AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROCESS FOR FUNDING A NEW CHARTER SCHOOL.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2021) There is established an account to be known as the charter school approval grant account which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account shall be expended by the Commissioner of Education for the purpose of providing grants under section 10-66ee of the general statutes, as amended by this act, to a local or state charter school that has been granted an initial certificate for approval for a charter pursuant to section 10-66bb of the general statutes, as amended by this act, in the fiscal year immediately following the fiscal year in which such initial certificate for approval for a charter was granted.

Sec. 2. Section 10-66ee of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (o) as follows (Effective July 1, 2021):

(NEW) (o) Any unexpended funds appropriated for purposes of this section shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year but shall be deposited
in the charter school approval grant account, established pursuant to section 1 of this act, and shall be available for expenditure during the next fiscal year in accordance with the provisions of said section.

Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 10-66bb of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2021):

(a) (1) On and after July 1, 1997, and prior to July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education may grant charters for local and state charter schools in accordance with this section. On and after July 1, 2015, such state board may grant initial certificates of approval for charters for local and state charter schools in accordance with this section. Upon granting an initial certificate of approval for a charter, such state board shall submit a copy of the initial certificate of approval for the charter and a summary of the comments made at a public hearing conducted pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this section or subparagraph (B)(ii) of subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of this section, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies.

(2) [The General Assembly may appropriate funds to the Department of Education for the purposes of providing grants to local and state charter schools, pursuant to section 10-66ee. If such funds are appropriated, an initial certificate of approval for a charter for a local or state charter school shall be effective and deemed a charter as of July first of the first fiscal year for which such funds are appropriated.] The General Assembly may appropriate funds to the charter school approval grant account, pursuant to section 1 of this act, for the purposes of providing grants, pursuant to section 10-66ee, as amended by this act, to local and state charter schools that have been granted an initial certificate of approval for a charter. The Commissioner of Education shall expend such funds in the fiscal year immediately following the fiscal year in which such initial certificate for approval for a charter was granted, and such initial certificate of approval for a
charter shall be effective and deemed a charter as of July first of the fiscal year for which such funds are expended.

(3) A charter or initial certificate of approval for a charter granted under this section shall not be considered a license, as defined in section 4-166, for the purposes of chapter 54.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>New section</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 1</td>
<td>July 1, 2021</td>
<td>New section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec. 2</td>
<td>July 1, 2021</td>
<td>10-66ee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec. 3</td>
<td>July 1, 2021</td>
<td>10-66bb(a)</td>
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</tbody>
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**Statement of Purpose:**
To establish a charter school approval grant account for the purpose of funding new charter schools.

[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.]