A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

| 1 | SECT | ION 1 | . Section 302B-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is |
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| 2 | amended by | y ame | nding subsection (i) to read as follows: |
| 3 | "(i) | The | powers and duties of the panel shall be to: |
| 4 | (1) | Appo | int and evaluate the executive director and |
| 5 | | appr | ove staff and salary levels for the charter school |
| 6 | | admi | nistrative office; |
| 7 | (2) | Revi | ew, approve, or deny charter applications for new |
| 8 | | char | ter schools in accordance with section 302B-5 for |
| 9 | | the | issuance of new charters; provided that |
| 10 | | [app | licants] <u>:</u> |
| 11 | | <u>(A)</u> | Applicants that are denied a charter may appeal |
| 12 | | | to the board for a final decision pursuant to |
| 13 | | | section 302B-3.5; and |
| 14 | | <u>(B)</u> | Priority shall be given to charter applications |
| 15 | | | for new charter schools and conversion charter |
| 16 | | | schools in underserved or rural areas, taking |
| 17 | | | into consideration the distance between existing |
| 18 | | | schools in the affected area and the hardship on |

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| 1 | | students required to travel significant distances |
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| 2 | | to attend school; |
| 3 | (3) | Review, approve, or deny significant amendments to |
| 4 | | detailed implementation plans to maximize the school's |
| 5 | | financial and academic success, long-term |
| 6 | | organizational viability, and accountability. Charter |
| 7 | | schools that are denied a significant amendment to |
| 8 | | their detailed implementation plan may appeal to the |
| 9 | | board for a final decision pursuant to section 302B- |
| 10 | | 3.5; |
| 11 | (4) | Adopt reporting requirements for charter schools; |
| 12 | (5) | Review annual self-evaluation reports from charter |
| 13 | | schools and take appropriate action; |
| 14 | (6) | Evaluate any aspect of a charter school that the panel |
| 15 | | may have concerns with and take appropriate action, |
| 16 | | which may include probation or revocation; |
| 17 | (7) | Periodically adopt improvements in the panel's |
| 18 | | monitoring and oversight of charter schools; and |
| 19 | (8) | Periodically adopt improvements in the office's |
| 20 | | support of charter schools and management of the |
| 21 | | charter school system." |

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- 1 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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| INTRODUCED | BY: | |
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JAN 2 6 2009

Report Title:

Charter Schools; Underserved or Rural Areas

Description:

Gives priority to the establishment of charter schools in underserved or rural areas.