

HB 816 -- American Sign Language

Sponsor: Walker

This bill recognizes American Sign Language as a language and encourages its teaching and study. Students may receive academic credit for demonstrating proficiency, take courses for academic credit, receive foreign language credit for the courses, and meet foreign language entrance requirements with the courses. The bill requires that only qualified persons be employed to teach this language in Missouri schools and requires the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, upon request, to assist in the development and teaching of courses.