
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHARTER SCHOOLS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that facilities funding
2 has been a long-standing issue for charter schools nationally
3 and locally. In Hawaii, start-up charter schools have paid the
4 costs of their facilities from operational funds. Not until the
5 regular session of 2013, did the legislature authorize the state
6 public charter school commission to request facilities funding
7 as part of its annual budget request to the director of finance
8 beginning with the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

9 Most start-up charter schools do not have their own food
10 service facility. This shortcoming has been exacerbated by a
11 recent audit report of the public school food service program
12 that has forced the department of education to curtail its food
13 service support to charter schools. This forces most start-up
14 charter schools to expend scarce funds to contract outside
15 vendors to provide school meals.

16 The purpose of this Act is to create a charter schools food
17 service special fund and appropriate funds to meet the food
18 service needs of the State's public charter schools.



SECTION 2. Chapter 302D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding three new sections to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§302D-A General obligation bonds; food service

facilities. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the commission shall be authorized to request the issuance of general obligation bonds from the director of finance and allocate the proceeds of any general obligation bonds to assist public charter schools with the design, planning, construction, repair, and maintenance of charter school food service facilities.

(b) Unless otherwise required by law, any public charter school food service facilities constructed, in whole or in part, through the proceeds of general obligation bonds shall be owned by the State.

§302D-B Charter schools food service special fund. (a) There is established within the state treasury a special fund to be known as the charter schools food service special fund to be administered and expended by the commission.



1 (b) The moneys in the special fund shall be reserved for
2 use by the commission for the purpose of meeting the food
3 service needs of state public charter schools.

4 (c) Funds may be allocated to various public charter
5 schools; provided that, if any funds are allocated, the
6 commission may allocate those funds pursuant to criteria created
7 by, and based upon the prioritization schedule of the charter
8 school facilities funding working group pursuant to section
9 302D-C(b).

10 (d) The commission shall submit an annual report to the
11 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
12 each regular session providing the following:

13 (1) A summary of the criteria used by the commission in
14 allocating funds from the charter schools food service
15 special fund;

16 (2) The procedures and guidelines developed for the
17 appropriate use, expenditure, and oversight of funds;

18 (3) A detailed breakdown of the allocations made from the
19 charter schools food service special fund; and

20 (4) A detailed list of projects funded through the charter
21 schools food service special fund.



1 §302D-C Charter school food service facilities funding

2 working group. (a) There is established a charter school food
3 service facilities funding working group within the commission,
4 which shall consist of the following members or their designees:

5 (1) The chairperson of the commission;

6 (2) The executive director of the commission;

7 (3) The director of finance;

8 (4) The assistant superintendent, office of school
9 facilities and support services;

10 (5) The chair of the senate committee on ways and means;
11 and

12 (6) The chair of the house of representatives committee on
13 finance.

14 (b) The charter school food service facilities funding
15 working group shall act in an advisory capacity to determine the
16 criteria for and the expenditures from the charter schools food
17 service special fund, based in part on the performance and needs
18 of the public charter schools. The working group shall also
19 establish procedures and guidelines for the appropriate use,
20 expenditure, and oversight of these funds."



1 SECTION 3. The director of finance is authorized to issue
2 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$5,000,000 or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof
4 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2015-2016
5 for the purpose of meeting the food service needs of the State's
6 public charter schools.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the state public
8 charter school commission for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. The appropriation made for the capital
10 improvement project authorized by this Act shall not lapse at
11 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is
12 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation
13 unencumbered as of June 30, 2018, shall lapse as of that date.

14 SECTION 5. In codifying the new sections added by section
15 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
16 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
17 the new sections in this Act.

18 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
20 provided that sections 3 and 4 shall take effect on July 1,
21 2015.



Report Title:

Public Charter Schools; Facilities; Food Service; Special Fund;
General Obligation Bonds; Appropriation

Description:

Authorizes the state public charter school commission to request the issuance of general obligation bonds and to allocate the proceeds thereof for the design, planning, construction, repair, and maintenance of public charter school food service facilities. Establishes a charter schools food service special fund. Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds, and appropriates funds to be deposited in the charter schools food service special fund for the purpose of meeting the food service needs of the State's public charter schools. Requires the state public charter school commission to report annually to the legislature regarding the expenditure of funds from the charter schools food service special fund. Establishes a working group to work in an advisory capacity to determine criteria for the expenditures from the charter schools food service special fund. (SD1)

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