

House File 785 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 785
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 105)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to charter schools, including by modifying
2 provisions related to charter school board member
3 requirements and charter school student participation in the
4 district-to-community college sharing or concurrent enrollment
5 program.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 256E.7, subsection 11, Code 2025, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 11. A majority of the membership of each charter school's
4 governing board shall be residents of the geographic area served
5 by the charter school. Each member of the governing board ~~who~~
6 ~~is not a resident of the geographic area served by the charter~~
7 ~~school must be a resident of this state~~ must be a citizen of the
8 United States. Not more than one member of the governing board
9 may be a resident of another state.

10 Sec. 2. Section 261E.8, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2025,
11 is amended to read as follows:

12 a. (1) Students from accredited nonpublic schools, and
13 students receiving competent private instruction or independent
14 private instruction under chapter 299A, students from charter
15 schools established pursuant to chapter 256E, and students
16 from charter schools or innovation zone schools established
17 pursuant to chapter 256F may access the program through the
18 school district in which the accredited nonpublic school, or
19 private institution, charter school, or innovation zone school is
20 located.

21 (2) Students from charter schools established pursuant to
22 chapter 256E, and students from charter schools or innovation
23 zone schools established pursuant to chapter 256F, that provide
24 educational instruction and course content that is delivered
25 entirely over the internet may access the program through the
26 students' school district of residence.

27 EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill relates to charter schools, including by
31 modifying provisions related to charter school board member
32 requirements and charter school student participation in the
33 district-to-community college sharing or concurrent enrollment
34 program.

35 Current law requires each member of the governing board of

1 a charter school established pursuant to Code chapter 256E who
2 is not a resident of the geographic area served by the charter
3 school to be a resident of this state. The bill strikes this
4 provision. The bill requires each member of the governing board
5 of a charter school to be a citizen of the United States. The
6 bill provides that not more than one member of the governing
7 board of a charter school may be a resident of another state.
8 The bill allows students from charter schools established
9 pursuant to Code chapter 256E and students from charter schools
10 or innovation zone schools established pursuant to Code chapter
11 256F to access the district-to-community college sharing or
12 concurrent enrollment program through the school district in
13 which the charter school or innovation zone school is located.
14 The bill also allows students from online charter schools
15 or innovation zone schools to access the program through the
16 students' school district of residence.