

HAWAII

(Law passed in 1994; 12th weakest of the nation's 43 charter laws)



INDEPENDENT OR MULTIPLE AUTHORIZERS - YES

APPROVAL	The State Public Charter School Commission, which consists of members that are all appointed by the state board, but is not independent from state control. Colleges, universities, county or state agencies, and nonprofit organizations may apply to the commission to serve as an authorizer.
APPEAL	Denials issued by an authorizer may be appealed to the State Board of Education.

OPERATIONAL AUTONOMY

STATE	Yes. Blanket waiver from most state rules and regulations governing traditional public schools. Virtual schools are allowed. Management contracts with ESPs are at discretion of state.
LOCAL	Limited. Free from many local, traditional rules and regulations.
TEACHER FREEDOM	No. Teachers remain covered by district bargaining agreement. Charter schools must participate in state's retirement system.

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ALLOWED

CAP	No legal limit on number of schools that may be approved.
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EQUITY

STUDENT FUNDING	<p>Funds pass through the charter's authorizer. Charter funding requests are based on conventional school per-pupil funds and the appropriations are determined annually. If enrollment exceeds expectations, charter schools will lose money.</p> <p>"Beginning with fiscal year 2012-2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the non-facility general fund per-pupil funding request for charter school students shall be the same as the general fund per-pupil amount to the department in the most recently approved executive budget recommendation for the department and shall be based upon reasonable projected enrollment figures for all charter schools." [HI § 302B-12(a)]</p>
FACILITIES FUNDS	No Additional Funds.

IMPLEMENTATION POINTS

- 3	Three points are deducted because the new board will not consider any applications for authorizers until 2014.
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[LINK TO THE HAWAII CHARTER SCHOOL LAW](#)