



***ARIZONA STATE SENATE***  
***Fifty-First Legislature, First Regular Session***

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2494

charter schools; admissions requirements

Purpose

Expands certain charter school enrollment preferences.

Background

Arizona Revised Statutes § 15-184 provides that charter schools must enroll all eligible students who submit a timely application, unless the number of applicants exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level or building. In event of exceeding capacity, charter schools must give enrollment preference to returning students, siblings of returning students and eligible students who reside within the boundaries of the school district in which the charter school is located. Additionally, enrollment preference may be given to children of employees of the school or charter holder, members of the governing body of the school or directors, officers, partners and board members of the charter holder. If remaining capacity is insufficient, the charter school must adopt an equitable selection process such as a lottery.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Expands charter school enrollment preference to include pupils who are grandchildren or legal wards of:
  - a) employees of the school or charter holder;
  - b) members of the governing body of the school; or
  - c) directors, officers, partners or board members of the charter holder.
2. Extends charter school enrollment preference to a pupil or sibling of a pupil who previously attended a charter school managed by the same educational management organization, charter management organization or educational service provider as determined by the charter authorizer.
3. Removes language requiring a charter school that allows enrollment preferences for a pupil or sibling who attended another charter school that has the identical charter holder, board and governing board membership to be treated as a single charter school when establishing support level weights.
4. Makes technical and conforming changes.

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5. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

ED	2/4/13	DP	7-0-0-2
3 <sup>rd</sup> Read	2/18/13		58-0-2-0

Prepared by Senate Research

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