

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 362

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES CUNNINGHAM (86), MOORE,
LUETKEMEYER AND REINHART (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time February 5, 2003, and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

0618L.021

AN ACT

To repeal section 167.231, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to transportation of pupils.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 167.231, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 167.231, to read as follows:

167.231. 1. Within all school districts except metropolitan districts the board of education shall provide transportation to and from school for all pupils living more than three and one-half miles from school and may provide transportation for all pupils. State aid for transportation shall be paid as provided in section 163.161, RSMo, only on the basis of the cost of pupil transportation for those pupils living one mile or more from school, including transportation provided to and from publicly operated university laboratory schools. The board of education may provide transportation for pupils living less than one mile from school at the expense of the district and may prescribe reasonable rules and regulations as to eligibility of pupils for transportation. If no increase in the tax levy of the school district is required to provide transportation for pupils living less than one mile from the school, the board may transport said pupils. If an increase in the tax levy of the school district is required to provide transportation for pupils living less than one mile from school, the board shall submit the question at a public election. If a two-thirds majority of the voters voting on the question at the election are in favor of providing the transportation, the board shall arrange and provide therefor. **The board of education may also provide transportation for any pupil resident in the district who attends a private or parochial school located in the district under the conditions prescribed in subsection 4 of this section.**

2. The proposal and the ballots may be in substantially the following form:

19 Shall the board of education of the school district provide transportation at the
 20 expense of the district for pupils living less than one mile from school and be authorized to levy
 21 an additional tax of cents on the one hundred dollars assessed valuation to provide funds
 22 to pay for such transportation service?

23 YES NO

24

25 (If you are in favor of the proposition (or question), place an X in the box opposite "YES". If
 26 you are opposed to the proposition (or question), place an X in the box opposite "NO".)

27 3. The board of education of any school district may provide transportation to and from
 28 school for any public school pupil not otherwise eligible for transportation under the provisions
 29 of state law, and may prescribe reasonable rules and regulations as to eligibility for
 30 transportation, if the parents or guardian of the pupil agree in writing to pay the actual cost of
 31 transporting the pupil. The minimum charge would be the actual cost of transporting the pupil
 32 for ninety school days, which actual cost is to be determined by the average per pupil cost of
 33 transporting children in the school district during the preceding school year. The full actual cost
 34 shall be paid by the parent or guardian of the pupil and shall not be paid out of any state school
 35 aid funds or out of any other revenues of the school district. The cost of transportation may be
 36 paid in installments, and the board of education shall establish the cost of the transportation and
 37 the time or times and method of payment.

38 **4. The board of education of any school district may provide transportation to and**
 39 **from school for any resident pupil attending a private or parochial school in the district:**

40 **(1) When providing such transportation can be achieved without use of state funds**
 41 **or additional local funds and without incurring additional capital expense; and**

42 **(2) If the parents or guardian of the private or parochial school pupil agree in**
 43 **writing to pay the actual cost of transporting the pupil.**

44

45 **The board of education may prescribe rules and regulations as to eligibility for**
 46 **transportation. The minimum charge would be the actual cost of transporting the pupil**
 47 **for ninety school days, which actual cost is to be determined by the average per pupil cost**
 48 **of transporting children in the school district during the preceding school year compared**
 49 **to the average per pupil cost had the seats available and unfilled been used. The full actual**
 50 **cost shall be paid by the parent or guardian of the pupil and shall not be paid out of any**
 51 **state school aid funds or out of any other revenues of the school district. The cost of**
 52 **transportation may be paid in installments, and the board of education shall establish the**
 53 **cost of the transportation and the time or times and method of payment. Any school**
 54 **district that provides transportation pursuant to this subsection shall develop rules to**

55 **address the priority of seating nonpublic school pupils and bus route development. No rule**
56 **or portion of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of this section shall become**
57 **effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo.**