

1                                   **CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AMENDMENTS**

2   2012 GENERAL SESSION

3   STATE OF UTAH

4                                   **Chief Sponsor: Daniel McCay**

5                                   Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9                   This bill modifies provisions regarding the admission of students to charter schools.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11                   This bill:

- 12                   ▶ allows a charter school ~~H→~~ [~~whose mission is to enhance learning opportunities for~~  
13 ~~children of refugee families~~] ~~←H~~ to give an enrollment preference to children of refugee  
14 families ~~H→~~ , English language learners, or children of low income families ~~←H~~ ; and  
15                   ▶ makes technical amendments.

16 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

17                   None

18 **Other Special Clauses:**

19                   None

20 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

21 AMENDS:

22                   **53A-1a-506**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2007, Chapter 344

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24 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

25                   Section 1. Section **53A-1a-506** is amended to read:

26                   **53A-1a-506. Eligible students.**

27                   (1) As used in this section:



28           (a) "District school" means a public school under the control of a local school board  
 29 elected pursuant to Title 20A, Chapter 14, Nomination and Election of State and Local School  
 30 Boards.

31           (b) "Refugee" means a person who is eligible to receive benefits and services from the  
 32 federal Office of Refugee Resettlement.

33           ~~[(+)]~~ (2) All resident students of the state qualify for admission to a charter school,  
 34 subject to the limitations set forth in this section and Section 53A-1a-506.5.

35           ~~[(2)]~~ (3) (a) A charter school shall enroll an eligible student who submits a timely  
 36 application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade  
 37 level, or the charter school.

38           (b) ~~[(+)]~~ If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade  
 39 level, or the charter school, ~~[then]~~ students shall be selected on a random basis, except ~~[that~~  
 40 ~~the]~~ as provided in Subsections (4) through (6).

41           (4) A charter school may give an enrollment preference to:

42           ~~[(A)]~~ (a) a student of a parent who has actively participated in the development of the  
 43 charter school;

44           ~~[(B)]~~ (b) siblings of students presently enrolled in the charter school;

45           ~~[(C)]~~ (c) a student of a parent who is employed by the charter school;

46           ~~[(D)]~~ (d) students ~~[articulating]~~ matriculating between charter schools offering similar  
 47 programs that are governed by the same governing body; ~~[and]~~

48           ~~[(E)]~~ (e) students ~~[articulating]~~ matriculating from one charter school to another  
 49 pursuant to ~~[an articulation]~~ a matriculation agreement between the charter schools that is  
 50 approved by the State Charter School Board~~[-];~~ or

51           ~~[(ii) The school may give preference to]~~

52           (f) students who reside within:

53           ~~[(A)]~~ (i) the school district in which the charter school is located;

54           ~~[(B)]~~ (ii) the municipality in which the charter school is located; or

55           ~~[(C)]~~ (iii) a two-mile radius from the charter school.

56           ~~[(c) When a public]~~ (5) If a district school converts to charter status, the charter school  
 57 shall give an enrollment preference to students who would have otherwise attended it as a  
 58 ~~[regular public]~~ district school.

59 (6) A charter school ~~H→~~ [~~whose mission is to enhance learning opportunities for children of~~  
60 ~~refugee families~~] ~~←H~~ may give an enrollment preference to ~~H→~~ :

60a (a) ~~←H~~ children of refugee families ~~H→~~ [:] ;

60b (b) English language learners; or

60c (c) children of low income families. ~~←H~~

61 [(3)] (7) A charter school may not discriminate in its admission policies or practices on  
62 the same basis as other public schools may not discriminate in their admission policies and  
63 practices.

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Legislative Review Note  
as of 2-21-12 10:25 AM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel