

An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 3369

By: Echols of the House

and

David of the Senate

An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 3-142, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 170, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 3-142), which relates to charter school funding; decreasing certain percentage of State Aid allocation that may be retained by charter school sponsors; prohibiting certain additional fees or retention of funds; providing exception; requiring sponsors submit certain financial records; requiring payments to the Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund until certain limit is reached; creating the Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund; stating purpose; providing for expenditures; and providing an effective date.

SUBJECT: Charter schools

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 3-142, as last amended by Section 6, Chapter 170, O.S.L. 2015 (70 O.S. Supp. 2019, Section 3-142), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3-142. A. For purposes of funding, a charter school sponsored by a board of education of a school district shall be considered a site within the school district in which the charter school is located. The student membership of the charter school shall be considered separate from the student membership of the district in which the charter school is located for the purpose of calculating weighted average daily membership pursuant to Section 18-201.1 of this title and State Aid pursuant to Section 18-200.1 of this title. For charter schools sponsored by a board of education of a school district, the sum of the separate calculations for the

charter school and the school district shall be used to determine the total State Aid allocation for the district in which the charter school is located. A charter school shall receive from the sponsoring school district, the State Aid allocation and any other state-appropriated revenue generated by its students for the applicable year, less up to ~~five percent (5%)~~ three percent (3%) of the State Aid allocation, which may be retained by the school district as a fee for administrative services rendered. For charter schools sponsored by the board of education of a technology center school district, a higher education institution, the State Board of Education, or a federally recognized Indian tribe and for statewide virtual charter schools sponsored by the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board, the State Aid allocation for the charter school shall be distributed by the State Board of Education and not more than ~~five percent (5%)~~ three percent (3%) of the State Aid allocation may be charged by the sponsor as a fee for administrative services rendered. The State Board of Education shall determine the policy and procedure for making payments to a charter school. The fee for administrative services as authorized in this subsection shall only be assessed on the State Aid allocation amount and shall not be assessed on any other appropriated amounts. A sponsor of a charter school shall not retain any additional State Aid allocation or charge the charter school any additional fee above the amounts allowed by this subsection unless the additional fees are for additional services rendered. The charter school sponsor shall provide to the State Department of Education financial records documenting any state funds retained by the sponsor for administrative services rendered for the previous year.

B. 1. The weighted average daily membership for the first year of operation of a charter school shall be determined initially by multiplying the actual enrollment of students as of August 1 by 1.333. The charter school shall receive revenue equal to that which would be generated by the estimated weighted average daily membership calculated pursuant to this paragraph. At midyear, the allocation for the charter school shall be adjusted using the first quarter weighted average daily membership for the charter school calculated pursuant to subsection A of this section.

2. For the purpose of calculating weighted average daily membership pursuant to Section 18-201.1 of this title and State Aid pursuant to Section 18-200.1 of this title, the weighted average daily membership for the first year of operation and each year thereafter of a full-time virtual charter school shall be determined by multiplying the actual enrollment of students as of August 1 by

1.333. The full-time virtual charter school shall receive revenue equal to that which would be generated by the estimated weighted average daily membership calculated pursuant to this paragraph. At midyear, the allocation for the full-time virtual charter school shall be adjusted using the first quarter weighted average daily membership for the virtual charter school calculated pursuant to subsection A of this section.

C. A charter school shall be eligible to receive any other aid, grants or revenues allowed to other schools. A charter school sponsored by the board of education of a technology center school district, a higher education institution, the State Board of Education, or a federally recognized Indian tribe shall be considered a local education agency for purposes of funding. A charter school sponsored by a board of education of a school district shall be considered a local education agency for purposes of federal funding.

D. A charter school, in addition to the money received from the state, may receive money from any other source. Any unexpended funds may be reserved and used for future purposes. The governing body of a charter school shall not levy taxes or issue bonds. If otherwise allowed by law, the governing body of a charter school may enter into private contracts for the purposes of borrowing money from lenders. If the governing body of the charter school borrows money, the charter school shall be solely responsible for repaying the debt, and the state or the sponsor shall not in any way be responsible or obligated to repay the debt.

E. Any charter school which chooses to lease property shall be eligible to receive current government lease rates.

F. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, each charter school shall pay to the Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund created in subsection G of this section an amount equal to Five Dollars (\$5.00) per student based on average daily membership, as defined by paragraph 2 of Section 18-107 of this title, during the first nine (9) weeks of the school year. Each charter school shall complete the payment every school year within thirty (30) days after the first nine (9) weeks of the school year. If the Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund has a balance of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) or more on July 1, no payment shall be required the following school year.

G. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the State Department of Education to be designated the "Charter School Closure Reimbursement Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the State Department of Education from charter schools as provided in subsection F of this section. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the State Department of Education for the purpose of reimbursing charter school sponsors for costs incurred due to the closure of a charter school. Expenditures from said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment. The State Department of Education may promulgate rules regarding sponsor eligibility for reimbursement.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of May, 2020.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 12th day of May, 2020.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____