

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Premiere Bill	Blue Bill # SBP 12						
	Referred to Committee: Senate 2						
Authors: Lauren Berryman, Natalie Burton, Natalie Graf, Lilly Parker	Action on the Bill <table> <tr> <td>House</td> <td>Senate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> </tr> </table>	House	Senate	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
House		Senate					
___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed		___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed					
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School: Sacred Heart Academy							
City: Louisville							

1 An act to allow the formation of charter schools in Kentucky

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3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

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5 Section 1: Teachers, parents, and other interested community members can petition a local school board to approve the
6 creation of a charter school. Charter schools are publicly funded elementary or high schools that are held accountable for
7 producing improved academic performance in exchange for being allowed to operate independently from the local school
8 board and the rules, regulations, and statutes that apply to other public schools. These schools provide families with
9 additional public school choices, allow teachers to use innovative teaching models and hold teachers and administrators to
10 greater standards and accountability.

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12 Section 2: Kentucky ranks in the bottom third of the country in student achievement. Fifteen of sixteen academic studies
13 published on charter school performance since 2010 have found that students in these schools do better in school than their
14 traditional school peers. A recent study by the Center for Research on Educational Outcomes at Stanford University concluded
15 that charter schools are more effective at teaching low-income students, minority students, and students who are not yet
16 proficient in English than traditional public schools. Students who are enrolled in charter schools are more likely to graduate
17 from high school than those who attend traditional public schools.

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19 Section 3:
20 A. In the case of a petition to establish a charter school through the conversion of an existing public school, the petition must
21 be signed by at least 51% of the parents or guardians of currently enrolled students and at least 51% of the teachers. In the
22 case of a charter school to be newly established, the petition must be signed by at least as many parentts or guardians from
23 the community as one half the number of students expected to enroll in the school in the first year and by at least as many
24 teachers as two-thirds the number of teachers estimated to be employed at the school the first year.
25 B. The proposed charter must contain a mission statement and educational program with goals that are focused on student
26 achievement. It must also outline the way in which student progress in meeting those goals is to be measured, the
27 qualifications required of teachers and administrators, and how the school is to be governed.
28 C. Charter schools may not have any religious affiliations or discriminate against any student on the basis of ethnicity,
29 national origin, gender, or disability.
30 D. Admission shall be determined by a public lottery. For the schools converted from traditional to charter schools, however,
31 preference shall be given to students formerly attending the public school and who reside in the district.

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33 Section 4:
34 A. Within thirty days after a petition is submitted, the school board must hold a public hearing on the provisions of the
35 charter. The school board must then approve or deny the request within sixty days. If the local school board fails to act on a
36 proposal within ninety days or denies a petition, the petitioner may choose to submit the petition to the Kentucky Board of
37 Education for review.
38 B. Charters shall be granted for a period of three years during which time the local school board will maintain oversight
39 authority. After this period, the charter will be considered for renewal by the local school board. If the school has failed to
40 meet its goals of improving academic achievement, its charter may be revoked. The school may submit any revocation to the
41 Kentucky Board of Education for review.

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43 Section 5: When a charter is granted, the school shall qualify fully as a charter school for all funding. Charter schools will be
44 funded by local, state, and federal tax dollars based on student enrollment. They may not charge tuition.

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46 Section 6: This bill will go into effect ninety days following passage.