

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS45200-NH-111

Short Title: Stop Chronically Low-Performing Charters. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Chitlik and Grafstein (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CHARTER REVOCATION FOR SCHOOLS THAT HAVE BEEN
3 LOW-PERFORMING FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE YEARS, TO RESTRICT CHARTER
4 SCHOOLS FROM EXPANDING IF THEY ARE LOW-PERFORMING, TO LIMIT
5 CHARTERS FOR REMOTE ACADEMIES TO THREE YEARS, AND TO REQUIRE
6 CHARTER SCHOOLS TO LIST THE SCHOOL'S PERFORMANCE GRADE ON
7 ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS.

8 Whereas, one in eight North Carolina Schools are chronically low-performing; and

9 Whereas, approximately 14,400 students are stuck in chronically low-performing
10 charter schools; and

11 Whereas, low-performing charters are a threat to the reputation of all charter schools;
12 and

13 Whereas, chronically low-performing schools trap students in an environment that
14 has shown itself incapable of meeting their academic needs; Now, therefore,
15 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

16 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-218.7(b) is repealed.

17 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-218.8(2) is repealed.

18 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 115C-218.45 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

19 "(j) A charter school shall include on its application for enrollment the school's
20 performance grade, as determined by the State Board of Education, for the previous five years."

21 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 115C-218.94 reads as rewritten:

22 "**§ 115C-218.94. Identification of low-performing and continually low-performing charter**
23 **schools.**

24 (a) Identification of Low-Performing Charter Schools. – The State Board of Education
25 shall identify low-performing charter schools on an annual basis. Low-performing charter
26 schools are those that earn an overall school performance grade of D or F and a school growth
27 score of "met expected growth" or "not met expected growth" as defined by G.S. 115C-83.15.

28 (a1) Low-Performing Enrollment. – A charter school that is identified as low-performing
29 is not authorized to expand enrollment, even if enrollment expansion was planned in the school's
30 charter, until the school is no longer identified as low-performing.

31 (b) Identification of Continually Low-Performing Charter Schools. – The State Board of
32 Education shall identify continually low-performing charter schools on an annual basis. A
33 continually low-performing charter school is a charter school that has been designated by the
34 State Board as low-performing for at least two of three consecutive years.

35 (b1) Continually Low-Performing Charter. – If a charter school is identified as continually
36 low-performing for four consecutive years, the school's charter shall be revoked. If a charter



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1 school has been identified as continually low-performing for the three consecutive years
2 immediately preceding the expiration of the school's charter, the Review Board may authorize
3 the school to operate under its existing charter for one additional year. If the school is no longer
4 low-performing in the additional year granted under the existing charter, the Review Board may
5 renew the school's charter."

6 **SECTION 5.** G.S. 115C-218.95(b1) reads as rewritten:

7 "(b1) ~~If a charter school is continually low-performing, the Review Board is authorized to~~
8 ~~terminate, not renew, or seek applicants to assume the charter through a competitive bid process~~
9 ~~established by the State Board. However, the Review Board shall not terminate or not renew the~~
10 ~~charter of a continually low-performing charter school solely for its continually low-performing~~
11 ~~status if the charter school has met growth in each of the immediately preceding three school~~
12 ~~years or if the charter school has implemented a strategic improvement plan approved by the~~
13 ~~Review Board and is making measurable progress toward student performance goals. The State~~
14 ~~Board shall develop rules on the assumption of a charter by a new entity that includes all aspects~~
15 ~~of the operations of the charter school, including the status of the employees. Public assets shall~~
16 ~~transfer to the new entity and shall not revert to the local school administrative unit in which the~~
17 ~~charter school is located pursuant to G.S. 115C-218.100(b)."~~

18 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 115C-218.123(b) reads as rewritten:

19 "(b) The Review Board shall review and approve a charter or charter modification for the
20 creation of a remote charter academy that meets the requirements established in this Part for a
21 term of ~~five~~-three years. The Review Board shall approve a minimum of two statewide remote
22 charter academies that meet the qualifications of this Part for operation beginning with the
23 2026-2027 school year and thereafter."

24 **SECTION 7.** G.S. 115C-218.124(c) reads as rewritten:

25 "(c) A nonprofit may apply for renewal of the remote charter academy for additional terms
26 of ~~five~~-three years. The Review Board shall consider compliance with the requirements of this
27 Part and success of the remote charter academy in the prior ~~five~~-three years in determining
28 whether to approve a request for renewal of a remote charter academy."

29 **SECTION 8.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
30 the 2025-2026 school year.