COMMITTEE REPORT

March 3, 2021

**H. 3608**

Introduced by Reps. Lucas, G.M. Smith, Allison, Whitmire and McGarry

S. Printed 3/3/21--S.

Read the first time January 28, 2021.

**THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

To whom was referred a Joint Resolution (H. 3608) to address a funding shortfall for the Public Charter School District as a result of the General Assembly enacting Act 135 of 2020 due to financial uncertainties caused by the COVID‑19, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass:

HUGH K. LEATHERMAN, SR. for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**State Expenditure**

This joint resolution appropriates $9,000,000 from the 2018-19 Contingency Reserve Fund to the State Department of Education for distribution to the SCPCSD and the Charter Institute at Erskine for per pupil funding in the 2020-21 school year in accordance with Act 91 of 2019, Part 1.B Proviso 1.A.50.

SDE indicates that the $9,000,000 will be distributed to the SCPCSD and the Charter Institute at Erskine based upon weighted pupil units. The per pupil amount for brick and mortar students is $3,600, and the per pupil amount for virtual students is $1,900. Further, SDE indicates that of the $9,000,000 appropriated amount, $3,558,108 will be allocated to the SCPCSD, and $5,441,892 will be allocated to the Charter Institute at Erskine.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO ADDRESS A FUNDING SHORTFALL FOR THE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A RESULT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENACTING ACT 135 OF 2020 DUE TO FINANCIAL UNCERTAINTIES CAUSED BY THE COVID‑19 VIRUS, BY APPROPRIATING NINE MILLION DOLLARS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR PER PUPIL FUNDING FOR THE 2020‑2021 SCHOOL YEAR.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. From the 2018‑2019 Contingency Reserve Fund, there is appropriated $9,000,000 to the Department of Education for distribution to the Public Charter School District, including the Charter Institute at Erskine, for per pupil funding in accordance with Act 91 of 2019, Part 1.B. Proviso 1.A.50.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding Section 59-40-55 of the 1976 CODE, in the current fiscal year, a charter school sponsor may, but is not required to, approve charter applications that meet the requirements specified in Sections 59‑40‑50 and 59‑40‑60.

SECTION 3. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑