

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 356

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE DONATUCCI

Printer's No. 1745

1 Amend Bill, page 1, line 6, by striking out the comma after
2 "requirements" and inserting
3 and

4 Amend Bill, page 1, line 6, by striking out "and" and
5 inserting

6 , providing for school building closure requirements and
7 further providing

8 Amend Bill, page 7, by inserting between lines 17 and 18

9 Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

10 Section 1722.1-A. School Building Closure Requirements.--(a)
11 A charter school entity may close a school voluntarily, through
12 nonrenewal or through revocation as provided under section 1729-
13 A. Notice of a charter school entity's closure of a school for
14 any reason must be provided by the authorizing entity to the
15 department. After receiving notification of closure, the
16 department shall notify the charter school entity and the
17 authorizing entity if it is aware of any liabilities the charter
18 school entity owes the Commonwealth or any other entity.
19 Liabilities may include overpayment of tuition, unpaid revolving
20 fund loans or grants or other liabilities. The department may
21 ask the Auditor General or city controller of a city of the
22 first class to conduct an audit of the charter school entity if
23 it has reason to believe that the charter school entity received
24 State funding for which it was not eligible. The notice of the
25 charter school entity shall include an accounting of the
26 following:

27 (1) All financial assets, including, but not limited to,
28 cash and accounts receivable and an inventory of property,
29 equipment and other items of material value.

30 (2) All liabilities, including, but not limited to, accounts
31 payable, unpaid staff compensation, audit findings or other
32 investigations.

33 (3) An assessment of the disposition of any restricted funds
34 received by or due to the charter school entity.

35 (b) If the charter school entity is supported by a nonprofit

1 foundation and the foundation does not have any other functions
2 than operation of the charter school entity, the foundation
3 should be dissolved according to its bylaws. The foundation's
4 bylaws should address how assets are to be distributed at the
5 closure of the foundation. All remaining assets of the
6 foundation shall be distributed on a proportional basis to
7 school districts with students enrolled in the school for the
8 last full or partial school year of the school.

9 (c) (1) The charter school entity shall send notice of its
10 closure of a school to parents or guardians of students, the
11 authorizing entity and the department. Notice must be received
12 by the department within fifteen (15) calendar days of any
13 official action taken by the authorizing entity. Notification of
14 all the required parties shall include at least the following:

15 (i) The effective date of the closure.

16 (ii) The name and contact information for the person
17 handling inquiries regarding the closure.

18 (iii) The students' school districts of residence.

19 (iv) How parents or guardians may obtain copies of student
20 records, including specific information on completed courses and
21 credits that meet graduation requirements.

22 (2) The notification to the department shall also include a
23 description of the circumstances of the closure and the location
24 of student and personnel records. Notification to parents,
25 guardians and students shall also include information on how to
26 transfer the student to an appropriate school and a certified
27 packet of student information that may include grade reports,
28 discipline records, immunization records and any other
29 appropriate information.

30 (d) The charter school entity or authorizing entity shall
31 announce the closure of a school to school districts that may be
32 responsible for providing education services to the former
33 students of the closing school. These districts can then assist
34 in facilitating student transfers.

35 (e) School closures shall occur at the end of an academic
36 year if it is feasible to maintain a legally compliant program
37 until then. If a conversion charter school is reverting to
38 noncharter status, notification of this change shall be made to
39 all parties required under this section.

40 (f) As used in this section, the term "charter school
41 entity" shall mean a charter school, regional charter school or
42 cyber charter school as defined in section 1703-A.

43 Amend Bill, page 7, line 18, by striking out "3" and
44 inserting

45 4

46 Amend Bill, page 7, line 29, by striking out "4" and
47 inserting

