

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0031

Charter school amendments.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

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) and (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
16 a charter application which has been denied during the

1 preceding twelve (12) month period. This subsection shall
2 apply only to applications filed on and after July 1, 2007.

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

7
8 (a) Not later than thirty (30) days after receiving
9 an application for any charter school as defined in W.S.
10 21-3-302, the district board shall hold a public hearing on
11 the application, at which time the board shall consider the
12 level of community and parental support for the application
13 if an application for a new charter school, or the level of
14 teacher and parental support if an application for a
15 converted charter school or charter school within a school.
16 Following review of the application and the public hearing,
17 if applicable, and in accordance with subsection (d) of
18 this section, the district board shall either approve or
19 deny the application within sixty (60) days of receipt.
20 Approval under this article may be conditioned for purposes
21 specified under subsection (c) of this section. In
22 addition, the board may approve an application for the
23 operation of a converted charter school only if it
24 determines teacher and parental support for the conversion

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

6
7 (d) Upon the approval of any application by the
8 district board, the applicant shall provide written notice
9 of that approval including a copy of the application to the
10 state superintendent. If the district board denies the
11 application, the board shall not later than forty-five (45)
12 days following the date of its decision, notify the
13 applicant of the denial in writing⁷ together with its
14 reasons for denial.

15
16 **21-3-309. Length of operation under charter; renewal;**
17 **revocation.**

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19 (a) A charter may be granted pursuant to this article
20 for a period not to exceed five (5) years and may be
21 renewed for ~~a period~~ successive periods not to exceed five
22 (5) years for each renewal period. A material revision of
23 the provisions of a charter petition may be made only with
24 the approval of the local board granting the charter.

1

2 **21-3-310. Appeal; standard of review; procedures.**

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

16

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

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(END)