

HB 1044 -- CHARTER SCHOOLS

SPONSOR: Keathley

This bill expands where a charter school may be operated to include any school district located within a charter county, currently this includes St. Charles, Jefferson, and St. Louis counties, and any district that includes a municipality with a population greater than 30,000. The bill also removes limitations on the use of state school aid and local aid funding to include the charter school expansions.

Procedures relating to changes in a school district's accreditation status that affect charter schools are repealed under the bill.

As specified in this bill, St. Louis City must not adopt, enforce, impose, or administer an ordinance, local policy, or local resolution that prohibits property sold, leased, or transferred by the city from being used for any lawful education purpose by a charter school. St. Louis City may not impose, enforce, or apply any deed restriction that expressly, or by its operation, prohibits property sold, leased, or transferred by the city from being used for any lawful educational purpose by a charter school.

If St. Louis City offers property of the city for sale, lease, or rent, St. Louis must not refuse to sell, lease, or rent to a charter school solely because the charter school intends to use the property for an educational purpose.

This bill is similar to HB 447 (2025).