



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 334: Charter School Extracurricular Activity Fees

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Education - K-12	Date:	April 21, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Jeter, Steinburg	Prepared by:	Kara McCraw
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H334-CSTC-19		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: House 334 would allow charter schools to establish fees meeting certain requirements for extracurricular activities.

The PCS for HB 334 would make the following changes:

- Add a section requiring review of charter school applications to be based on content and substance, to provide applicants notice and opportunity to correct formatting errors and incomplete information, and to allow applicants 10 minutes to address the Advisory Board before final votes on applications.
- Make a technical correction to an incorrect statutory cross-reference.
- Change the percentage of students enrolled in a charter school from a certain county which limits the amount that may be charged for an extracurricular fee from 10% to 40%.

CURRENT LAW: G.S. 115C-218 requires the North Carolina Charter Advisory Board to make recommendations and the State Board of Education to adopt rules regarding criteria for acceptance and approval of charter school applications. G.S. 115C-218.1 establishes the application requirements for charter school applicants. G.S. 115C-218.5 provides the process for final approval of charter school applications, and requires, in subsection (a) of that section, that the following be shown:

- (1) The application meets the statutory requirements and other requirements as may be adopted by the State Board of Education.
- (2) The applicant has the ability to operate the school and would be likely to operate the school in an educationally and economically sound manner.
- (3) Granting the application would achieve one or more of the statutory purposes for charter schools.

The State Board is encouraged to give preference to applications that demonstrate the capability to provide comprehensive learning experiences to students identified by the applicants as at risk of academic failure.

G.S. 115C-218 allows a charter school to charge any fees that are charged by the local school administrative unit in which the charter school is located.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS for HB 334 would make the following changes:

Section 1: Require the charter school applications to be based on content and substance, to provide applicants notice and opportunity to correct formatting errors and incomplete information, and to allow applicants 10 minutes to address the Advisory Board before final votes on applications.

O. Walker Reagan
Director



Research Division
(919) 733-2578

* H 3 3 4 - S M T C - 3 0 C S T C - 1 9 - V 2 *

House Bill 334

Page 2

Section 2: Correct an incorrect statutory reference.

Section 3: Allow a charter school, upon approval by its board of directors, to establish fees for extracurricular activities. Those fees would not be permitted to exceed the fees for the same extracurricular activities charged by a local school administrative unit in which 40% or more of the students enrolled in the charter school reside.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Section 1 of HB 334 would become effective when it becomes law and apply to initial applications for and the renewal of a charter on or after that date. The remainder of HB 334 would become effective when it becomes law and would apply beginning with the 2015-2016 school year.