

Clarity, Parity & Reducing Burdens: Solutions for Public Charter Schools

Parts of the Education Code are unclear – public charter schools need the Legislature to weigh in on several challenges.

	Challenges	Solutions
Clarity	<p>TEC 12.111 Single-Sex Schools</p> <p>Public charter school applicants need a determination that single-sex schools (i.e. all-boys and all-girls) are allowed.</p>	<p>Allow a public charter school to limit admission based on a student’s biological sex (already defined by TEC 33.0834).</p>
	<p>TEC 12.117: Weighted Lotteries</p> <p>Public charter schools need a determination that “weighted lotteries” are allowed to improve the probability of admission for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Special Education students ● English Language Learners ● Economically Disadvantaged students 	<p>Allow (do not require) public charter schools to implement weighted lotteries for these student groups, which federal law designates as the student groups states may advantage for admission.</p>
Parity	<p>TEC 12.1058: Legal Designations</p> <p>Like traditional ISDs, public charter schools should be allowed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Authorize School Crossing Guards to protect students ● Form Electric Co-ops to negotiate the price of electricity ● Exempt providers from the gross receipts tax (GRT) on electricity 	<p>Add to the “applicability of other laws” to consider public charter schools as a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Local authority” to designate school crossing guards ● “Political subdivision” to form energy co-ops ● “Public school district customer” to exempt providers from GRT
	<p>TEC 12.129: District Teaching Permits</p> <p>Like traditional ISDs, public charter schools should be allowed to employ non-degreed teachers to teach only non-core Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses.</p>	<p>Allow public charter schools to issue “district teaching permits” (as provided by TEC 21.055) to non-degreed teachers who teach only non-core CTE courses.</p>
Reducing Burdens	<p>TEC 12.119: Reporting Requirements</p> <p>Public charter schools must report the name, address, contact, and compensation for each “officer” of the school, which includes all Assistant Principals and Assistant Directors. For large districts, this creates dozens of pages of paperwork.</p>	<p>Remove this reporting requirement for only Assistant Principals and Assistant Directors, while maintaining other code related to officers, including Conflict of Interest laws.</p>

Questions? Contact research@txcharterschools.org.