
SENATE BILL 5443

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Senators Mullet, Holy, Honeyford, Short, and Wilson, L.

Read first time 02/10/21. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to extending the time frame for establishing
2 charter schools; and amending RCW 28A.710.150.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.710.150 and 2016 c 241 s 115 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A maximum of forty charter public schools may be established
7 under this chapter (~~over the five-year period commencing with April~~
8 ~~3, 2016~~), with the establishment period concluding April 3, 2026. No
9 more than eight charter schools may be established in any year during
10 the (~~five-year~~) establishment period, except that if in any year
11 fewer than eight charter schools are established, additional charter
12 schools, equal in number to the difference between the number
13 established in that year and eight, may be established in subsequent
14 years during the (~~five-year~~) establishment period.

15 (2) (a) To ensure compliance with the limits for establishing new
16 charter schools, certification from the state board of education must
17 be obtained before final authorization of a charter school.

18 (b) Within ten days of taking action to approve or deny an
19 application under RCW 28A.710.140, an authorizer must submit a report
20 of the action to the applicant and the state board of education. The
21 report must include a copy of the authorizer's resolution setting

1 forth the action taken, the reasons for the decision, and assurances
2 of compliance with the procedural requirements and application
3 elements under RCW 28A.710.130 and 28A.710.140. The authorizer must
4 also indicate whether the charter school is designed to enroll and
5 serve at-risk student populations. The state board of education must
6 establish, for each year in which charter schools may be authorized
7 as part of the timeline to be established pursuant to RCW
8 28A.710.140, the latest annual date by which the authorizer may
9 submit the report. The state board of education must send to each
10 authorizer notice of the date by which a report must be submitted at
11 least six months before the date established by the board.

12 (3) Upon the receipt of notice from an authorizer that a charter
13 school has been approved, the state board of education shall certify
14 whether the approval is in compliance with the limits on the maximum
15 number of charters allowed under subsection (1) of this section. If
16 the board receives simultaneous notification of approved charters
17 that exceed the annual allowable limits in subsection (1) of this
18 section, the board must select approved charters for implementation
19 through a lottery process, and must assign implementation dates
20 accordingly.

21 (4) The state board of education must notify authorizers when the
22 maximum allowable number of charter schools has been reached.

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