

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Consent Item**  
October 21, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Approval to Extend District Charter Contracts for Hillsborough, Orange, Palm Beach, and Volusia School Districts

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1003.62, Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 1999, the Legislature established the Charter School District Pilot Program (Section 228.058, Florida Statutes) authorizing the State Board to enter into performance contracts with up to six districts. Out of the six, Volusia and Hillsborough Counties applied for and were granted charters in 2000 by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the State Board of Education. In 2002, Orange County was approved and Palm Beach County followed in 2003 (prior to the legislative session).

In 2003, the Legislature replaced the Charter School District Pilot Program with a statewide program allowing the creation of academic performance-based charter school districts (Section 1003.62, Florida Statutes). The Legislature did stipulate in subsection (7) of the statute that the pilot program charter school districts were to be grandfathered in until July 1, 2007, or upon the end of a 5-year renewal contract issued by the State Board prior to July 1, 2003, whichever is later.

The Legislature further extended the pilot program for the four districts, Hillsborough, Orange, Palm Beach, and Volusia, in 2007 until July 1, 2010, and requires the State Board to use the criteria approved in the initial charter application to renew the pilot program charter school districts until the termination on July 1, 2010. The respective school boards have approved the contract extensions to July 1, 2010, with the same criteria as originally approved and request concurrence of the State Board of Education.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Section 1003.62, (2008), Florida Statutes, Section 1003.62, (2003), Florida Statutes

**Facilitators:** Dr. Frances Haithcock, Chancellor, K-12 Public Schools and Iris Wilson, Deputy Chancellor, K-12 Student Achievement