

1 SR110
2 170565-1
3 By Senators Ross and Smitherman
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 04-JUN-15

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8 URGING LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO GIVE NOTICE BY
9 SEPTEMBER 1, 2015, WHETHER TO REGISTER OR NOT REGISTER AS
10 CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZERS.

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12 WHEREAS, Act 2015-3 requires local school boards to
13 decide whether or not to register as an authorizer, which is
14 registering as an entity that reviews applications to enter
15 into charter contracts, approve or reject applications, enter
16 into charter contracts with applicants, oversee public charter
17 schools and decide whether to renew, not renew, or revoke
18 charter contracts; and

19 WHEREAS, Act 2015-3 requires local school boards
20 choosing to be authorizers to prepare an application to the
21 State Department of Education to be an authorizer that
22 includes provisions detailing its capacity and commitment to
23 being a charter school authorizer; its strategic vision for
24 charter schools; its plan for soliciting applicants to govern
25 charter schools; and its performance framework for contracting

1 with, monitoring and evaluating performance of charter
2 schools; and

3 WHEREAS, Act 2015-3 requires if a local school board
4 chooses not to register as an authorizer, all applications
5 seeking to open a startup public charter school within that
6 local school board's boundaries shall be denied; applicants
7 wishing to open a public charter school physically located in
8 that local school system may apply directly to the commission;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Act 2015-3 requires the format for the
11 application to be a charter school authorizer to be made
12 available to local school boards by June 1, 2015, and also
13 requires school boards choosing to be charter school
14 authorizers to issue requests for proposals for charter
15 schools within 120 days of enactment or July 17, 2015; and

16 WHEREAS, the State Board of Education plans to adopt
17 regulations to implement Act 2015-3 by June 10, 2015; and

18 WHEREAS, the Legislature wants to provide local
19 school systems with the opportunity to thoroughly review and
20 understand guidance from the State Board of Education
21 regarding authorizing; and

22 WHEREAS, the Legislature wants the Alabama Public
23 Charter School Commission to thoughtfully develop its own
24 rules for its role as an appellate body and charter school
25 authorizer without preventing local school systems from owning

1 and operating their own authorizing process, should they
2 choose to register as authorizers; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
4 ALABAMA, That we hereby urge local boards of education to
5 decide and give notice by September 1, 2015, whether to
6 register or not register as charter school authorizers.

7 BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, That we urge the Alabama
8 Public Charter School Commission to take sufficient time to
9 develop its rules before being required to hear appeals from
10 applications denied at the local level.