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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Gonzales, R. DATE TYPED: 3/20/03 HB 375/aHEC/aHJC/aSEC

SHORT TITLE: Amend Charter School Act SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST: Segura

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education (SDE)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of SEC Amendments

The Senate Education Committee amendment removes the term **arbitration** from the title of the Act.

#### Synopsis of HJC Amendment

The House Judiciary Committee amended House Bill 375/a. The amendments strike all under-scored material on pages 5 and 6 which addressed the issues of law suits and costs associated with attorney fees and on page 22, line 8 after “person” inserts “or entity”

#### Synopsis of HEC Amendment

The House Education Committee amended the amendments are technical in nature and do not change the original intent of the bill.

The amendment strikes “Changing Priorities for Enrollment in Charter Schools” on page 1, lines 11 and 12 and on page 5, line 22, removes the brackets and the line through “that approves a charter school.”

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 375 amends and clarifies sections of the 1999 Charter School Act.

Significant Issues

House Bill 375 amends sections from 22-8B-2 through 22-8B-21. The bill reflects the recommendations of the Charter School Work Group, appointed by the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) during the 2002 interim.

The LESL notes that the Charter School Work Group, which included charter school operators and district superintendents, reached consensus on all of these amendments.

In addition, the bill includes amendments that changes the process of applying for an initial charter or the renewal of an existing charter; it changes the application deadline for a charter school planning; strengthens parental involvement in the application for a conversion charter school; requires a local school board receiving an application for a charter school to hold at least two public meetings; allows the initial charter to be approved for a term of six years; allows a local school board to identify a designee to act on its behalf in certain dealings with a charter school; adds planning to the permitted use of the Charter School Stimulus Fund; extends from 12 to 24 months the time period in which a charter school must reimburse the Charter School Stimulus Fund; and, requires the governing body of a charter school to submit an application for renewal by July 1, of the fiscal year in which the charter expires and requires the local board to act on the application by September 1 of the same fiscal year.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

According to SDE, enactment of this bill would not cause any additional administrative impact.

**CONFLICT**

May relate to SB288, conflicts with SB224 and relates to SBE Regulation 6.80.4

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The SDE raises suggested corrections to Sections 22-8B-16D, 22-8B-17A through 22-8B-17C. The department also recommends amendments primarily to the mediation and arbitration sections of the bill, starting with Section 22-8B-16C.

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

LESL identifies the most substantive amendment in this bill as the addition of new sections governing appeals and the resolution of disputes.

**RS/yr/njw**