



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 648

LCO No. 2651

02651_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNANCE.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10-66bb of the 2008 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
3 lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

4 (d) Applications pursuant to this section shall include a description
5 of: (1) The mission, purpose and any specialized focus of the proposed
6 charter school; (2) the interest in the community for the establishment
7 of the charter school; (3) the school governance and procedures for the
8 establishment of a governing council that (A) includes (i) teachers and
9 parents and guardians of students enrolled in the school, and (ii) the
10 chairperson of the local or regional board of education of the town in
11 which the charter school is located and which has jurisdiction over a
12 school that resembles the approximate grade configuration of the
13 charter school, or the designee of such chairperson, provided such
14 designee is a member of the board of education or the superintendent
15 of schools for the school district, (B) does not include any member who
16 is a member of another governing council for another charter school,

17 except for the chairperson of the local or regional board of education,
18 (C) holds separate meetings for each charter school that the council
19 governs, (D) meets in the town in which the charter school is located,
20 and ~~[(B)]~~ (E) is responsible for the oversight of charter school
21 operations, provided no member or employee of the governing council
22 may have a personal or financial interest in the assets, real or personal,
23 of the school; (4) the financial plan for operation of the school,
24 provided no application fees or other fees for attendance, except as
25 provided in this section, may be charged; (5) the educational program,
26 instructional methodology and services to be offered to students; (6)
27 the number and qualifications of teachers and administrators to be
28 employed in the school; (7) the organization of the school in terms of
29 the ages or grades to be taught and the total estimated enrollment of
30 the school; (8) the student admission criteria and procedures to (A)
31 ensure effective public information, (B) ensure open access on a space
32 available basis, (C) promote a diverse student body, and (D) ensure
33 that the school complies with the provisions of section 10-15c and that
34 it does not discriminate on the basis of disability, athletic performance
35 or proficiency in the English language, provided the school may limit
36 enrollment to a particular grade level or specialized educational focus
37 and, if there is not space available for all students seeking enrollment,
38 the school may give preference to siblings but shall otherwise
39 determine enrollment by a lottery; (9) a means to assess student
40 performance that includes participation in state-wide mastery
41 examinations pursuant to chapter 163c; (10) procedures for teacher
42 evaluation and professional development for teachers and
43 administrators; (11) the provision of school facilities, pupil
44 transportation and student health and welfare services; (12)
45 procedures to encourage involvement by parents and guardians of
46 enrolled students in student learning, school activities and school
47 decision-making; (13) document efforts to increase the racial and
48 ethnic diversity of staff; and (14) a five-year plan to sustain the
49 maintenance and operation of the school. Subject to the provisions of
50 subsection (b) of section 10-66dd, an application may include, or a

51 charter school may file, requests to waive provisions of the general
52 statutes and regulations not required by sections 10-66aa to 10-66ff,
53 inclusive, and which are within the jurisdiction of the State Board of
54 Education.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	10-66bb(d)

Statement of Purpose:

To reform charter school governance.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]