



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5162

Introduced 2/10/2026, by Rep. Joyce Mason

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/27A-9

Amends the Charter Schools Law of the School Code. Provides that a charter school's failure to adequately address racial, socioeconomic, or educational disparities between a school district and the charter school or failure to align the charter mission and vision to a school board's mission and vision are both reasons for the school board or State Board of Education, as the chartering entity, to revoke or not renew a charter. Effective immediately.

LRB104 17854 LNS 31288 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 27A-9 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27A-9)

7 Sec. 27A-9. Term of charter; renewal.

8 (a) An initial charter shall be granted for a period of 5
9 school years. A charter may be renewed in incremental periods
10 not to exceed 10 school years. Authorizers shall ensure that
11 every charter granted on or after January 1, 2017 includes
12 standards and goals for academic, organizational, and
13 financial performance. A charter must meet all standards and
14 goals for academic, organizational, and financial performance
15 set forth by the authorizer in order to be renewed for a term
16 in excess of 5 years but not more than 10 years. If an
17 authorizer fails to establish standards and goals, a charter
18 shall not be renewed for a term in excess of 5 years. Nothing
19 contained in this Section shall require an authorizer to grant
20 a full 10-year renewal term to any particular charter school,
21 but an authorizer may award a full 10-year renewal term to
22 charter schools that have a demonstrated track record of
23 improving student performance.

1 (b) A charter school renewal proposal submitted to the
2 local school board or the State Board, as the chartering
3 entity, shall contain:

4 (1) a report on the progress of the charter school in
5 achieving the goals, objectives, pupil performance
6 standards, content standards, and other terms of the
7 initial approved charter proposal; and

8 (2) a financial statement that discloses the costs of
9 administration, instruction, and other spending categories
10 for the charter school that is understandable to the
11 general public and that will allow comparison of those
12 costs to other schools or other comparable organizations,
13 in a format required by the State Board.

14 (c) A charter may be revoked or not renewed if the local
15 school board or the State Board, as the chartering entity,
16 clearly demonstrates that the charter school did any of the
17 following, or otherwise failed to comply with the requirements
18 of this law:

19 (1) Committed a material violation of any of the
20 conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in the
21 charter.

22 (2) Failed to meet or make reasonable progress toward
23 achievement of the content standards or pupil performance
24 standards identified in the charter.

25 (3) Failed to meet generally accepted standards of
26 fiscal management.

1 (4) Violated any provision of law from which the
2 charter school was not exempted.

3 (5) Failed to adequately address racial,
4 socioeconomic, or educational disparities between the
5 school district and the charter school.

6 (6) Failed to align the charter mission and vision to
7 the local school board's mission and vision.

8 In the case of revocation, the local school board or the
9 State Board, as the chartering entity, shall notify the
10 charter school in writing of the reason why the charter is
11 subject to revocation. The charter school shall submit a
12 written plan to the local school board or the State Board,
13 whichever is applicable, to rectify the problem. The plan
14 shall include a timeline for implementation, which shall not
15 exceed 2 years or the date of the charter's expiration,
16 whichever is earlier. If the local school board or the State
17 Board, as the chartering entity, finds that the charter school
18 has failed to implement the plan of remediation and adhere to
19 the timeline, then the chartering entity shall revoke the
20 charter. Except in situations of an emergency where the
21 health, safety, or education of the charter school's students
22 is at risk, the revocation shall take place at the end of a
23 school year. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to
24 prohibit an implementation timetable that is less than 2 years
25 in duration. No local school board may arbitrarily or
26 capriciously revoke or not renew a charter. Except for

1 extenuating circumstances outlined in this Section, if a local
2 school board revokes or does not renew a charter, it must
3 ensure that all students currently enrolled in the charter
4 school are placed in schools that are higher performing than
5 that charter school, as defined in the State's federal Every
6 Student Succeeds Act accountability plan. In determining
7 whether extenuating circumstances exist, a local school board
8 must detail, by clear and convincing evidence, that factors
9 unrelated to the charter school's accountability designation
10 outweigh the charter school's academic performance.

11 (d) (Blank).

12 (e) Notice of a local school board's decision to deny,
13 revoke, or not renew a charter shall be provided to the State
14 Board.

15 The State Board may reverse a local board's decision to
16 revoke or not renew a charter if the State Board finds that the
17 charter school or charter school proposal (i) is in compliance
18 with this Article and (ii) is in the best interests of the
19 students it is designed to serve. The State Board may
20 condition the granting of an appeal on the acceptance by the
21 charter school of funding in an amount less than that
22 requested in the proposal submitted to the local school board.
23 The State Board must appoint and utilize a hearing officer for
24 any appeals conducted under this subsection. Final decisions
25 of the State Board are subject to judicial review under the
26 Administrative Review Law.

1 (f) Notwithstanding other provisions of this Article, if
2 the State Board on appeal reverses a local board's decision or
3 if a charter school is approved by referendum, the State Board
4 shall act as the authorized chartering entity for the charter
5 school and shall perform all functions under this Article
6 otherwise performed by the local school board. The State Board
7 shall report the aggregate number of charter school pupils
8 resident in a school district to that district and shall
9 notify the district of the amount of funding to be paid by the
10 State Board to the charter school enrolling such students. The
11 charter school shall maintain accurate records of daily
12 attendance and student enrollment and shall enter data on the
13 students served, their characteristics, their particular
14 needs, the programs in which they participate, and their
15 academic achievement into the statewide student information
16 system established by the State Board. The State Board shall
17 withhold from funds otherwise due the district the funds
18 authorized by this Article to be paid to the charter school and
19 shall pay such amounts to the charter school in quarterly
20 installments, calculated as follows:

21 (1) The amount of the first quarterly payment shall be
22 based on the projected number of students who will be
23 enrolled in the charter school in the upcoming school
24 year, multiplied by one-fourth of the resident district's
25 per capita tuition amount. Each charter school shall
26 submit its projected enrollment by no later than August 1

1 of each year on a form provided by the State Board for this
2 purpose.

3 (2) The amount of the second quarterly payment shall
4 be calculated such that the aggregate amount of the first
5 and second quarterly installments is equal to the number
6 of students reported as enrolled at the charter school on
7 October 1 in the State Board's student information system,
8 multiplied by one-half of the resident district's per
9 capita tuition amount.

10 (3) The amount of the third quarterly payment shall be
11 based on the number of students enrolled in the charter
12 school on January 1, multiplied by one-fourth of the
13 resident district's per capita tuition amount. Each
14 charter school shall submit its January 1 enrollment by no
15 later than January 5 of each year on a form provided by the
16 State Board for this purpose.

17 (4) The amount of the fourth quarterly payment shall
18 be calculated such that the aggregate amount of the third
19 and fourth installments is equal to the number of students
20 reported as enrolled at the charter school on March 1 in
21 the State Board's student information system, multiplied
22 by one-half of the resident district's per capita tuition
23 amount.

24 (g) (Blank).

25 (h) The State Board shall pay directly to a charter school
26 it authorizes any federal or State funding attributable to a

1 student with a disability attending the school.

2 (Source: P.A. 103-175, eff. 6-30-23.)

3 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
4 becoming law.