

# Senate Education Committee

*Declan Donahue 271-3324*

**HB 752**, relative to procedures for the closing of a charter school.

**Hearing Date:** April 2, 2025

**Time Opened:** 2:36 p.m.

**Time Closed:** 2:41 p.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Ward, Sullivan, Abbas, Prentiss and Altschiller

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill adds to the procedures for the closing of a chartered public school and requires records to be kept either by a chartered public school, or in the event of its closure, by the department of education, for 60 years.

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**Sponsors:**

Rep. Cordelli

Rep. Ladd

Sen. Watters

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**Who supports the bill:** Rep. Glen Cordelli. Eric Pauer and Daniel Richardson signed in online in support of the bill.

**Who opposes the bill:** Vicki Silver, Emily Drobek, and Caitlin Gray signed in online in opposition to the bill.

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

*Rep. Glen Cordelli*

- This bill revises current law on the processes by which a charter school may be reviewed or put on probation if there are problems with the school.
- This bill was worked on with the Department of Education based on experience.
- Enrollment is the basis of current law in terms of a notice and revoking of a charter.
- New additions include that a school has failed to remedy causes of probation of if a school is no longer in good standing with the charitable trust association associated with its charter.
- IV added a section requiring the notice addressing specific areas of concern.
- The bill requires an escrow account if the school is in danger of failing to pay for the expenses resulting from closing.
- Section 2 redefines what happens to records from closed charter schools, mandating the Department of Education keep control of those records and set up a process where former students can obtain copies of their records.

- Senator Sullivan asked if the intention is to give charter schools guardrails to get back on track before they pass the point of no return.
- Rep. Cordelli stated that they must come up with a remedial plan approved by the Department of Education.
- Senator Ward asked how the Department of Education would know if there is a problem.
- Rep. Cordelli clarified that charter schools can reach out, or the Department of Education can look into a school themselves. This would prevent instances of surprises in the future.

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Date Hearing Report completed: April 7, 2025