

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 78

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARVER

SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Authorizes initial proposals for charter schools with corporate partners to be made to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education as Type 2 charter school proposals

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(i) and 3991.1(C)(introductory paragraph) and
3 to enact R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(iv) and 3991.1(A)(5), relative to charter schools; to
4 authorize the initial proposal for a charter school with a corporate partner to be made
5 to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education as a Type 2 charter
6 school proposal; to provide relative to the definition of corporate partner; and to
7 provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(i) and 3991.1(C)(introductory paragraph) are
10 hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(iv) and 3991.1(A)(5) are hereby
11 enacted to read as follows:

12 §3983. Chartering process by type; eligibility; limitations; faculty approval; parental
13 approval

14 A.

15 * * *

16 (2)(a)(i) Each proposal for a Type 1 or Type 3 charter school shall first be
17 made to the local school board with jurisdiction where the school is to be located,
18 except as provided for in Item ~~(ii) or (iii)~~ (ii), (iii), or (iv) of this Subparagraph, by
19 submitting a written proposal. If, after review as required by R.S. 17:3982, the local

1 school board denies the proposal, or if conditions placed on the proposal by the local
2 school board, as provided in Paragraph (B)(2) of this Section, are not acceptable to
3 the chartering group, then a proposal for a Type 2 charter school may be made to the
4 state board.

5 * * *

6 (iv) The initial proposal for a charter school with a corporate partner as
7 provided in R.S. 17:3991.1 may be made to the state board as a proposal for a Type 2
8 charter school.

9 * * *

10 §3991.1. Corporate partners; enrollment preferences and board membership

11 A. The legislature finds and declares that:

12 * * *

13 (5) Encouraging and enhancing partnerships between the state's public
14 education system and state and federal government partners that provide for public
15 health and safety, defense, and critical infrastructure benefits the state and its
16 students.

17 * * *

18 C. For purposes of this Section, a corporate partner is any legal entity except
19 for a corporation identified in R.S. 18:1505.2(L)(3), whether for profit or not for
20 profit, registered with the secretary of state, ~~except a corporation identified in R.S.~~
21 ~~18:1505.2(L)(3),~~ a regional airport, or any federal or state entity or agency, including
22 a public postsecondary education institution, that has, acting individually or as part
23 of a consortium of corporations, donated or provided one or more of the following
24 to the school:

25 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 78 Engrossed

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Carver

Abstract: Authorizes the initial proposal for a charter school with a corporate partner to be made to the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) as a Type 2 charter school proposal and broadens the definition of a corporate partner.

Present law authorizes the establishment of charter schools, including types of schools and the chartering process for each. Authorizes a charter school to have a corporate partner, which present law defines as any legal entity registered with the secretary of state, except those holding gaming licenses, that has donated facilities or improvements, such as land, buildings, and renovations (including technology), to the charter school.

Proposed law broadens the definition of "corporate partner" to include regional airports and any federal or state entity or agency, including public postsecondary education institutions. Also modifies the definition to include entities that have either donated *or provided* such facilities or improvements to a charter school.

Present law provides for different types of charter schools according to their authorizer (either a local school board or BESE) and the proposal and authorization process for each, which varies depending on the type of school.

Present law provides that a Type 2 charter school is a BESE-authorized charter school that operates pursuant to a contract between a nonprofit corporation and BESE. Present law limits the conditions under which a charter school can be proposed to BESE as a Type 2 charter school without first being proposed to a local public school board as a locally-authorized school. Proposed law authorizes proposals for schools with corporate partners to be made initially to BESE as Type 2 charter school proposals.

(Amends R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(i) and 3991.1(C)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 17:3983(A)(2)(a)(iv) and 3991.1(A)(5))