

HB 1580 -- CHARTER SCHOOLS

SPONSOR: Franks Jr.

This bill states that no entity shall be eligible to sponsor a charter school if the entity is currently sponsoring a charter school whose most recent three-year Annual Performance Report (APR) average is consistent with an unaccredited classification.

Any approved school charter shall include a performance contract that specifies that the term of the charter shall be five years and may be renewed for an additional five years, subject to the approval of the voters of the school district, unless the APR of the charter school is below the average of the APR scores of all nonselective grade-level equivalent school buildings in the school district for two of the three immediate consecutive years, in which the charter school is located in which case the renewal shall be a term of three years. The renewal shall remain a term of five years if the charter school has a dropout rate of 50% or more.

During the renewal period, the charter school sponsor shall demonstrate to the State Board of Education that the charter school is in compliance with federal and state law. The bill specifies that the State Board of Education shall then direct the board of directors of the school district in which the charter school is located to submit the question of renewal to the voters of the district at the next municipal election or at a special election in accordance with law. A majority affirmative vote for renewal is required.