

By Senator Braynon

36-00368-15

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to charter schools; amending s.  
3       1002.33, F.S.; requiring a charter school applicant to  
4       provide verified evidence of a surety bond or secured  
5       escrow account in a certain amount within a specified  
6       timeframe; amending s. 1002.331, F.S.; conforming a  
7       cross-reference; providing an effective date.  
8

9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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11       Section 1. Present paragraphs (g) and (h) of subsection (6)  
12       of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
13       paragraphs (h) and (i), respectively, and a new paragraph (g) is  
14       added to that subsection to read:

15       1002.33 Charter schools.—

16       (6) APPLICATION PROCESS AND REVIEW.—Charter school  
17       applications are subject to the following requirements:

18       (g) After approval of its application, but before the first  
19       day of classes, a charter school applicant shall provide  
20       verified evidence of a surety bond or secured escrow account in  
21       an amount that meets or exceeds the expense projection for the  
22       first year of operation, including, but not limited to, all  
23       salaries, leases, and purchase services.

24       Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
25       1002.331, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

26       1002.331 High-performing charter schools.—

27       (3) (a) A high-performing charter school may submit an  
28       application pursuant to s. 1002.33(6) in any school district in  
29       the state to establish and operate a new charter school that

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30 will substantially replicate its educational program. An  
31 application submitted by a high-performing charter school must  
32 state that the application is being submitted pursuant to this  
33 paragraph and must include the verification letter provided by  
34 the Commissioner of Education pursuant to subsection (5). If the  
35 sponsor fails to act on the application within 60 days after  
36 receipt, the application is deemed approved and the procedure in  
37 s. 1002.33(6)(i) ~~s. 1002.33(6)(h)~~ applies. If the sponsor denies  
38 the application, the high-performing charter school may appeal  
39 pursuant to s. 1002.33(6).

40 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.