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170565-1: n: 06/04/2015: PMG / th LRS2015-2270

SR //O URGING LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION TO GIVE NOTICE BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2015, WHETHER TO REGISTER OR NOT REGISTER AS CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZERS.

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

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

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WHEREAS, Act 2015-3 requires if a local school board chooses not to register as an authorizer, all applications seeking to open a startup public charter school within that local school board's boundaries shall be denied; applicants wishing to open a public charter school physically located in that local school system may apply directly to the commission; and WHEREAS, Act 2015-3 requires the format for the application to be a charter school authorizer to be made available to local school boards by June 1, 2015, and also requires school boards choosing to be charter school authorizers to issue requests for proposals for charter schools within 120 days of enactment or July 17, 2015; and WHEREAS, the State Board of Education plans to adopt regulations to implement Act 2015-3 by June 10, 2015; and WHEREAS, the Legislature wants to provide local school systems with the opportunity to thoroughly review and understand guidance from the State Board of Education regarding authorizing; and WHEREAS, the Legislature wants the Alabama Public Charter School Commission to thoughtfully develop its own rules for its role as an appellate body and charter school authorizer without preventing local school systems from owning and operating their own authorizing process, should they choose to register as authorizers; now therefore, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby urge local boards of education to



1.	decide and give notice by September 1, 2015, whether to
2	register or not register as charter school authorizers.
3	BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, That we urge the Alabama
4	Public Charter School Commission to take sufficient time to
5	develop its rules before being required to hear appeals from
5	applications denied at the local level.

SENATE 2015

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PATRICK HARRIS, SECRETARY

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