CS/CS/HB 1197 Charter Schools

- CS/CS/HB 1197 increases the number of eligible charter school operators to address the needs of
 educational capacity, workforce qualifications, and career education opportunities that may extend
 beyond a school district's boundaries.
- The bill authorizes state universities and Florida College System (FCS) institutions to sponsor charter schools upon approval by the Department of Education (DOE).
- The bill repeals present limitations on charter schools operated by an FCS institution with a teacher preparation program.
- The bill provides that the board of trustees of a sponsoring state university or FCS institution is a local educational agency for the purpose of receiving federal funds and accepting responsibility for all requirements of that role.
- The bill requires the DOE, in collaboration with charter school sponsors and operators, to develop a sponsor evaluation framework and report results in its annual charter school application report. In addition, the bill revises charter school application reporting requirements and submission dates for both sponsors and the DOE.
- The bill establishes operational funding and capital outlay funding formulas for charter schools sponsored by a state university and FCS institution.