

Representative Daniel McCay proposes the following substitute bill:

CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AMENDMENTS

2012 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Daniel McCay

Senate Sponsor: J. Stuart Adams

LONG TITLE

General Description:

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

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ allows a charter school whose mission is to enhance learning opportunities for refugees or children of refugee families to give an enrollment preference to refugees or children of refugee families;

- ▶ allows a charter school whose mission is to enhance learning opportunities for English language learners to give an enrollment preference to English language learners; and

- ▶ makes technical amendments.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

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



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

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

53A-1a-506. Eligible students.

(1) As used in this section:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(f) students who reside within:

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

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

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

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

62 (6) (a) A charter school whose mission is to enhance learning opportunities for
63 refugees or children of refugee families may give an enrollment preference to refugees or
64 children of refugee families.

65 (b) A charter school whose mission is to enhance learning opportunities for English
66 language learners may give an enrollment preference to English language learners.

67 ~~[(3)]~~ (7) A charter school may not discriminate in its admission policies or practices on
68 the same basis as other public schools may not discriminate in their admission policies and
69 practices.