

**H.R. 10**  
**“Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act”**

**Background**

The U.S. House of Representatives recently approved H.R. 10, the “Success and Opportunity through Quality Charter Schools Act.” The bipartisan legislation, which passed the chamber on May 9 by a vote of 360 to 45, is now awaiting action in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee. H.R. 10 moved through the House quickly, having been introduced on April 1 of this year and passed by the House Committee on Education and the Workforce on April 29.

**Summary**

Introduced by House Education & the Workforce Chairman John Kline (R-Minn.) and co-sponsored by Ranking Member George Miller (D-Calif.), the main thrust of the bill is to streamline the two existing federal support programs for charter schools into a new Charter School Program. While consolidating the programs, the legislation would also:

- allow state educational agencies to subgrant monies to local charter school developers for the purposes of expanding and replicating high-performing charter programs – something not previously allowed
- outline how much of a grant could be reserved for administrative purposes (no more than three percent), how much must be spent on assistance in the authorizing process and general technical assistance (at least seven percent), and how long a grantee may continue to receive funds (no more than five years)
- give grant priority to states which have more than one charter authorizing organization, to states which do not place caps on the number of allowed charter schools, and to applicants that have plans to support at-risk students, promote best practices, and authorize their charters to act as school food authorities

The second part of the legislation incorporates one existing program meant to assist charter schools with credit access for facility acquisition, construction, and renovation into the basic Charter School Program. It would further raise the amount of this program’s grant funding (to 2.5% from the current 0.25%) that can be used for administrative costs. Also included are revisions to the per-pupil facilities aid program, intended to promote partnership and allow for multiple grants per state.

Additional provisions in the legislation include directing the Secretary of Education to conduct activities such as the operation of separate grant competitions for states which did not win or compete for a state grant and for high-quality charter management organizations, dissemination of best practices and other technical assistance, promoting more efficient transfer of student records between schools, and the opening of charters to Pre-K students.

Finally, the bill includes an authorization of \$300 million for fiscal year 2015 and each of the succeeding five fiscal years.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact [Lee Posey](#) (202-624-8196) or [Ben Schaefer](#) (202-624-8667).

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