

HB 3122 -- CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS
SPONSOR: Murray

This bill requires that beginning after August 28th, 2026, charter schools must have a certificate of need issued by the State Board of Education before they are eligible to operate. The requirement will not be required for a renewal or transfer of sponsorship for currently existing charter schools.

The bill outlines the certificate of need application process and requires that proposed charter schools demonstrate the following conditions in the school districts where the charter is proposing to operate: there is consumer demand for alternative education options; the school district attendance area contains sufficient "economy of scale" to ensure an adequate supply of teachers and students; and the proposed charter must be likely to alleviate economic and racial inequity, improve academic achievement, reduce student-teacher ratios, result in more efficient education delivery, limit school disruptions, and address family priorities not strictly educational in nature.

This bill provides the State Board with approval authority and each application must be approved or disapproved within 120 days.