AN ACT CONCERNING ADVANCE ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS IN CHARTER SCHOOLS AND INTERDISTRICT MAGNET SCHOOLS BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

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

Section 1. Subsection (j) of section 10-66bb of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2019):

   (j) Any member of the armed forces, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, who is both a nonresident of this state and the parent or guardian of a nonresident student, shall be allowed to participate in an enrollment lottery described in subdivision (8) of subsection (d) of this section for the purposes of enrolling such student in any charter school in this state, provided (A) such member and such student will move to and establish residence in this state prior to the beginning of the school year for which enrollment is sought, as a result of such member's service in the armed forces, and (B) such member gives such charter school a copy of the member's military orders and written notice of his or her intention to move to and reside in this state with such student.

   [(j)] (k) (1) The governing council of a state or local charter school may apply to the State Board of Education for a waiver of the requirements of the enrollment lottery described in subdivision (8) of subsection (d) of this section, provided such state or local charter school has as its primary purpose the establishment of education programs designed to serve one or more of the following populations:

   (A) Students with a history of behavioral and social difficulties, (B)
students identified as requiring special education, (C) students who are English language learners, or (D) students of a single gender.

(2) An enrollment lottery described in subdivision (8) of subsection (d) of this section shall not be held for a local charter school that is established at a school that is among the schools with a percentage equal to or less than five per cent when all schools are ranked highest to lowest in accountability index scores, as defined in section 10-223e.

Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10-66bb of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2019):

(d) Applications pursuant to this section shall include a description of: (1) The mission, purpose and any specialized focus of the proposed charter school; (2) the interest in the community for the establishment of the charter school; (3) the school governance and procedures for the establishment of a governing council that (A) includes (i) teachers and parents and guardians of students enrolled in the school, and (ii) the chairperson of the local or regional board of education of the town in which the charter school is located and which has jurisdiction over a school that resembles the approximate grade configuration of the charter school, or the designee of such chairperson, provided such designee is a member of the board of education or the superintendent of schools for the school district, or the superintendent's designee, and (B) is responsible for the oversight of charter school operations, provided no member or employee of the governing council may have a personal or financial interest in the assets, real or personal, of the school; (4) the financial plan for operation of the school, provided no application fees or other fees for attendance, except as provided in this section, may be charged; (5) the educational program, instructional methodology and services to be offered to students; (6) the number and qualifications of teachers and administrators to be employed in the school; (7) the organization of the school in terms of the ages or grades to be taught and the total estimated enrollment of the school; (8) the student admission criteria and procedures to (A) ensure effective
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public information, (B) ensure open access on a space available basis, including the enrollment of students during the school year if spaces become available in the charter school, (C) promote a diverse student body, and (D) ensure that the school complies with the provisions of section 10-15c and that it does not discriminate on the basis of disability, athletic performance or proficiency in the English language, provided the school may limit enrollment to a particular grade level or specialized educational focus and, if there is not space available for all students seeking enrollment, the school may give preference to siblings but shall otherwise determine enrollment by a lottery, except the State Board of Education may waive the requirements for such enrollment lottery pursuant to subsection [j][k] of this section; (9) a means to assess student performance that includes participation in mastery examinations, pursuant to section 10-14n; (10) procedures for teacher evaluation and professional development for teachers and administrators; (11) the provision of school facilities, pupil transportation and student health and welfare services; (12) procedures to encourage involvement by parents and guardians of enrolled students in student learning, school activities and school decision-making; (13) procedures to document efforts to increase the racial and ethnic diversity of staff; (14) a five-year plan to sustain the maintenance and operation of the school; (15) a student recruitment and retention plan that shall include, but not be limited to, a clear description of a plan and the capacity of the school to attract, enroll and retain students from among the populations described in subparagraph (A)(i) to (A)(v), inclusive, of subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of this section; (16) a plan to share student learning practices and experiences with the local or regional board of education of the town in which the proposed charter school is to be located; and (17) in the case of an application in which the governing council of the proposed charter school intends to contract with a charter management organization for whole school management services: (A) Evidence of the charter management organization's ability to (i) serve student populations that are similar to the student population that will be served by the proposed charter school, (ii) create strong academic
outcomes for students, and (iii) successfully manage nonacademic school functions, (B) a term sheet that sets forth (i) the length of the contract for whole school management services, (ii) the roles and responsibilities of the governing council of the proposed charter school, the staff of the proposed charter school and the charter management organization, (iii) the scope of services and resources to be provided by the charter management organization, (iv) the performance evaluation measures and timelines, (v) the compensation structure, including a clear identification of all fees to be paid to the charter management organization, (vi) the methods of contract oversight and enforcement, and (vii) the conditions for renewal and termination of the contract, and (C) evidence of compliance with the provisions of section 10-66tt. Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of section 10-66dd, an application may include, or a charter school may file, requests to waive provisions of the general statutes and regulations not required under sections 10-66aa to 10-66nn, inclusive, and which are within the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education.

Sec. 3. Section 10-264l of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (q) as follows (Effective October 1, 2019):

(NEW) (q) Any member of the armed forces, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103, who is both a nonresident of this state and the parent or guardian of a nonresident student, shall be allowed to participate in an enrollment lottery described in subdivision (3) of subsection (m) of this section and subsection (a) of section 10-264o for the purposes of enrolling such student in any interdistrict magnet school in this state, provided (1) such member and such student will move to and establish residence in this state prior to the beginning of the school year for which enrollment is sought, as a result of such member's service in the armed forces, and (2) such member gives such interdistrict magnet school a copy of the member's military orders and written notice of his or her intention to move to and reside in this state with such student.
This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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