Charter School Waiver Requests, Rule 0520-14-02-.01

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-13-105 provides that the Commissioner of Education or chartering authority may grant waivers from State Board rules or statute to charter schools that show how the State Board rule or statute inhibits or hinders the charter school's ability to meet its goals or comply with its mission statement.

This item seeks to provide clarity around the process for the submission of waiver requests, areas where waivers may not be granted by the Commissioner or the chartering authority, the Commissioner's review of waiver requests, and the effective period for each waiver granted.

Since first reading the following changes were made:

- Clarifies waivers may not be granted for teacher evaluation.
- Clarifies the length of time for which waivers are effective.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.