TEXAS EDUCATION CODE TITLE 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION SUBTITLE I. SCHOOL FINANCE AND FISCAL MANAGEMENT CHAPTER 45. SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDS SUBCHAPTER C. GUARANTEED BONDS

TEC, §45.0532. LIMITATION ON GUARANTEE OF CHARTER DISTRICT BONDS.

- (a) In addition to the general limitation under Section <u>45.053</u>, the commissioner may not approve charter district bonds for guarantee under this subchapter in a total amount that exceeds the charter capacity of the guaranteed bond program.
- (a-1) The commissioner may not approve charter district refunding or refinanced bonds for guarantee under this subchapter in a total amount that exceeds one-half of the charter capacity.
- (b) For purposes of this section, the charter capacity of the guaranteed bond program is the percentage of the total capacity of the guaranteed bond program established by the board under Sections <u>45.053</u>(d) and <u>45.0531</u> that is equal to the percentage of the number of students enrolled in open-enrollment charter schools in this state compared to the total number of students enrolled in all public schools in this state, as determined by the commissioner. Each time the board increases the limit under Section <u>45.053</u>(d), the total amount of charter district bonds that may be guaranteed increases accordingly under Subsection (a).
- (b-1) The charter capacity provided by Subsection (b) applies beginning with the state fiscal year that begins September 1, 2021. Subject to Subsections (b-2) and (b-3), the board shall establish a charter capacity for the preceding state fiscal years by increasing the total limitation on the amount of charter district bonds that could be guaranteed under the law in effect on January 1, 2017, by the following amount:
 - for the state fiscal year that begins September 1, 2017, 20 percent of the difference between the charter capacity provided by Subsection (b) and the charter capacity in effect on January 1, 2017;
 - for the state fiscal year that begins September 1, 2018, 40 percent of the difference between the charter capacity provided by Subsection (b) and the charter capacity in effect on January 1, 2017;
 - (3) for the state fiscal year that begins September 1, 2019, 60 percent of the difference between the charter capacity provided by Subsection (b) and the charter capacity in effect on January 1, 2017; and
 - (4) for the state fiscal year that begins September 1, 2020, 80 percent of the difference between the charter capacity provided by Subsection (b) and the charter capacity in effect on January 1, 2017.
- (b-2) For any year, the board may increase the charter capacity by less than the amount provided by Subsection (b-1) or may decline to increase the charter capacity by any amount if:
 - the board determines that increasing the charter capacity by the amount provided by
 Subsection (b-1) would likely result in a negative impact on the bond ratings

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provided by one or more nationally recognized investment rating firms for school district or charter district bonds for which a guarantee is requested under this subchapter; or

- (2) one or more charter districts default on payment of maturing or matured principal or interest on a guaranteed bond, resulting in a negative impact on the bond ratings provided by one or more nationally recognized investment rating firms for school district or charter district bonds for which a guarantee is requested under this subchapter.
- (b-3) If the board makes a determination described by Subsection (b-2) for any year and modifies the schedule provided by Subsection (b-1) for that year, the board may also make appropriate adjustments to the schedule for subsequent years to reflect the modification, provided that the charter capacity for any year may not exceed the limit provided for that year by the schedule.

(b-4) Subsections (b-1), (b-2), and (b-3) and this subsection expire September 1, 2022.

- Notwithstanding Subsections (a) and (b), the commissioner may not approve charter district bonds for guarantee under this subchapter if the guarantee will result in lower bond ratings for school district bonds for which a guarantee is requested under this subchapter.
- (d) The commissioner may request that the comptroller place the portion of the permanent school fund committed to the guarantee of charter district bonds in a segregated account if the commissioner determines that a separate account is needed to avoid any negative impact on the bond ratings of school district bonds for which a guarantee is requested under this subchapter.
- (e) A guarantee of charter district bonds must be made in accordance with this chapter and any applicable federal law.