



MN Association of  
Charter Schools

**TO: House** Education Policy Committee Co-Chairs and Members  
**FROM:** Minnesota Association of Charter Schools MACS  
**RE:** HF3730  
**DATE:** March 11, 2026

Dear Co-chairs and Committee Members,

The Minnesota Association of Charter Schools (MACS) represents chartered public schools across the state, approximately 175 schools serving 72 thousand students. Chartered public schools serve students across the state in a variety of innovative program models. The charter school student population includes: 25% are English language learners (compared to 10% statewide); 66% are students of color (compared to 41% statewide); 58% are students qualifying for free/reduced lunch (compared to 39% statewide); and 17% are students with disabilities (compared to 19% statewide).

HF3730 is measured in the changes it includes to chartered public schools. MACS supports this approach because of the numerous positive accountability-related policy changes passed into law in the previous two years. MACS, in partnership with authorizers, MDE, and lawmakers passed laws that:

- Enhance board governance, policies and training requirements
- Require charter school boards to have finance committees and establish a specific process for schools that are struggling financially
- Improved eligibility and professional development requirements for school administrators
- Clarify and strengthen authorizer evaluation and training requirements
- Require market need and demand study requirements for school formation, relocation or expansion, process
- Require procurement policy and competitive bidding requirements for school purchases
- Strengthen transparency and contract protection with commercial entities

These are a few examples of the many new laws that advance transparency and accountability for chartered public schools. MACS is continuing to work with schools on implementing these, along with law changes impacting the broader public school sector.

The charter provisions in HF3730 include reorganizing many changes passed into law over the past few years, along with some fine-tuning in the way of transparency and accountability. For example, the provisions outlining what must be included in board minutes includes mandating appropriate best practices school boards are currently using. These transparency and best practice requirements give the community and general public the appropriate line of sight into the school's governance and operations. Another example includes clarifying the board makeup for initial boards and assurances regarding EMOs and CMOs.



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Lastly, successful policy conversations cannot be divorced from funding discussions. Charter school leaders engage in and oversee countless accountability and transparency activities that are critical (and required by law). Providing transparency for the public, and accountability for all involved, requires resources. Because charter schools cannot levy and costs continue to rise, existing funding inequities stretch school resources thinner than ever. Funding for robust accountability work should not come out of the classroom, so while this is a policy bill and we're discussing policy provisions – ensuring equitable funding for chartered public schools moving forward is a critical part of the conversation.

MACS consistently champions transparency and accountability measures for our sector. To that end, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or to discuss this further.

In partnership,

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