

## Session 118 - (2009-2010)

### H 3737 General Bill, By E.H. Pitts, Gunn, Pinson, Branham and Erickson

#### *Similar (S 0607)*

#### **Summary:** Public School Choice Program Act

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, SO AS TO ENACT THE "PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM ACT" BY ADDING CHAPTER 62 TO TITLE 59 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WITH INFORMATION CONCERNING SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM RESEARCH; TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP AN INVENTORY OF AVAILABLE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE OPTIONS AND MAKE THE LIST AVAILABLE TO DISTRICTS AND TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; TO REQUIRE EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT TO CONVENE A SCHOOL CHOICE COMMITTEE, TO DETERMINE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE, AND TO DEVELOP A SCHOOL CHOICE OPTION PLAN THAT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT; TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS BEGINNING WITH THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PLANS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING OF THOSE PLANS; TO REQUIRE THE SCHOOL CHOICE COMMITTEE OF EACH DISTRICT DURING THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A PARTNERSHIP WITH NEIGHBORING DISTRICTS TO PARTICIPATE IN A VOLUNTARY OPEN ENROLLMENT PROGRAM, TO REQUIRE THE COMMITTEE TO REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE DISTRICT, AND TO PROVIDE WHAT THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE; TO REQUIRE DISTRICTS THAT CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN VOLUNTARY OPEN ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS TO SUBMIT INTERDISTRICT AGREEMENTS AND CRITERIA OF THE PROGRAM TO THE DEPARTMENT; TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTRICTS THAT CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN VOLUNTARY OPEN ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS; TO REQUIRE EACH DISTRICT TO REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE TYPES OF CHOICE OPTIONS OFFERED WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THOSE OPTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR FUNDING BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO OFFSET THE COST OF TRANSPORTATION; TO PROVIDE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE CHAPTER; AND TO DEFINE CERTAIN TERMS.

**03/24/09 House Introduced and read first time HJ-17**

**03/24/09 House Referred to Committee on Ways and Means HJ-18**

**03/26/09 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Branham**

**04/22/09 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Erickson**