ATTACHMENT I

Statutory Citations Relating to Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 97, Planning and Accountability, Subchapter DD, Investigative Reports, Sanctions, and Record Reviews

Texas Education Code, Chapter 12, Charters, Subchapter D, Open-Enrollment Charter School

§12.104. Applicability of Title.

(a) An open-enrollment charter school has the powers granted to schools under this title.

(b) An open-enrollment charter school is subject to:

(1) a provision of this title establishing a criminal offense; and

(2) a prohibition, restriction, or requirement, as applicable, imposed by this title or a rule adopted under this title, relating to:

(A) the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) to the extent necessary to monitor compliance with this subchapter as determined by the commissioner;

(B) criminal history records under Subchapter C, Chapter 22;

(C) reading instruments and accelerated reading instruction programs under Section 28.006;

(D) accelerated instruction under Section 28.0211;

(E) high school graduation requirements under Section 28.025;

(F) special education programs under Subchapter A, Chapter 29;

(G) bilingual education under Subchapter B, Chapter 29;

(H) prekindergarten programs under Subchapter E, Chapter 29;

(I) extracurricular activities under Section 33.081;

(J) discipline management practices or behavior management techniques under Section 37.0021;

(K) health and safety under Chapter 38;

(L) public school accountability under Subchapters B, C, D, E, and J, Chapter 39;

(M) the requirement under Section 21.006 to report an educator's misconduct; and

(N) intensive programs of instruction under Section 28.0213.

(c) An open-enrollment charter school is entitled to the same level of services provided to school districts by regional education service centers. The commissioner shall adopt rules that provide for the representation of open-enrollment charter schools on the boards of directors of regional education service centers.

(d) The commissioner may by rule permit an open-enrollment charter school to voluntarily participate in any state program available to school districts, including a purchasing program, if the school complies with all terms of the program.

§12.1162. Additional Sanctions.

(a) The commissioner shall take any of the actions described by Subsection (b) or by Section 39.102(a), to the extent the commissioner determines necessary, if an open-enrollment charter school, as determined by a report issued under Section 39.058(b):

(1) commits a material violation of the school's charter;

(2) fails to satisfy generally accepted accounting standards of fiscal management; or

(3) fails to comply with this subchapter or another applicable rule or law.

(b) The commissioner may temporarily withhold funding, suspend the authority of an open-enrollment charter school to operate, or take any other reasonable action the commissioner determines necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of students enrolled at the school based on evidence that conditions at the school present a danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the students.

(c) After the commissioner acts under Subsection (b), the open-enrollment charter school may not receive funding and may not resume operating until a determination is made that:

(1) despite initial evidence, the conditions at the school do not present a danger of material harm to the health, safety, or welfare of students; or

(2) the conditions at the school that presented a danger of material harm to the health, safety, or welfare of students have been corrected.

(d) Not later than the third business day after the date the commissioner acts under Subsection (b), the commissioner shall provide the charter holder an opportunity for a hearing.

(e) Immediately after a hearing under Subsection (d), the commissioner must cease the action under Subsection (b) or initiate action under Section 12.116.

(f) The commissioner shall adopt rules implementing this section. Chapter 2001, Government Code, does not apply to a hearing under this section.

Texas Education Code, Chapter 39, Public School System Accountability, Subchapter C, Accreditation

§39.058. Conduct of Investigations.

(a) The agency shall adopt written procedures for conducting on-site investigations under this subchapter. The agency shall make the procedures available to the complainant, the alleged violator, and the public. Agency staff must be trained in the procedures and must follow the procedures in conducting the investigation.

(b) After completing an investigation, the agency shall present preliminary findings to any person the agency finds has violated a law, rule, or policy. Before issuing a report with its final findings, the agency must provide a person the agency finds has violated a law, rule, or policy an opportunity for an informal review by the commissioner or a designated hearing examiner.

Texas Education Code, Chapter 39, Public School System Accountability, Subchapter E, Accreditation Interventions and Sanctions

§39.102. Interventions and Sanctions for Districts.

(a) If a school district does not satisfy the accreditation criteria under Section 39.052, the academic performance standards under Section 39.053 or 39.054, or any financial accountability standard

as determined by commissioner rule, the commissioner shall take any of the following actions to the extent the commissioner determines necessary:

(1) issue public notice of the deficiency to the board of trustees;

(2) order a hearing conducted by the board of trustees of the district for the purpose of notifying the public of the insufficient performance, the improvements in performance expected by the agency, and the interventions and sanctions that may be imposed under this section if the performance does not improve;

(3) order the preparation of a student achievement improvement plan that addresses each student achievement indicator under Section 39.053(c) for which the district's performance is insufficient, the submission of the plan to the commissioner for approval, and implementation of the plan;

(4) order a hearing to be held before the commissioner or the commissioner's designee at which the president of the board of trustees of the district and the superintendent shall appear and explain the district's low performance, lack of improvement, and plans for improvement;

(5) arrange an on-site investigation of the district;

(6) appoint an agency monitor to participate in and report to the agency on the activities of the board of trustees or the superintendent;

(7) appoint a conservator to oversee the operations of the district;

(8) appoint a management team to direct the operations of the district in areas of insufficient performance or require the district to obtain certain services under a contract with another person;

(9) if a district has a current accreditation status of accredited-warned or accredited-probation, fails to satisfy any standard under Section 39.054(e), or fails to satisfy financial accountability standards as determined by commissioner rule, appoint a board of managers to exercise the powers and duties of the board of trustees;

(10) if for two consecutive school years, including the current school year, a district has received an accreditation status of accredited-warned or accredited-probation, has failed to satisfy any standard under Section 39.054(e), or has failed to satisfy financial accountability standards as determined by commissioner rule, revoke the district's accreditation and:

(A) order closure of the district and annex the district to one or more adjoining districts under Section 13.054; or

(B) in the case of a home-rule school district or open-enrollment charter school, order closure of all programs operated under the district's or school's charter; or

(11) if a district has failed to satisfy any standard under Section 39.054(e) due to the district's dropout rates, impose sanctions designed to improve high school completion rates, including:

(A) ordering the development of a dropout prevention plan for approval by the commissioner;

(B) restructuring the district or appropriate school campuses to improve identification of and service to students who are at risk of dropping out of school, as defined by Section 29.081;

(C) ordering lower student-to-counselor ratios on school campuses with high dropout rates; and

(D) ordering the use of any other intervention strategy effective in reducing dropout rates, including mentor programs and flexible class scheduling.

(b) This subsection applies regardless of whether a district has satisfied the accreditation criteria. If for two consecutive school years, including the current school year, a district has had a conservator or management team assigned, the commissioner may appoint a board of managers, a majority of whom must be residents of the district, to exercise the powers and duties of the board of trustees.

§39.103. <u>Interventions and Sanctions for Campuses</u>.

(a) If a campus performance is below any standard under Section 39.054(e), the commissioner shall take actions, to the extent the commissioner determines necessary, as provided by this subchapter.

(b) For a campus described by Subsection (a), the commissioner, to the extent the commissioner determines necessary, may:

(1) order a hearing to be held before the commissioner or the commissioner's designee at which the president of the board of trustees, the superintendent, and the campus principal shall appear and explain the campus's low performance, lack of improvement, and plans for improvement; or

(2) establish a school community partnership team composed of members of the campus-level planning and decision-making committee established under Section 11.251 and additional community representatives as determined appropriate by the commissioner.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subchapter, if the commissioner determines that a campus subject to interventions or sanctions under this subchapter has implemented substantially similar intervention measures under federal accountability requirements, the commissioner may accept the substantially similar intervention measures as measures in compliance with this subchapter.

§39.104. <u>Interventions and Sanctions for Charter Schools</u>.

(a) Interventions and sanctions authorized under this chapter for a school district or campus apply in the same manner to an open-enrollment charter school.

(b) The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement procedures to impose any intervention or sanction provision under this chapter as those provisions relate to open-enrollment charter schools.

(c) In adopting rules under this section, the commissioner shall require that the charter of an open-enrollment charter school:

(1) be automatically revoked if the charter school is ordered closed under this chapter; and

(2) be automatically modified to remove authorization for an individual campus if the campus is ordered closed under this chapter.

(d) If interventions or sanctions are imposed on an open-enrollment charter school under the procedures provided by this chapter, a charter school is not entitled to an additional hearing relating to the modification, placement on probation, revocation, or denial of renewal of a charter as provided by Subchapter D, Chapter 12.

Texas Education Code, Chapter 39, Public School System Accountability, Subchapter F, Procedures for Challenge of Accountability Determination, Intervention, or Sanction

§39.152. Review by State Office of Administrative Hearings: Sanctions.

(a) A school district or open-enrollment charter school that intends to challenge a decision by the commissioner under this chapter to close the district or a district campus or the charter school or to pursue alternative management of a district campus or the charter school must appeal the decision under the procedures provided for a contested case under Chapter 2001, Government Code.

(b) A challenge to a decision under this section is under the substantial evidence rule as provided by Subchapter G, Chapter 2001, Government Code.

(c) Notwithstanding other law:

(1) the State Office of Administrative Hearings shall provide an expedited review of a challenge under this section;

(2) the administrative law judge shall issue a final order not later than the 30th day after the date on which the hearing is finally closed; and

(3) the decision of the administrative law judge is final and may not be appealed.