



# Legislative Council Staff Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 10/15/2016

## Bill Number

**Senate Bill 16-208**

## Sponsors

**Senator Hill  
Representatives Williams and  
Sias**

## Short Title

***Funding For Charter Schools  
That Convert***

## Research Analyst

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## Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which became effective on June 10, 2016.

## Summary

This bill clarifies that if a district charter school converts to an institute charter school, or an institute charter school converts to a district charter school, the converted school's at-risk supplemental aid is still calculated using the formula that applied to the school before the conversion. Converted schools that are authorized by small, rural school districts are exempt from this provision.

## Background

Charter schools in Colorado can be authorized by a local school district or the Colorado Charter School Institute (CSI). The CSI was created in 2004 as an independent agency within the Colorado Department of Education to authorize charter schools in districts that have not retained exclusive authority to authorize charter schools within their district. It currently authorizes 35 charter schools, and is the only statewide, non-district authorizer.

All charter schools authorized by a local school board are considered district charter schools unless they go through a process to convert to an institute charter school. Under current law, some institute charter schools receive at-risk supplemental aid that district charter schools do not receive.

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## Senate Action

**Senate Education Committee (May 4, 2016).** At the hearing, a representative of CSI testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.001, which added a repeal date of July 1, 2021, as well as amendment L.002, which removed charter schools authorized by small rural school districts from the requirement that funding be calculated using the formula that applied to the school before the conversion. The committee referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole.

**Senate second reading (May 4, 2016).** The Senate Committee of the Whole adopted the Education Committee report and passed the bill with no additional amendments.

**Senate third reading (May 5, 2016).** The Senate passed the bill with no amendments.

## House Action

**House Education Committee (May 9, 2016).** At the hearing, a representative of CSI testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the unamended bill to the House Committee of the Whole.

**House second reading (May 9, 2016).** The House Committee of the Whole passed the bill with no amendments.

**House third reading (May 10, 2016).** The House passed the bill with no amendments.