

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 229
Version:	FULLPCS1
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Hilbert
Date:	4/6/2021
Impact:	Under Review

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute for SB229 makes modifications to the way charter schools are funded. The measure clarifies that charter schools are ineligible to receive state-dedicated, local, and county revenue.

The measure creates a “charter portion” of the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund, and this money shall be distributed by the State Board of Education to brick-and-mortar charter schools only, on a per-student basis. The Fund shall be used to aid charter schools in acquiring or improving school sites, constructing, repairing, remodeling or equipping buildings, or acquiring school furniture, fixtures, or equipment.

The measure defines how the “charter portion” is calculated.

Charter portion = (% of students in charter schools) * (the amount of building funds received by all school districts + 25% of the total number of county four-mill levy funds received statewide)

The money for this charter portion comes from medical marijuana tax revenue. If there’s not enough from medical marijuana tax revenue to pay for the full charter portion, the measure requires an additional apportionment to be made to the Fund from income tax revenue.

The measure directs the State Board of Education to allocate the charter portion and grants from the Fund annually so there is no more than \$1 million left in the Fund.

The measure clarifies that charter schools and virtual charter schools shall not receive grants from the State Public Common School Building Equalization Fund.

Lastly, charter schools shall be considered a local education agency for the purposes of funding. A charter school shall no longer be considered a site within the school district in which the charter is located. The student attendance of the charter school shall be separate from the attendance of the district for the purpose of calculating enrollment and funding. The attendance or weighted average daily membership of the charter school shall no longer be used to determine the total state aid allocation for the district in which the charter is located.

Prepared By: Emily Wendler

Fiscal Analysis

Consultation with stakeholders regarding the measure is currently ongoing.

Prepared By: Cole Stout

Other Considerations

None.

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