

This bill clarifies that in the case of districtwide charters, the State Board of Education may grant one or more renewal of those charters for a period not to exceed five years.

4. Current law authorizes charter schools to receive general apportionment and specified categorical funding in an amount equal to funds received by the chartering school district.

This bill makes the following changes to the funding provisions related to charter schools:

- A. Specifies that, for apportionment purposes, a charter school shall be operative no sooner than July 1 following approval of the charter petition.
- B. Authorizes charter schools to receive funds from summer school apportionments.

Related Legislation

SB 1448 (Hart), Chapter 781 of 1992, provided for the establishment of charter schools. The bill passed the Senate 27-4 (Noes: Dills, Cecil Green, Rosenthal and Watson).

SB 1891 (Hayden) would allow the Los Angeles Unified School District to exceed their cap and operate up to 20 charter schools. The bill passed the Senate 26-2 (Noes: Ayala and Lockyer) and is currently in the Assembly.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Committee: Yes Local: Yes

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

To date, 48 school charters have been granted, including 10 in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). According to LAUSD, its cost to review petitions and hold public hearings has exceeded \$10,000 per petition. To the extent that the LAUSD grants additional charters or more than 90 charters are granted throughout the remainder of the state, the bill would result in added costs for districts to process petitions, costs of perhaps \$10,000 per petition. These costs would be state-reimbursable. There could be additional state-reimbursable costs for appeals on denied petitions.

The bill also could result in an increase in the state's ADA -- thereby increasing the Proposition 98 guarantee under tests 2 and 3 -- to the extent that any of the additional charter schools authorized under this measure would attract students from private schools. If only 50 students currently attending private school would enroll in one of the additional charter schools, the state would incur costs in excess of \$200,000 for additional school aid.

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/10/94)

California Association of Suburban School Districts
San Diego County Office of Education

CONTINUED

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/10/94)

California School Employees Association
California Teachers Association
Service Employees International Union

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Proponents argue that charter schools improve pupil learning, increase opportunity for pupils, encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods, create new professional opportunities for teachers and provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of educational opportunities that are available.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Opponents argue that the charter school experiment should not be extended beyond its current parameters until such time as a study is conducted to determine the relative effectiveness of the concept.

The California School Employees Association argues they are not opposed to charter schools, but rather to the current process for establishment which they feel makes no provisions for classified employee input in the planning and development stage. This results, in some cases, in classified employees losing rights to collective bargaining and in lost benefits that teachers retain.

NM:ctl 5/10/94 Senate Floor Analyses