

A bill for an act

relating to education; amending time period for teacher to request a leave or extension of leave to teach at a charter school; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.10, subdivision 20.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.10, subdivision 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 20. **Leave to teach in a charter school.** If a teacher employed by a district makes a written request for an extended leave of absence to teach at a charter school, the district must grant the leave. The district must grant a leave not to exceed a total of five years. Any request to extend the leave shall be granted only at the discretion of the school board. The district may require that the request for a leave or extension of leave be made up to 90 days before the teacher would otherwise have to report for duty before February 1 in the school year preceding the school year in which the teacher wishes to return, or February 1 of the calendar year in which the leave is scheduled to terminate. Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision and except for section 122A.46, subdivision 7, the leave is governed by section 122A.46, including, but not limited to, reinstatement, notice of intention to return, seniority, salary, and insurance.

During a leave, the teacher may continue to aggregate benefits and credits in the Teachers' Retirement Association account by paying both the employer and employee contributions based upon the annual salary of the teacher for the last full pay period before the leave began. The retirement association may impose reasonable requirements to efficiently administer this subdivision.