

Submitter: JL Wilson
On Behalf Of: Baker Web Academy
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: HB3204

Dear Chair Dembrow & members of the Senate Education Committee -

Baker Web Academy supports HB 3204-A. It is a very important bill to prevent disenfranchisement of kids who may not fit into the traditional 'brick & mortar' school environment.

The bill accomplishes two primary objectives. First, it reduces the amount of time that students can potentially fall through the cracks in their education. It does this by cutting down the amount of time that a school district can approve or deny an application for a student to attend a virtual charter school from 14 days to 10 days. It also reduces the amount of time allowed for an appeal decision from 30 days to 14 days.

The second primary objective is that it requires semi-annual updating of student population numbers that districts file with the state. HB 3204-A assumes that the 3% cap will stay in place, but it requires districts to keep their numbers updated at least twice annually. This gives a little bit more transparency to families.

It is important to reiterate that HB 3204-A does not affect the 3% cap. What it does is tighten up timelines and require a little more enrollment transparency so that a parent/family can understand and have some confidence in the enrollment numbers that a district may base its decision from.

But again, it's primary effect is that it ensures a district's consideration of an application does not take so long as to cause at-risk students to fall through the cracks and become disenfranchised.

Please support HB 3204-A.