The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

DIGEST

SB 198 Original 2016 Regular Session Gatti

Present law provides for submission of charter school proposals to local school boards or to BESE. Provides that local school boards and BESE shall enter into any proposed charter that each determines is a valid, complete, financially well-structured, and educationally sound proposal that offers potential for fulfilling the purposes of present law.

Present law provides that each proposal for a Type 1 or Type 3 charter school shall first be made to the local school board with jurisdiction where the school is to be located by submitting a written proposal. If the local school board denies the proposal, if conditions placed on the proposal by the local school board are not acceptable to the chartering group, or a charter school applicant believes the local board did not comply with present law application evaluation requirements, then the proposal may be submitted to BESE for approval as a Type 2 charter school. Requires a local school board to notify a charter applicant of its final decision including a written explanation of the reasons for denial.

Proposed law retains present law but prohibits BESE from entering into a proposed charter if the proposed school would be located in a school system that, in either of its two last evaluations under the accountability system, received a letter grade of "A", "B" or "C" and the school board that governs the local school system previously denied or placed conditions on the proposal.

Present law relative to Type 2 charter school proposals, requires BESE to notify the local school board of the district in which the proposed charter school would be located about the receipt of such proposal. Requires that the local school board and other interested groups be allowed to provide written information regarding the proposal and present information at a scheduled public BESE meeting prior to any BESE determination.

Proposed law retains present law. Proposed law provides that each Type 2 charter proposal received by the board must be identical to the proposal originally submitted to the local school board.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3981(2) and 3983(A)(3)(b) and (c))