

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 416

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen accountability of authorized public chartering agencies and reduce charter school authorizing misconduct.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2017

Mrs. LAWRENCE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen accountability of authorized public chartering agencies and reduce charter school authorizing misconduct.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Raising Accountability
5 to Improve School Excellence Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZING.**

7 Section 4303 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
8 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7221b) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (f)—

2 (A) in paragraph (1)—

3 (i) in subparagraph (A)(xii)—

4 (I) by striking “and” at the end
5 of subclause (I); and

6 (II) by inserting at the end the
7 following:

8 “(III) In the case of any State
9 entity, a description of how the State
10 entity will ensure that the State’s sys-
11 tem of technical assistance and over-
12 sight, as described in subclause (I),
13 will provide oversight of authorizing
14 activity for each authorized public
15 chartering agency that is an institu-
16 tion of higher education;” and

17 (ii) in subparagraph (C)—

18 (I) by redesignating subclauses
19 (III) through (VI) as subclauses (IV)
20 through (VII), respectively; and

21 (II) by inserting after subclause
22 (II), the following:

23 “(II) a description of how the eli-
24 gible applicant will, prior to entering
25 into a contract with an authorized

1 public chartering agency, review the
2 agency’s previous authorizing activity,
3 including the number of approvals, re-
4 newals, and revocations of charter
5 schools with which the agency has
6 been involved;” and

7 (B) in paragraph (2)(E)—

8 (i) by striking “and” at the end of
9 clause (ii); and

10 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(iv) ensuring that the authorized
13 public chartering agency carries out au-
14 thorizing activity in a manner that ensures
15 high-quality student learning, as deter-
16 mined according to annual performance
17 data described in clause (i); and

18 “(v) in the case of the poor perform-
19 ance of the schools authorized by an au-
20 thorized public chartering agency with re-
21 spect to the assessments, reviews, or re-
22 quirements under clauses (i) through (iv),
23 provisionally revoking the authorized public
24 chartering agency’s ability to approve char-
25 ter schools, including a plan to revoke au-

1 thorizing authority to do so, in the case of
2 continued poor performance;” and

3 (2) in subsection (g)(1)—

4 (A) by striking “and” at the end of sub-
5 paragraph (D)(iii);

6 (B) by striking the period at the end of
7 subparagraph (E); and

8 (C) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(G) the number of times the State entity
10 applied under subsection (f) to receive a grant
11 under this section and did not receive such
12 grant.”.

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