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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7465

BILL NUMBER: HB 1358

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 13, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Parental initiatives for school reorganization.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Huston

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill establishes the following parental initiatives for school reorganization of low performing schools: (1) The conversion of an existing public school into a charter school. (2) A petition to have the state board of education consider intervention and establish a lead partner to support the operation of the school. It repeals current provisions concerning the conversion of existing public schools into charter schools.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Under this bill, the number of schools that the State Board might have to consider for possible intervention might increase.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill would change the procedure for establishing a conversion charter school. The impact would depend on the number of conversions authorized by the State Board. Based on the 2012 academic performance standards, 60 schools are eligible for conversion to charter schools or to be operated by a lead partner.

Additional Information:

Under current law, an existing public elementary or secondary school may be converted into a charter school if all of the following conditions apply:

(1) At least fifty-one percent (51%) of the parents of students who attend the school have signed a petition requesting the conversion, which must be completed not later than 90 days after the date of the first signature.

(2) The school has been placed in either of the two (2) lowest academic performance categories for two (2) consecutive years.

(3) The governing body votes to convert an existing school within the school corporation.

This bill repeals the current statute. Under the bill, the school must be in either of the two (2) lowest academic performance categories for three (3) consecutive years. However, either the governing body or 51% of the parents can initiate the conversion process. As with current law, if a governing body operates a school that has been placed in either of the two lowest academic performance categories for four consecutive years, the governing body may not serve as the charter school's sponsor.

Under the bill, the parents of 51% of the students attending a school eligible for conversion can petition the State Board for the school be operated by a lead partner as defined by this bill (i.e. an organization that will assist in running the school).

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Board of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Local Schools

Information Sources: Department of Education website:
www.doe.in.gov/improvement/accountability/f-accountability

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