

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SYNOPSIS AGENDA/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

CODE: SLA-01
COMMITTEE: SLA
DATE: October 6, 2026

SUBJECT/TITLE

Florence One Schools' Requests an S.C. Code Ann. §59-19-350 Schools of Innovation Waiver

PURPOSE OF REPORT/REGULATION/ITEM

S.C. Code Ann. §59-19-350 et seq. allows the State Board of Education (SBE) to waive applicable state statutes and regulations to allow a local school district to create new, innovative, and more flexible ways of educating children within its district.

CRITICAL FACTS

On August 5, 2026, Florence One Schools submitted a School of Innovation request in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. §59-19-350.

TIMELINE/REVIEW PROCESS

August 2026	Florence One Schools' School of Innovation waiver request was sent to General Counsel for a legal review. General Counsel advised that the SBE does not have the authority to grant the waiver for S.C. Code Ann. §11-27-110(B), which is included in the waiver request. The SCDE Review Team met to develop a feedback report for Florence One Schools.
September 2026	Florence One Schools submitted requested revisions to the School of Innovation waiver request. The revised plan was reviewed by the SCDE Review Team and was approved. The revised School of Innovation waiver request was approved by the Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Abbey Duggins, to move forward.
October 2026	Florence One Schools' School of Innovation waiver request has been moved to the State Board of Education for approval.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

COST: N/A

FUND/SOURCE: N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Attachments: ☒ yes ☐ no
(attachments must be submitted with synopsis)

Name of Attachments: Florence 1 School of Innovation (SOI) Leadership Waiver Package

RECOMMENDATION

The SCDE recommends that the SBE grant Florence One Schools' School of Innovation waiver request.

ACTION REQUEST

FOR APPROVAL:

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FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

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Revised: 12-20-21