BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 56th Legislature

Bill No.:

Version:

Request Number:

Author:

Date:

Costs borne by local school districts and charter schools

Research Analysis

The bill establishes a process whereby a charter school may make a request to the local school board of education to participate in a district bond election. It specifies the contents of the request and gives the board thirty days to respond to the request. If approved, a written agreement must be entered into by the board and of the governing board of the charter school. If the request is denied, the board must provide a written statement to the charter school specifying the reasons for denial. The charter school will have the opportunity to address the reasons raised and resubmit the request. Lastly, the bill gives charter schools located within a school district the right of first refusal if a school district decides to sell or lease a public school property.

Prepared By: Scott Tohlen

Fiscal Analysis

ESB 359 provides that the governing board of an approved charter school may submit a written request to the board of education of the school district in which the charter school is located to participate in a specified local bond issue election. The school district board of education will consider the request and issue a written response within 30 days of receipt.

The cost of submission of a ballot question will be borne as specified by both the district and the charter school. Investment and interest earnings on bond proceeds are specified. Further, if a school district board of education decides to sell or lease a public school property, a charter school within the school district will have the right of first refusal to purchase or lease the property at or below fair market value. The measure has no cost to state funds.

Prepared By: Andrea Kearney

Other Considerations

None

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