

SB 298 -- ST. LOUIS SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

SPONSOR: Coleman (Wright-Jones, 63)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 15 to 0.

This bill clarifies that the City of St. Louis school district superintendent's supervision of the schools is subject to policies established by the board, rather than subject to the control of the board. Currently, the hiring of a treasurer, a commissioner of school buildings, and a director of personnel is required. The bill makes the hiring of these positions permissive. The requirement that the district's teaching appointments and promotions be based on merit is extended to all employee appointments and promotions.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill brings the superintendent's powers into conformity with the powers of other district superintendents and places the emphasis on the school board's policy role, as in other districts.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Coleman; and St. Louis Board of Education.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Becky DeNeve, Senior Legislative Analyst