

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE BILL

No. 700 Session of  
2017

---

INTRODUCED BY TURZAI, SAYLOR, TAYLOR, DOWLING, GABLER,  
A. HARRIS, KAUFFMAN, LAWRENCE, MCGINNIS, MILLARD, PICKETT,  
RAPP, RYAN, SACCONI, STAATS, WARD AND WATSON,  
FEBRUARY 28, 2017

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 28, 2017

---

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," in charter schools, providing for  
6 charter school seats in school districts of the first class  
7 and first class A.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known  
11 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a  
12 section to read:

13 Section 1717.1-A. Charter School Seats in School Districts  
14 of the First Class and First Class A.--(a) Notwithstanding any  
15 other provision of law and beginning with the 2017-2018 school  
16 year, and continuing through the 2021-2022 school year, the  
17 following shall apply:

18 (1) In a school district of the first class, the School  
19 Reform Commission established under section 696 or any other

1 governing body of the school district shall expand the number of  
2 available charter school seats above the number authorized for  
3 the immediately preceding school year, either by granting new  
4 charter applications, by expanding the permitted enrollment at  
5 existing charter schools or by a combination of both by a  
6 minimum of three thousand (3,000) new charter school seats per  
7 school year.

8 (2) In a school district of the first class A, the governing  
9 body of the school district shall expand the number of available  
10 charter school seats above the number authorized for the  
11 immediately preceding school year, either by granting new  
12 charter applications, by expanding the permitted enrollment at  
13 existing charter schools or by a combination of both by a  
14 minimum of five hundred (500) new charter school seats per  
15 school year.

16 (b) If the number of new charter school seats established in  
17 any school year in a school district of the first class or in a  
18 school district of the first class A exceeds the number of new  
19 charter school seats required to be established in that school  
20 year under subsection (a), the additional new seats established  
21 for that school year over the required number of new seats may  
22 be applied toward the number of new charter school seats  
23 required to be established in the subsequent school year.

24 (c) For each charter revoked or not renewed in a school  
25 district of the first class or in a school district of the first  
26 class A, the School Reform Commission or other governing body of  
27 the school district shall establish an equivalent number of new  
28 charter school seats in another charter school, either by  
29 granting new charter applications, by expanding the permitted  
30 enrollment in existing charter schools or by a combination of

1 both. Any new charter school seats established under this  
2 subsection shall not count toward the minimum number of new  
3 charter school seats required under subsection (a).

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.