



CHARTER SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

House Bill 5293

Sponsor: Rep. Rose Bogardus

Committee: Education

Complete to 11-3-97

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5293 AS INTRODUCED 10-16-97

The Revised School Code contains requirements that a public school academy (or charter school) must meet in admitting students, and it requires a random selection process when there are more applicants than spaces available. House Bill 5293 would specify that, regardless of its authorizing body, an academy would have to be open to all students residing in the school district in which the academy is located who meet the admission policy, and would have to give enrollment priority to students in that district. Further, the bill would require that the random selection process for admission be conducted in a public meeting by the intermediate school district in which the academy is located.

(The current public school academy admission provisions include the following. Enrollment can be open to anyone residing in the state and must be open to anyone residing within the geographic boundaries, if any, of the authorizing body. Authorizing bodies include the boards of local and intermediate school districts, community colleges, and state public universities. For an academy authorized by a state public university, enrollment has to be open to anyone who resides in the state who meets the admission policy. If there are more applications than spaces available, students are to be selected using a random selection process, although enrollment priority can be given to the sibling of a student already enrolled. Also, a student enrolled in the immediately preceding school year must be allowed to enroll if the appropriate grade is offered. An academy cannot charge tuition and cannot discriminate upon the basis of intellectual or athletic ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, status as a handicapped person, or any other basis that would be illegal for a school district. It can limit admission to students within a particular range or age or grade level, or using any other basis a school district can use.)

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