

Substitute Senate Bill No. 648

*Senate, April 7, 2008*

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. GAFFEY of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

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

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

1 Section 1. Section 10-220h of the 2008 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

4 When a student enrolls in a school in a new school district or in a  
5 new state charter school, the new school district or new state charter  
6 school shall provide written notification of such enrollment to the  
7 school district in which the student previously attended school or the  
8 state charter school. The school district in which the student previously  
9 attended school or the state charter school that the student previously  
10 attended (1) shall transfer the student's education records to the new  
11 school district or new state charter school no later than ten days after  
12 receipt of such notification, and (2) if the student's parent or guardian  
13 did not give written authorization for the transfer of such records, shall  
14 send notification of the transfer to the parent or guardian at the same  
15 time that it transfers the records. In the case of a student who transfers

16 from Unified School District #1, the new school district or new state  
17 charter school shall provide written notification of such enrollment to  
18 Unified School District #1 not later than ten days after the date of  
19 enrollment, the unified school district shall, not later than ten days  
20 after receipt of notification of enrollment from the new school district  
21 or new state charter school, transfer the records of the student to the  
22 new school district or new state charter school and the new school  
23 district or new state charter school shall, not later than thirty days after  
24 receiving the student's education records, credit the student for all  
25 instruction received in Unified School District #1.

26 Sec. 2. Section 10-66kk of the 2008 supplement to the general  
27 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
28 (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

29 (a) The governing council of each state charter school [, as defined in  
30 subdivision (3) of section 10-66aa,] shall post on any Internet web site  
31 that the council operates the (1) schedule, (2) agenda, and (3) minutes  
32 of each meeting, including any meeting of subcommittees of the  
33 governing council.

34 (b) The membership of the governing council of each state charter  
35 school shall meet the requirements concerning such membership set  
36 forth in the provisions of subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of section 10-  
37 66bb of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes at the time of  
38 application for a state charter and at all other times.

39 Sec. 3. Section 10-66aa of the general statutes is repealed and the  
40 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

41 As used in sections 10-66aa to 10-66ff, inclusive, and [section]  
42 sections 10-66hh to 10-66kk, inclusive, as amended by this act:

43 (1) "Charter school" means a public, nonsectarian school which is  
44 (A) established under a charter granted pursuant to section 10-66bb of  
45 the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, (B) organized as a  
46 nonprofit entity under state law, (C) a public agency for purposes of

47 the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200, and (D)  
 48 operated independently of any local or regional board of education in  
 49 accordance with the terms of its charter and the provisions of sections  
 50 10-66aa to 10-66ff, inclusive, provided no member or employee of a  
 51 governing council of a charter school shall have a personal or financial  
 52 interest in the assets, real or personal, of the school;

53 (2) "Local charter school" means a public school or part of a public  
 54 school that is converted into a charter school and is approved by the  
 55 local or regional board of education of the school district in which it is  
 56 located and by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (e)  
 57 of section 10-66bb of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes; and

58 (3) "State charter school" means a new public school approved by  
 59 the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (f) of section 10-  
 60 66bb of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2008	10-220h
Sec. 2	July 1, 2008	10-66kk
Sec. 3	July 1, 2008	10-66aa

**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

Added section 3 to amend the introductory language of the definition section for charter schools to clarify that the definitions apply to all of the sections in part IVb of chapter 164 of the general statutes.

**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 chamber thereof for any purpose:

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

The bill, which applies the existing student records transfer laws to state charter schools, is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

***The Out Years***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 648*****AN ACT CONCERNING STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill applies the existing student records transfer laws to state charter schools. This means that state charter schools must send and be sent written notice of a student transfer. Additionally, state charter schools must send or be sent a transfer student's education records within 10 days of the notification. In the case of transfer students from Unified District #1, state charter schools must send the notification within 10 days of enrollment and must credit the students for all instruction received in the unified school district within 30 days of receiving the student's education records. Unified School District #1 serves students in the custody of the Department of Correction.

By law, charter school applications must include a description of the procedures for establishing a school governing council that must include teachers and parents or guardians. PA 07-3, June Special Session, additionally required the inclusion of the board of education chairperson for the town where the charter school is located and that has jurisdiction over a school that resembles the approximate grade configuration of the charter school. The bill specifies that these membership requirements must be met at all times, not just at the time of charter application or renewal.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (03/18/2008)

