

WORKING DRAFT

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Charter school amendments

Sponsored by: Hdraft

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to charter schools; restricting the
2 frequency of charter applications; allowing successive
3 renewal periods; modifying and clarifying the denial and
4 appeal process; and providing for an effective date.

5

6 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

7

8 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-3-303 by creating a new subsection
9 (e), 21-3-308(a), (d), 21-3-309(a) and 21-3-310(a) are
10 amended to read:

11

12 **21-3-303. Charter school prohibitions.**

13

14 (e) No charter application shall be considered from
15 any person, group or organization that has previously filed

1 a charter application which has been denied during the
2 preceding twelve (12) month period. This subsection shall
3 apply only to applications filed on and after July 1, 2007.

4
5 **21-3-308. Hearing by local board; prohibited actions**
6 **by local board; criteria; compliance with state standards;**
7 **state board review; contractual authority.**

8
9 (a) Not later than thirty (30) days after receiving
10 an application for any charter school as defined in W.S.
11 21-3-302, the district board shall hold a public hearing on
12 the application, at which time the board shall consider the
13 level of community and parental support for the application
14 if an application for a new charter school, or the level of
15 teacher and parental support if an application for a
16 converted charter school or charter school within a school.
17 Following review of the application and the public hearing,
18 if applicable, and in accordance with subsection (d) of
19 this section, the district board shall either approve or
20 deny the application within sixty (60) days of receipt.
21 Approval under this article may be conditioned for purposes
22 specified under subsection (c) of this section. In
23 addition, the board may approve an application for the
24 operation of a converted charter school only if it

1 determines teacher and parental support for the conversion
2 are established at the levels required by W.S. 21-3-306(b).
3 Prior to approving an application for a charter school
4 under this section, the board shall approve and adopt the
5 content and terms of the contract as provided in W.S.
6 21-3-307.

7
8 (d) Upon the approval of any application by the
9 district board, the applicant shall provide written notice
10 of that approval including a copy of the application to the
11 state superintendent. If the district board denies the
12 application, the board shall not later than forty-five (45)
13 days following the date of its decision, notify the
14 applicant of the denial in writing, together with its
15 reasons for denial.

16

17 ***** STAFF COMMENTS *****

18 The Subcommittee has modified the W1 version of
19 its draft proposal by allowing a local board up
20 to 45 days from the date of its decision to
21 notify the applicant of its denial of the
22 application, together with reasons.

23

24 **21-3-309. Length of operation under charter; renewal;**
25 **revocation.**

26

1 (a) A charter may be granted pursuant to this article
2 for a period not to exceed five (5) years and may be
3 renewed for ~~a period~~ successive periods not to exceed five
4 (5) years for each renewal period. A material revision of
5 the provisions of a charter petition may be made only with
6 the approval of the local board granting the charter.

7
8 **21-3-310. Appeal; standard of review; procedures.**

9
10 (a) A charter applicant or any other person who
11 wishes to appeal a decision of a district board concerning
12 a charter school shall provide the state board and the
13 district board with a notice of appeal within ~~thirty (30)~~
14 forty-five (45) days after receiving the local board's
15 written decision and reasons for denial. If the appeal is
16 of a denial, nonrenewal, or revocation of a charter, the
17 person bringing the appeal shall limit the grounds of the
18 appeal to the grounds for denial specified by the district
19 board. The notice shall include a brief statement of the
20 reasons the charter school applicant contends the district
21 board's denial was in error.

22 ***** STAFF COMMENTS *****

23
24 The Subcommittee has modified the W1 version of
25 its draft proposal by extending the time limit
26 from 30 to 45 days for an applicant to notify the

1 local and state board of its intent to appeal a
2 decision of the local board.
3

4 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2007.

5

6

(END)