



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB2144

Introduced 5/31/2015, by Sen. Kimberly A. Lightford

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/27A-7.10

Amends the Charter Schools Law of the School Code. Provides that, in Chicago, a 4-year university may serve as the authorizer for a multi-site charter school devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school dropouts.

LRB099 12669 NHT 36378 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 27A-7.10 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/27A-7.10)

7 Sec. 27A-7.10. Authorizer powers and duties; immunity;
8 principles and standards.

9 (a) Authorizers are responsible for executing, in
10 accordance with this Article, all of the following powers and
11 duties:

12 (1) Soliciting and evaluating charter applications.

13 (2) Approving quality charter applications that meet
14 identified educational needs and promote a diversity of
15 educational choices.

16 (3) Declining to approve weak or inadequate charter
17 applications.

18 (4) Negotiating and executing sound charter contracts
19 with each approved charter school.

20 (5) Monitoring, in accordance with charter contract
21 terms, the performance and legal compliance of charter
22 schools.

23 (6) Determining whether each charter contract merits

1 renewal, nonrenewal, or revocation.

2 (b) An authorizing entity may delegate its duties to
3 officers, employees, and contractors.

4 (c) Regulation by authorizers is limited to the powers and
5 duties set forth in subsection (a) of this Section and must be
6 consistent with the spirit and intent of this Article.

7 (d) An authorizing entity, members of the local school
8 board, or the Commission, in their official capacity, and
9 employees of an authorizer are immune from civil and criminal
10 liability with respect to all activities related to a charter
11 school that they authorize, except for willful or wanton
12 misconduct.

13 (e) The Commission and all local school boards that have a
14 charter school operating are required to develop and maintain
15 chartering policies and practices consistent with recognized
16 principles and standards for quality charter authorizing in all
17 major areas of authorizing responsibility, including all of the
18 following:

- 19 (1) Organizational capacity and infrastructure.
- 20 (2) Soliciting and evaluating charter applications.
- 21 (3) Performance contracting.
- 22 (4) Ongoing charter school oversight and evaluation.
- 23 (5) Charter renewal decision-making.

24 Authorizers shall carry out all their duties under this
25 Article in a manner consistent with nationally recognized
26 principles and standards and with the spirit and intent of this

1 Article.

2 (f) In any city having a population exceeding 500,000, a
3 4-year university may serve as the authorizer for a multi-site
4 charter school devoted exclusively to re-enrolled high school
5 dropouts, in which case the university shall be deemed to mean
6 the local school board with respect to the provisions of this
7 Article concerning authorization of a charter school.

8 (Source: P.A. 97-152, eff. 7-20-11.)