

HCS HB 1380 -- CAREER LADDER FOR TEACHERS

SPONSOR: Cunningham, 86 (Lager)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Education by a vote of 21 to 0.

Currently, state aid for the Career Ladder Program for teachers has a proration factor, like other categorical aid. This substitute removes the proration factor for career ladder aid. The substitute clarifies that teachers at all stages of the Career Ladder Program must do the usual and customary work required. The substitute allows Pettis County schools to keep the proceeds of an environmental law fine incurred before November 1, 2003.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$3,947,351 in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007. Estimated Net Cost on Other State Funds of \$0 in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that as long as the funding formula remains underfunded, the career ladder payment is prorated. Teachers cannot anticipate from one year to the next what their career ladder payments will be. Teachers complete the work in the fiscal year before money for the payment is appropriated.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Lager; Missouri State Teachers Association; and Missouri National Education Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Becky DeNeve, Senior Legislative Analyst