HB 2191 -- A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Nasheed

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Student Achievement by a vote of 5 to 0.

This bill clarifies that a school district may participate in the A+ Schools Program regardless of its accreditation status by the State Board of Education if the district meets all other requirements.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$0 in FY 2009, \$0 in FY 2010, and \$0 or Up to \$921,840 in FY 2011. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that allowing St. Louis Public Schools to participate in the A+ Schools Program is a major goal of the special administrative board and the elected school board. Currently, the prohibition on unaccredited districts is applied through an administrative rule of the department.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Nasheed; St. Louis Public Schools; Missouri Federation of Teachers and School Related Personnel; Missouri Council of School Administrators; and Penney Rector, School Administrators' Coalition.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.