1-1 By: Taylor of Galveston S.B. No. 1658 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2017; March 22, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Education; April 18, 2017, 1-2 1-3 1-4 reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0; April 18, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-7		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8	Taylor of Galveston	X	-		
1-9	Lucio	Х			
1-10	Bettencourt	Х			
1-11	Campbell	X			
1-12	Hall			X	
1-13	Huffines	X			
1-14	Hughes	X			
1-15	Seliger	X			
1-16	Taylor of Collin	X			
1-17	Uresti	X			
1-18	West	Χ			

1-19 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1658 By: Taylor of Galveston

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1-21 AN ACT

1-24

1-25

1-26 1-27

1-28 1-29

1-30 1-31 1-32 1-33

1-34

1-35

1-36 1-37

1-38

1-39

1-40 1-41

1-42

1-43

1-44

1-45

1-46

1-47

1-48

1-49 1-50 1-51 1-52

1-53

1-54

1-55

1-56 1-57

1-58

1-59 1-60

relating to the ownership, sale, lease, and disposition of property 1-22 1-23 and management of assets of an open-enrollment charter school.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 12.1012, Education Code, is amended by adding Subdivisions (7) and (8) to read as follows:

"<u>Payable</u> obligation" (7) means contractually obligated expenditure that was reasonably incurred for the benefit of students enrolled at an open-enrollment charter school before the open-enrollment charter school ceased operations, including a debt described by Section 12.128(e). The term does not include any amount owed to a former charter holder or officer or director of the school.

"Remaining funds" means funds that are held by a (8) former charter holder after satisfaction of all payable obligations and that were received:

(A) under Section 12.106; or

from the disposition of property.

SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code, amended by adding Section 12.10125 to read as follows:

12.10125. OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOL An open-enrollment charter school ceases to operate if: OPERATION.

(1)the school's charter:

> (A) has been revoked;

has expired; (B)

has been surrendered; or

(D) has been abandoned; or

the school has otherwise ceased operation as a

public school.
 SECTION 3. Section 12.106, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (d), (e), and (f) to read as follows:

(d) Except as provided by Subsection (e), all funds of a charter holder for an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate must be returned to the agency and deposited in the charter school liquidation fund.

(e) The agency may approve a transfer of a charter holder's remaining funds to another charter holder if the charter holder receiving the funds has not received notice of the expiration or revocation of the charter holder's charter for an open-enrollment charter school or notice of a reconstitution of the governing body of the charter holder under Section 12.1141 or 12.

The commissioner may adopt rules specifying:

- the time during which a former charter holder must return remaining funds under Subsection (d); and
- (2) the qualifications required for a charter holder to receive a transfer of remaining funds under Subsection (e).
- SECTION 4. Section 12.107(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:
- (a) Funds received under Section 12.106 after September 1, 2001, by a charter holder:
- (1) are considered to be public funds for all purposes under state law;
- (2) are held in trust by the charter holder for the benefit of the students of the open-enrollment charter school;
- (3) may be used only for a purpose for which a school may use local funds under Section 45.105(c); [and]
- (4) pending their use, must be deposited into a bank, as defined by Section 45.201, with which the charter holder has entered into a depository contract; and

2-1

2-2

2-3 2-4

2**-**5

2-6

2-7

2-8 2-9

2**-**10 2**-**11

2-12

2-13

2-14

2**-**15 2**-**16

2-17

2-18 2-19

2**-**20 2**-**21

2-22

2-23 2-24

2**-**25 2**-**26

2-27

2-28

2-29 2-30 2-31

2-32 2-33

2-34

2-35 2-36 2-37

2-38 2-39

2-40 2-41

2-42

2-43

2-44 2-45 2-46 2-47

2-48

2-49 2-50 2-51

2-52

2-53

2-54

2-55 2-56

2-57

2-58 2-59

2-60 2-61

2-62

2-63

2-64 2-65 2-66 2-67

2-68

2-69

- (5) may not:

  (A) be pledged or used to secure loans or bonds for any other organization, including a non-charter operation or out-of-state operation conducted by the charter holder or a related party; or
- (B) be used to support an operation or activity not related to the educational activities of the charter holder.

SECTION 5. Section 12.1163, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

- (d) An audit under Subsection (a) may include the review of any real property transactions between the charter holder and a related party, as defined by commissioner rule adopted under Section 12.1166. If the commissioner determines that a transaction with a related party using funds received under Section 12.106 was structured in a manner that did not benefit the open-enrollment charter school or that the transaction was in excess of fair market value as determined under Section 12.1167, the commissioner may order that the transaction be reclassified or that other action be taken as necessary to protect the school's interests. Failure to comply with the commissioner's order is a material violation of the
- SECTION 6. Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code, amended by adding Sections 12.1166, 12.1167, and 12.1168 to read as follows:
- Sec. 12.1166. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS. (a) The commissioner shall adopt a rule defining "related party" for purposes of this subchapter. The definition of "related party" must include:
- $\overline{(1)}$ a party with a current or former board member,
- administrator, or officer who is:

  (A) a board member, administrator, or officer of an open-enrollment charter school; or
- (B) related within the third degre<u>e</u> of or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, consanguinity | Government Code, to a board member, administrator, or officer of an
- open-enrollment charter school;
  (2) a charter holder's related organizations, joint ventures, and jointly governed organizations;
- (3) an open-enrollment charter school's board members, administrators, or officers or a person related to a board member, administrator, or officer within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code; and
- (4) any other disqualified person, as that term is defined by 26 U.S.C. Section 4958(f).
- (b) For purposes of Subsection (a)(1), a person is a former board member, administrator, or officer if the person served in that capacity within one year of the date on which a financial between the charter holder and a related party transaction occurred.
  - In a charter holder's annual audit filed under Section (C)

C.S.S.B. No. 1658

44.008, the charter holder must include a list of all transactions with a related party. 3-1 3-2

3-3

3 - 4

3**-**5

3**-**6

3-7

3-8

3**-**9

3-10

3**-**11

3-12

3-13

3-14 3**-**15 3**-**16 3-17

3-18

3-19

3**-**20 3**-**21

3-22

3-23 3-24

3-25

3-26

3-27 3-28

3-29

3-30

3-31 3-32 3-33

3-34 3-35

3**-**36

3-37

3-38

3-39

3-40

3-41

3-42

3-43 3-44

3-45 3-46

3-47 3-48

3-49 3-50 3**-**51 3-52

3**-**53

3-54

3-55 3**-**56 3-57

3**-**58

3-59

3-60 3-61

3-62

3-63

3-64

3**-**65 3-66

3-67

3-68

3-69

- Sec. 12.1167. APPRAISAL CERTAIN PROPERTY. OF The commissioner may adopt rules to require:
- (1) an open-enrollment charter school to provide notice to the commissioner of an appraiser before entering into a transaction with a related party;
- the commissioner to publish a list of acceptable (2) appr<u>aisers;</u>
- (3)an appraiser to use specific methods for an appraisal; or
  - an appraisal to be filed with the agency. (4)
- 12.1168. FINANCIAL REPORT OF CERTAIN SCHOOLS. this section, "related party" has the meaning adopted by commissioner rule under Section 12.1166.

  (b) A financial report filed under Section 44.008 by an
- open-enrollment charter school must separately disclose:
- financial transactions (1)between open-enrollment charter school and any related party, separately stating the principal, interest, and lease payments; and
- (2) the total compensation and benefits provided by the school and any related party for each member of the governing body and each officer and administrator of the school and the related party.
- (c) commissioner may adopt rules to implement this The section.
- SECTION 7. Section 12.128, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (c) and adding Subsections (a-1), (b-1), (b-2), (c-1), (c-2), and (f) to read as follows:
- (a) Property purchased [or leased] with funds received by a charter holder under Section 12.106 after September 1, 2001:

  (1) is considered to be public property for
- purposes under state law;
- (2) is property of this state held in trust by the lder for the benefit of the students of the charter holder open-enrollment charter school; and
- (3) may be used only for a purpose for which a school district may use school district property.
- Property leased with funds received by a charter Section 12.106 after September 1, 2001:

  (1) is considered to be public property for all (a-1) holder under
- purposes under state law;
- (2) is property of this state held in trust by holder for the benefit of the students of charter open-enrollment charter school; and
  (3) may be used only for a purpose for which a school
- district may use school district property.
- (b-1) Subject to Subsection (b-2), while an open-enrollment charter school is in operation, the charter holder holds title to any property described by Subsection (a) or (b) and may exercise complete control over the property as permitted under the law.
- (b-2) A charter holder may not transfer, sell, or otherwise dispose of any property described by this section without the prior written consent of the agency if:
- the charter holder has received notice of:
  (A) the expiration of the charter holder's charter under Section 12.1141 and the charter has not been renewed; or
- (B) the charter's revocation under Section 12.115(c);
- (2)the charter holder has received notice that the open-enrollment charter school is under discretionary review by the commissioner, which may result in the revocation of the charter or a reconstitution of the governing body of the charter holder under Section <u>12.115;</u> or
- (3) the open-enrollment charter school for which the charter is held has otherwise ceased to operate.
  - The commissioner shall:
    - (1) take possession and assume control of the property

```
C.S.S.B. No. 1658
```

described by Subsection (a) of an open-enrollment charter school 4-1 4-2 that ceases to operate; and

supervise (2) the disposition of the property in accordance with this subchapter [law].

(c-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (c), if an open-enrollment

4-6 charter school ceases to operate, the agency: 4-7

4-3

4-4

4-5

4-8

4-9 4-10

**4-**11

4-12

4-13

4-14 4**-**15 4**-**16

4-17

4-18 4-19

4-20 4-21 4-22

4-23

4-24

4-25 4-26

4-27 4-28 4-29

4-30 4-31 4-32 4-33

4 - 34

4-35 4-36

4-37

4-38 4-39

4-40 4-41

4-42 4-43

4-44

4-45

4-46 4-47

4-48

4-49 4-50

4-51

4-52 **4-**53

4-54

4-55

4-56

4-57

4-58 4-59

4-60 4-61 4-62

4-63

4-64

4-65

4-66

4-67 4-68

4-69

(1) for property purchased with state funds, direct the charter holder to dispose of the property through one of the following methods:

(A) retain or liquidate the property and provide reimbursement to the state as provided by Section 12.1281;

transfer the property to: (B)

the agency under Section 12.1281(h); or (ii) a school district or open-enrollment charter school under Section 12.1282;

(C) close the operations of the open-enrollment charter school under Section 12.1284; or

(D) take any combination of the actions described

by Paragraphs (A), (B), and (C); and

(2) for property leased with state funds, may direct the charter holder to assign the charter holder's interest in the lease to the agency.

(c-2) The agency may approve an expenditure of remaining funds by a former charter holder for insurance or utilities for or maintenance, repairs, or improvements to property described by this section if the agency determines that the expenditure is reasonably necessary to dispose of the property or preserve the property's

A decision by the agency under this section is final and

may not be appealed.

SECTION 8. Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code, is amended by adding Sections 12.1281, 12.1282, 12.1283, and 12.1284 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.1281. DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY PURCHASED WITH STATE FUNDS. (a) A former charter holder of an open-enrollment charter school that has ceased to operate may retain property described by Section 12.128 if the former charter holder reimburses the state with non-state funds and the former charter holder:

(1) provides written assurance that the requirements

of Section 12.1284 will be met; and
(2) receives approval from the agency.

On receiving consent from the agency under Section 12.128(b-2) and a written agreement from any creditor with a security interest described by Section 12.128(e), the former charter holder may:

(1) sell property for fair market value;

(2) transfer property to an open-enrollment charter school or a school district as provided under Section 12.1282.

(c) The amount of funds the state is entitled to resement for property of a former charter holder is:

(1) for property retained by the former char

reimbursement

charter holder, the current fair market value less the amount of any debt subject to a security interest or lien described by Section 12.128(e), multiplied by the percentage of state funds used to purchase the property; or

(2) for property sold by the former charter holder, the net sales proceeds of the property multiplied by the percentage

of state funds used to purchase the property.

(d) To determine the amount of state funds a former charter

holder used to purchase property, the agency shall calculate:

(1) an estimated state reimbursement amount based annual financial report filed under Section 44.008 last available at the time the former charter holder retains or sells the property; and

final state reimbursement amount using а former charter holder's final financial audit filed under Section

(e) A former charter holder retaining property under Subsection (a) or selling the property under Subsection (b)(1)

## shall:

5-1

5-2

5-3 5-4

5-5

5-6

5-7

5-8

5-9

5-10

5-11

5-12

5-13

5-14

5**-**15 5**-**16

5-17 5-18

5-19 5-20

5-21

5-22

5-23

5-24 5-25 5**-**26 5-27

5-28

5-29

5-30

5-31

5-32

5-33

5-34

5-35 5-36

5-37

5-38 5-39 5-40 5-41

5-42

5-43

5-44

5-45 5-46 5-47

5-48

5-49

5-50 5-51 5-52

5**-**53 5-54

5-55 5-56

5-57

5-58

5-59

5-60

5-61

5-62

5-63

5-64

5-65

5-66 5-67

5-68 5-69

- (1) file an affidavit in the real property records of the county in which the property is located disclosing the state interest in the property;
- (2) place in escrow with the state comptroller an non-state funds equal to 110 percent of the estimated amount of state reimbursement amount; and
- not later than two weeks after the date the charter final financial audit is filed under Section 44.008, holder's submit to the state the final state reimbursement amount using the funds in escrow in addition to any other funds necessary to pay the full amount of state reimbursement.
- A former charter holder may retain any funds remaining after complying with this section.
- (g) As soon as the agency is satisfied that the former charter holder complied with Subsection (e), the agency shall file written notice of the release of the state interest in property the former charter holder retains under this section and authorize the return of any funds not used for state reimbursement to the former charter holder.
- (h) Subject to the satisfaction of any security interest or described by Section 12.128(e), if a former charter holder does not dispose of property under Subsection (a) or (b), the former charter holder shall transfer the property, including a conveyance of title, to the agency in accordance with the procedures and time requirements established by the agency.
- (i) Subject to the satisfaction of any security interest or lien described by Section 12.128(e), if the agency determines a former charter holder failed to comply with this section or Section 12.1282, on request of the agency, the attorney general shall take any appropriate legal action to compel the former charter holder to convey title to the agency or other governmental entity authorized by the agency to maintain or dispose of property.
- (j) A decision by the agency under this section is final and may not be appealed.
- (k) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to administer this section.
- Sec. 12.1282. TRANSFER OF PROPERTY PURCHASED WITH STATE FUNDS. (a) The agency may approve the transfer of property described by Section 12.128 from an open-enrollment charter school that has ceased to operate, or may transfer property conveyed to the agency by the former charter holder under Section 12.1281, to a school district or an open-enrollment charter school if:
- (1) the open-enrollment charter school school οr district receiving the property:

  (A) agrees to the transfer; and
- (B) agrees to identify the property as purchased wholly or partly using state funds on the school's annual financial report filed under Section 44.008;
- (2) any creditor with a security interest in or lien on the property described by Section 12.128(e) agrees to the transfer; and
- (3) the transfer of the property does not make the open-enrollment charter school or school district receiving the
- property insolvent.
  (b) Property received by an open-enrollment charter school school district under this section is considered to be state property under Section 12.128(a).
- (c) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary t.o section, priority including this rules establishing qualifications and for school district a or open-enrollment charter school to receive a transfer of property under this section.
- (d) If the agency determines that the cost of disposing of personal property described by Section 12.128 transferred to the agency by an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate exceeds the return of value from the sale of the property, the agency may distribute the personal property to open-enrollment charter schools and school districts in a manner determined by the

6-1

6-2

6-3

6-4

6**-**5

6-6 6-7

6-8

6-9 6**-**10 6**-**11

6-12

6-13

6-14 6**-**15 6**-**16 6-17

6-18

6-19

6**-**20 6**-**21

6-22

6-23

6-24

6-25 6-26 6-27

6-28 6-29

6-30 6-31

6-32

6-33

6-34 6-35

6-36 6-37

6-38

6-39

6-40

6-41

6-42

6-43

6-44

6-45 6-46

6-47 6-48

6-50 6-51

6-52 6-53

6-54

6-55 6-56 6-57

6-58

6-59

6-60 6-61

6-62

6-63

6-64 6-65

6-66 6-67

6-68 6-69 commissioner.
 (e) A determination by the agency under this section is and may not be appealed.

Sec. 12.1283. SALE OF PROPERTY PURCHASED WITH STATE FUNDS. After the agency receives title to property described by (a) Section 12.128, the agency may sell the property at any price acceptable to the agency.

On request of the agency, the following state agencies (b) shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to sell property for the agency:

for real property, the General Land Office; and (2) for personal property, the Texas Facilities

Commission.

(c) A memorandum of understanding entered into as provided by Subsection (b) may allow the General Land Office or Texas Facilities Commission to recover from the sale proceeds any cost incurred by the agency in the sale of the property.

(d) Subject to the satisfaction of any security interest or described by Section 12.128(e), proceeds from the sale of property under this section shall be deposited in the charter

school liquidation fund.

(e) The commissioner may adopt rules as necessary to administer this section.

Sec. 12.1284. CLOSURE OF CHARTER SCHOOL OPERATIONS. (a) After extinguishing all payable obligations owed by an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate, including a debt described by Section 12.128(e), a former charter holder shall:

(1) remit to the agency:

(A) any remaining funds described by Section

12.106(d); and

(B) any state reimbursement amounts from the sale of property described by Section 12.128; or

(2) transfer the remaining funds to another charter

holder under Section 12.106(e).

(b) The agency shall deposit any funds receised Subsection (a)(1) in the charter school liquidation fund. received under

The commissioner may adopt rules necessary (c) administer this section.

SECTION 9. Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Educ amended by adding Section 12.141 to read as follows: Education Code, is

Sec. 12.141. RECLAIMED FUNDS. (a) The shall 12.128, deposit funds received under Sections 12.1281, 12.106, 12.1283, and 12.1284 into the charter school liquidation fund and may use the funds to:

(1) pay expenses relating to managing and closing an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate, including maintenance of the school's student and other records;

(2) dispose of property described by Section 12.128;

6-49 <u>an</u>d

(3) maintain property described by Section 12.128, expenses for insurance, utilities, maintenance, and including repairs.

The agency may not use funds under this section until (b) the commissioner determines if the open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate received an overallocation of funds under Section 12.106 that must be recovered for the foundation school program.

The agency shall annually review the amount of funds in (c) charter school liquidation fund and transfer any funds the exceeding \$2 million:

(1) for use in funding a high-quality educational grant program established by the commissioner; or

(2) to the comptroller to deposit in the charter district bond guarantee reserve fund under Section 45.0571.

(d) The agency may delay a transfer of funds under Subsection (c) if the excess is less than \$100,000. Funds set aside for an overallocation of funds from the foundation school program are not included in determining whether the amount of funds exceeds \$2 million.

C.S.S.B. No. 1658

7-1 (e) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to implement 7-2 this section.

7-3

7-4

7-5

7-6

7-7

7-8

7-9

7-10 7-11 7-12

7**-**13 7**-**14

7**-**15 7**-**16

7-17

7-18

7-19

7**-**20 7**-**21

7-22

7-23

7-24 7-25 7-26

7-27

7-28

7-29 7-30 7-31

7-32

7-33

7-34

7-35 7-36 7-37

7-38

7-39

7**-**40 7**-**41

7**-**42 7**-**43

7-44

7-45

7-46

7**-**47 7**-**48

7-49 7-50 7-51 7-52 7-53

7-54 7-55 7-56 7-57

7-58

7-59

7-60 7-61 7-62

7-63

7-64

7-65

7**-**66 7**-**67

7**-**68 7**-**69 SECTION 10. Section 39.1121, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c-1) A board of managers appointed for the final closure of a former open-enrollment charter school under Subsection (c) has the authority to:

(1) access and manage any former charter holder's bank account that contains funds received under Section 12.106; and

(2) subject to approval by a creditor with a security interest in or lien on property described by Section 12.128 and in accordance with Section 12.1282, sell or transfer to another charter holder or school district any property titled to the former charter holder that is identified in the former open-enrollment charter school's annual financial report filed under Section 44.008 as being acquired, wholly or partly, with funds received under Section 12.106.

SECTION 11. Section 39.1122(c), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The <u>agency</u> [<u>commissioner</u>] shall use funds received by or due to the former charter holder under Section 12.106 or funds returned to the state from liquidation of [<u>state</u>] property <u>described by Section 12.128 and</u> held by a former charter holder for compensation of a member of a board of managers for an open-enrollment charter school or a campus of an open-enrollment charter school or a superintendent.

SECTION 12. Section 43.001(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the permanent school fund, which is a perpetual endowment for the public schools of this state, consists of:
- (1) all land appropriated for the public schools by the constitution and laws of this state;
- (2) all of the unappropriated public domain remaining in this state, including all land recovered by the state by suit or otherwise except pine forest land as defined by Section 88.111 and property described by Section 12.128;
- (3) all proceeds from the authorized sale of permanent school fund land;
- (4) all proceeds from the lawful sale of any other properties belonging to the permanent school fund;
- (5) all investments authorized by Section 43.003 of properties belonging to the permanent school fund; and
- (6) all income from the mineral development of permanent school fund land, including income from mineral development of riverbeds and other submerged land.

SECTION 13. Section 44.008, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (f), (g), and (h) to read as follows:

(f) An open-enrollment charter school shall provide an accounting of each parcel of the school's real property, including identifying the amount of local, state, and federal funds used to purchase or improve each parcel of property.

(g) An open-enrollment charter school for which the charter has expired, been revoked, or been surrendered or an open-enrollment charter school that otherwise ceases to operate shall submit a final annual financial report to the agency. The report must verify that all state property held by the charter holder has been returned or disposed of in accordance with Section 12.128.

(h) The commissioner may adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including rules defining local funds.

SECTION 14. A transfer of property from an open-enrollment charter school that ceases to operate to another open-enrollment charter school that occurred before the effective date of this Act is ratified if both open-enrollment charter schools classified the property as purchased with state funds on each school's annual financial report under Section 44.008, Education Code.

SECTION 15. This Act takes effect only if a specific appropriation for the implementation of the Act is provided in a

C.S.S.B. No. 1658

general appropriations act of the 85th Legislature.

SECTION 16. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017. 8-1 8-2 8-3 8-4 8**-**5

8-6

\* \* \* \* \* 8-7