

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 225

2019 Regular Session

Edmonds

SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Provides relative to the sale or transfer of charter school facilities financed through tax exempt bonds

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Revise process through which a charter school facility owner may dispose of such a facility purchased through tax exempt bonds and specify that such process applies to *nongovernmental* charter school facility owners.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law requires local school boards to make available to chartering groups any vacant or slated-to-be-vacant school facility for lease or purchase up to fair market value. Provides that in the case of a Type 2 charter school created as a result of a conversion, the facility and all property within the existing school shall be made available to that chartering group. Requires the chartering group, in return for the use of the facility and its contents, to pay a proportionate share of the local school board's bonded indebtedness.

Proposed law additionally provides the following process for a nongovernmental charter school facility owner who wishes to dispose of a charter school facility that was financed in whole or in part through tax exempt bonds that have been paid in full:

- (1) Requires the owner to first offer to transfer title to the facility, at no cost, to the charter operator that is operating a school within the facility.
- (2) Provides that if the charter operator declines, the owner shall next offer to transfer the title to the facility, at no cost, to the local school board.
- (3) Provides that if the local school board declines, the property may then be advertised for public sale.
- (4) Provides that if the charter operator accepts, the transfer agreement shall stipulate that if the operator acquires ownership of the facility and at any time ceases to operate a public school in it, the operator shall offer to transfer title to the facility, inclusive of all buildings, contents, and land, at no cost to the local school board.

Proposed law further provides that an offer by the owner of a charter school facility to transfer title to the facility shall extend for a period of not less than 60 days from when the offer was made.

(Amends R.S. 17:3982(B)(1))