

SUBJECT: Funding eligibility for school district and charter school partnerships

COMMITTEE: Public Education — committee substitute recommended

VOTE: 12 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, Dutton, K. King, Meyer, Sanford, Talarico, VanDeaver

1 nay — M. González

0 absent

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, May 1 — 29-2 (Menendez, Miles)

WITNESSES: *On House companion bill, HB 3861:*

For — Mark DiBella, YES Prep Public Schools; Mark Larson, KIPP Texas Public Schools; Scott Muri, Spring Branch ISD; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Anna Amboree, Aristoi Classical Academy; John Armbrust, Austin Achieve; Pablo Barrera, TCSA; Traci Berry, Goodwill Central Texas; Dee Carney, Texas School Alliance; Eddie Conger, International Leadership of Texas Public Charter Schools; Mark Cronenwett, Great Hearts Texas; LaTonya Goffney, Aldine ISD; Jennifer Goodman, Odyssey Academy and Texas Charter School Association; Barry Haenisch, Texas Association of Community Schools; Ginny Janak, CLEAR Public Charter School; Bibi Yasmin Katsev, District Charter Alliance; Hannah LaPorte, IDEA Public Schools; Mackee Mason, Austin Achieve Public Schools; Casey McCreary, Texas Association of School Administrators; David Molina and Kathleen Zimmerman, NYOS Charter School; Billy Rudolph, ResponsiveEd; Thomas Sage, Texas Charter School Association; Staci Weaver, Preparatory Charter Academy; Brent Wilson, Life School; Justin Yancy, Texas Business Leadership Council; and 13 individuals)

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association)

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Chris Jones, Eric Marin, Heather

Mauze, Mike Meyer, and Melody Parrish, Texas Education Agency)

BACKGROUND: Education Code sec. 42.2511 provides additional funding for a school district and charter school that enter into a contract to operate a district campus that is subject to intervention under the public school accountability system. Interested parties note that certain other districts that jointly operate a campus or campus program with a charter school also should be entitled to additional funding.

DIGEST: CSSB 2117 would allow a school district and a charter school to apply to the commissioner of education for approval to jointly operate a campus or campus program. During each school year, the commissioner could approve up to three contracts for a district and charter school to jointly operate a campus or campus program and to receive funding as provided by the bill.

Such a district would qualify to receive additional funds for each student or the portion of each student's school day that was under the direction of the charter school if both the district campus and charter school had received an accountability rating of C or higher.

The commissioner could adopt rules and collect data to determine the portion of funding to which a district was entitled. A district contract with a charter school to jointly operate a campus or campus program during the 2017-2018 school year would be considered to be a contract approved by the commissioner and eligible to receive funding.

The bill would apply beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2019.

NOTES: According to the Legislative Budget Board, the bill would have a negative impact of \$5.8 million to general revenue related funds through fiscal 2020-21.

