SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2150

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES PEARCE (Sponsor), CUNNINGHAM (86), DAVIS, BIVINS AND SANDER (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time March 31, 2006 and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

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Section A. Section 167.231, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 167.231, to read as follows: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

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

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.

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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:

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

 \square YES \square NO

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

- 3. The board of education of any school district may provide transportation to and from school for any public school pupil not otherwise eligible for transportation under the provisions of state law, and may prescribe reasonable rules and regulations as to eligibility for transportation, if the parents or guardian of the pupil agree in writing to pay the actual cost of transporting the pupil. The minimum charge would be the actual cost of transporting the pupil for ninety school days, which actual cost is to be determined by the average per pupil cost of transporting children in the school district during the preceding school year. The full actual cost shall be paid by the parent or guardian of the pupil and shall not be paid out of any state school aid funds or out of any other revenues of the school district. The cost of transportation may be paid in installments, and the board of education shall establish the cost of the transportation and the time or times and method of payment.
- 4. The board of education of any school district may provide transportation to and from school for any resident pupil attending a private or parochial school in the district:
- (1) When providing such transportation can be achieved without use of state funds or additional local funds and without incurring additional capital expense; and
- (2) If the parents or guardian of the private or parochial school pupil agree in writing to pay the actual cost of transporting the pupil.

The board of education may prescribe rules as to eligibility for transportation. The minimum charge shall be the actual cost of transporting the pupil for ninety school days, which actual cost is to be determined by the average per pupil cost of transporting children in the school district during the preceding school year compared to the average per pupil cost had the seats available and unfilled been used. The full actual cost shall be paid by the

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parent or guardian of the pupil and shall not be paid out of any state school aid funds or out of any other revenues of the school district. The cost of transportation may be paid in installments, and the board of education shall establish the cost of the transportation and the time or times and method of payment. Any school district that provides transportation pursuant to this subsection shall develop rules to address the priority of seating nonpublic school pupils and bus route development.

- 5. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2006, shall be invalid and void.
- 6. Nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting the ability of a school district to be compensated for use of school buses for any purpose the school district deems appropriate.

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