

Appropriations Fiscal Summary

4074

Author: Hart Amended 5/21/92 Bill #: SB 1448  
Hearing Date: 5/27/92 Policy Committee Vote: Educ 6-5  
Summary Prepared By: Ellen Venturino

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Bill Summary: SB 1448 establishes a procedure for any person petition school district governing boards for approval to establish up to 100 charter schools and an unspecified number of charter school districts.

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Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year  
(Dollars in thousands)

Department	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	Fund
SDE*	Unknown potential costs in the millions of dollars			General
Mandated program	Potentially significant costs			General
*State Department of Education				

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STAFF COMMENTS:  
SUSPENSE FILE

Most of the costs of this bill would count towards meeting the minimum funding guarantee requirements of Proposition 98.

The bill could result in an increase in the state's ADA (thereby increasing the Prop 98 guarantee under tests 3 and 2) resulting from (1) private schools obtaining a charter and (2) charter schools attracting students from private schools. The resulting state cost could be at least several millions of dollars annually if only one private school obtained a charter or if only several hundred students returned to public schools.

The bill provides that a charter school would receive basic per-pupil funding equal to the current fiscal year base revenue limit for the school district to which the charter petition was presented. This could have a redistribution effect within a district since not all schools receive the same amount per pupil e.g. high schools usually receive more than elementary schools. The bill also would allow charter schools to receive an amount of special education funding that is equal to the amount the pupils would have generated had they been enrolled in the district to which the charter petition was presented.

The bill could result in unknown General Fund (non-Prop 98) costs for SDE to (1) review charter requests from petitioners who were denied a charter by their local boards and (2) modify its apportionment system.

The bill also creates a state-mandated local program by requiring school boards to hold hearings and to review and respond to charter proposals within a specified time frame. DOF shows costs of \$500 per hearing. We believe there could be additional significant costs associated with reviewing and responding to the petitions, depending upon the thoroughness of school boards' reviews.