

By Senator Massullo

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to charter schools; amending s.  
1002.33, F.S.; authorizing Florida College System  
institutions and state universities to sponsor job  
engine charter schools; requiring that specified tax  
funds be provided annually to the sponsor of a job  
engine charter school; defining the term "attendance  
zone"; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and paragraph  
(a) of subsection (5) of section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, are  
amended, and paragraph (e) is added to subsection (15) of that  
section, to read:

1002.33 Charter schools.—

(3) APPLICATION FOR CHARTER STATUS.—

(b) An application for a conversion charter school must be  
made by the district school board, the principal, teachers,  
parents whose children are enrolled at the school, or the school  
advisory council at an existing public school that has been in  
operation for at least 2 years before the application to  
convert. A public school-within-a-school designated as a school  
by the district school board may also apply to convert to  
charter status. A municipality seeking to attract job-producing  
entities by establishing a job engine charter school pursuant to  
paragraph (15)(c) may apply to a the district school board,  
Florida College System institution, or state university to  
convert an existing public school to a charter school. An

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30 application submitted proposing to convert an existing public  
31 school to a charter school must demonstrate the support of at  
32 least 50 percent of the parents voting whose children are  
33 enrolled at the school, provided that a majority of the parents  
34 eligible to vote participate in the ballot process, according to  
35 rules adopted by the State Board of Education. A district school  
36 board, Florida College System institution, or state university  
37 that denies an application for a conversion charter school shall  
38 provide notice of denial to the applicants in writing within 10  
39 days after the meeting at which the district school board denied  
40 the application. The notice must articulate in writing the  
41 specific reasons for denial and must provide documentation  
42 supporting those reasons. A private school, parochial school, or  
43 home education program is not eligible for charter school  
44 status.

45 (5) SPONSOR; DUTIES.—

46 (a) *Sponsoring entities.*—

47 1. A district school board may sponsor a charter school in  
48 the county over which the district school board has  
49 jurisdiction.

50 2.a. A state university may grant a charter to a lab school  
51 created under s. 1002.32 and shall be considered to be the  
52 school's sponsor. Such school shall be considered a charter lab  
53 school.

54 b. A state university may grant a charter to a municipality  
55 establishing a job engine charter school.

56 3. Because needs relating to educational capacity,  
57 workforce qualifications, and career education opportunities are  
58 constantly changing and extend beyond school district

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boundaries:

a. A state university may, upon approval by the Department of Education, solicit applications and sponsor a charter school to meet regional education or workforce demands by serving students from multiple school districts.

b. A Florida College System institution may, upon approval by the Department of Education, solicit applications and sponsor a charter school or a job engine charter school in any county within its service area to meet workforce demands and may offer postsecondary programs leading to industry certifications to eligible charter school students. A charter school established under subparagraph (b)4. may not be sponsored by a Florida College System institution until its existing charter with the school district expires as provided under subsection (7).

c. Notwithstanding paragraph (6)(b), a state university or Florida College System institution may, at its discretion, deny an application for a charter school.

d. The Charter School Review Commission, as authorized under s. 1002.3301, may solicit and review applications for charter schools overseen by district school boards and, upon the commission approving an application, the district school board that oversees the school district in which the charter school will be located shall serve as sponsor.

(15) CHARTER SCHOOLS-IN-THE-WORKPLACE; CHARTER SCHOOLS-IN-A-MUNICIPALITY.—

(e) All taxes levied by the school district within the attendance zone of a conversion job engine charter school sponsored by a Florida College System institution or state university shall be provided to the sponsor annually, beginning

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88 with the next fiscal year after such school is established. For  
89 purposes of this paragraph, the term "attendance zone" means the  
90 attendance zone of the public school at the time of the school's  
91 conversion to a job engine charter school.

92       Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.