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AN ACT  
RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS; PROVIDING AN ENROLLMENT  
PREFERENCE FOR STUDENTS WHOSE PARENTS ARE EMPLOYEES OF THE  
CHARTER SCHOOL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 22-8B-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws  
2000, Chapter 82, Section 3) is amended to read:

"22-8B-4.1. CHARTER SCHOOLS' ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES.--

A. Start-up schools and conversion schools are  
subject to the following enrollment procedures:

(1) a start-up school may either enroll  
students on a first-come, first-served basis or through a  
lottery selection process if the total number of applicants  
exceeds the number of spaces available at the start-up  
school; and

(2) a conversion school shall give  
enrollment preference to students who are enrolled in the  
public school at the time it is converted into a charter  
school and to siblings of students admitted to or attending  
the charter school. The conversion school may either enroll  
all other students on a first-come, first-served basis or  
through a lottery selection process if the total number of  
applicants exceeds the number of spaces available at the  
conversion school.

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B. In subsequent years of its operation, a charter school shall give enrollment preference to:

(1) students who have been admitted to the charter school through an appropriate admission process and remain in attendance through subsequent grades;

(2) children of employees employed by the charter school; and

(3) siblings of students already admitted to or attending the same charter school."

SECTION 2. APPLICABILITY.--The provisions of this act apply to the 2021-2022 school year and subsequent school years.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2021. \_\_\_\_\_