

# **Senate Education Committee**

## Senator Mike Folmer Chairman

Room 170 Main Capitol ● Senate Box 203048, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-3048 ● 717-787-5708 ● Fax: 717-787-3455

## BILL SUMMARY Senate Resolution 414, Printer's No. 2205 Prime Sponsor: Senator Smucker

### **SYNOPSIS:**

Senate Resolution 414 directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of alternative methods to authorize charter schools and regional charter schools.

#### **BILL ANALYSIS:**

Senate Resolution 414 directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of alternative methods of authorizing charter schools and regional charter schools, including higher education authorizers, statewide authorizers and multiple charter organizations.

The study shall include an analysis of whether each of these alternative methods would produce high-performing, high quality charter and regional charter schools; a review of the implementation procedures needed for these alternative methods; the impact these alternative methods would have on local boards of school directors and potential solutions to minimize the impact; the development of a pilot program to allow in-state institutions of higher education to authorize Commonwealth charter and regional charter schools; cost impact and fiscal analysis of the alternative methods; and appropriate assessment of fees on charter school entities for potentially funding a higher education authorizer.

To accomplish the study, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee will seek input from the Department of Education, the State Board of Education, charter school operators, school district personnel, representatives of institutions of higher education within this Commonwealth, and any other groups or individuals who may have information relevant to the student and report its findings and recommendations to the Senate by November 30, 2014.

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