
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 for
4 the costs of their facilities from operational funds. However,
5 Act 159, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, authorized 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. Act 234, Session Laws
9 of Hawaii 2015, authorized a framework for providing facilities
10 funding and support for public charter school facilities with
11 adequate prioritization, oversight, and accountability by the
12 charter school facilities funding working group.

13 The legislature further finds that public charter schools
14 receive inadequate funding to support student learning. While
15 the state public charter school commission may request
16 facilities funding in addition to its annual budget request, the
17 amounts received in recent fiscal years have not kept pace with



1 the cost of providing and maintaining high-quality facilities.
2 Public charter schools that lack adequate building facilities
3 are sometimes forced to hold classes outdoors, on covered
4 lanais, or in unstable temporary structures.

5 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 6 (1) Provide funding for rental or lease of facilities
7 under legislative appropriations and bond
8 authorizations to the state public charter school
9 commission for the design, planning, construction,
10 repair, and maintenance of public charter school
11 improvements; and
- 12 (2) Provide funding to the state public charter school
13 commission for infrastructure costs, the rental or
14 lease of charter school facilities, and the repair and
15 maintenance of network infrastructure for charter
16 schools.

17 SECTION 2. Section 302D-29.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

19 "(a) Beginning with the [~~2016-2017~~] 2019-2020 fiscal year,
20 and each fiscal year thereafter, the legislature shall consider
21 making an appropriation and bond authorization to the commission



1 for the design, planning, construction, repair, and maintenance
2 of public charter school improvements to address issues of
3 health, safety, and legal compliance; expand or improve
4 instructional space; provide for rental or lease of facilities;
5 provide for food services; or provide restroom facilities. The
6 appropriation and bond authorization for charter schools shall
7 be separate from, and in addition to, any appropriation made to
8 charter schools pursuant to [~~this section and~~] section 302D-28.
9 These amounts shall be prioritized for allocation by the charter
10 school facilities funding working group."

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
14 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
15 2020-2021 for the state public charter school commission to
16 allocate to charter schools for infrastructure costs, lease or
17 rent assistance based in part on the need and financial
18 performance of the charter schools, and repair and maintenance
19 of network infrastructure, as determined by the state public
20 charter school commission.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the state public
2 charter school commission for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Charter Schools; Facilities Funding; Infrastructure;
Appropriation

Description:

Provides funding for rental or lease of facilities under legislative appropriations and bond authorizations to the State Public Charter School Commission for the design, planning, construction, repair, and maintenance of public charter school improvements. Appropriates general funds for infrastructure costs, rental or lease assistance, and the repair and maintenance of network infrastructure for charter schools.
(HB246 HD2)

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