



HOUSE BILL 531: Chtr Schs & Out-of-State/Foreign Exch Stud.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 25, 2023
Introduced by:	Reps. Stevens, Blackwell, Brody, Pyrtle	Prepared by:	Drupti Chauhan
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 531 would allow charter schools that are unable to fill their current enrollment with North Carolina students to admit out-of-state students and charge them tuition. The bill would also allow charter schools to enroll foreign exchange students in the high school grades and charge them tuition.

CURRENT LAW: Any student who is qualified under the laws of this State for admission to a public school is qualified for admission to a charter school. Students are qualified for admission to North Carolina public schools if they are domiciled in this State. Local school administrative units (LEAs) have the authority to admit students who are not domiciliaries of the State and charge them tuition under G.S. 115C-366.1. LEAs cannot charge the out-of-State student more than the amount of the local per pupil funding.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 531 would allow a charter school to enroll out-of-state students who are not domiciliaries of North Carolina if the charter school has not filled its enrollment capacity. The charter school must charge the out-of-state students a tuition amount of at least 50% of the total of the per pupil allocation of the local appropriation for the county in which the charter school is located and the per pupil State appropriation for that school year but no more than 100% of the total of the per pupil allocation of the local appropriation for the county in which the charter school is located and the per pupil State appropriation for that school year. The number of out-of-state students cannot exceed ten percent of the total number of students enrolled in the charter school.

The bill would also allow charter schools to enroll foreign exchange students in grades 9-12 as follows:

- No more than 2 foreign exchange students per high school grades 9-12 can be enrolled in any given school year at the charter school.
- The charter school may charge the foreign exchange students a tuition amount of at least 50% of the total of the per pupil allocation of the local appropriation for the county in which the charter school is located and the per pupil State appropriation for that school year but no more than 100% of the total of the per pupil allocation of the local appropriation for the county in which the charter school is located and the per pupil State appropriation for that school year.
- Foreign exchange students would not count towards the enrollment capacity or cap for any program, class, building or grade levels for grades 9-12 and would not be subject to any lottery process used by the charter school for enrollment purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would become effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with the admissions process for the 2024-2025 school year.

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Legislative Analysis
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