

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2358

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE KRATKY.

5362L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 162.666, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the St. Louis students' bill of rights, with an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 162.666, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 162.666, to read as follows:

162.666. 1. The provisions of this section shall be known and may be cited as the ["St. Louis] **"Metropolitan School District Students' Bill of Rights"**.

2. For the purposes of this section, "district" means a metropolitan school district, as defined in section 160.011, RSMo.

3. Each district shall reinstitute the basic kindergarten through eighth grade system of grade schools within the district.

4. Every child within the district of the appropriate age and appropriate aptitude for discipline and openness to instruction shall have the right to attend a basic kindergarten through eighth grade school.

5. Every child within the district shall have the right to attend such school closest to such child's home.

6. Every child within the district shall have the right to transfer to any other such school within the district.

7. The district shall have the right to transport children to relieve overcrowding. Transportation to relieve overcrowding shall be performed in such a manner as to fill in school seats in buildings that have surplus seats, but shall not be permitted to displace any child who has elected to attend the school located closest to such child's home.

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.

18 8. The per pupil expenditure of funds for the cost of education shall be equalized to the
19 greatest extent possible, with appropriate variation allowable in order to accommodate the
20 special remedial needs of children who test below grade level and the needs of gifted children.

21 9. Schools for gifted children with accelerated academic programs shall be established
22 and evenly distributed across the district. The district shall have the right to transport children
23 to and from schools for the gifted. Children who attend schools for the gifted shall have the right
24 to attend such school which is located closest to such child's home and shall have the right to
25 transfer to or attend any other school for the gifted within the district.

26 10. [The provisions of the St. Louis students' bill of rights shall only become effective
27 upon approval by a majority of the voters of the city of St. Louis voting thereon. The governing
28 board of the transitional district established pursuant to section 162.1100 may conduct a legal
29 analysis of the program enumerated in this section, shall publish any such analysis and make the
30 analysis available to the public and shall propose, to the extent that the program is consistent
31 with the Missouri and United States Constitutions, place before the voters of the city of St. Louis
32 no later than March 15, 1999, a proposal to implement the program. If approved by a majority
33 of such voters, the program shall be implemented consistent with the Missouri and United States
34 Constitutions.

35 11. The proposal shall be submitted substantially as follows:

36 Shall the St. Louis School District reinstitute the basic kindergarten through eighth grade
37 neighborhood school system within the district and be required to permit students to attend the
38 school closest to their home?

39 ☐ YES ☐ NO] **Upon enrollment in a kindergarten through eighth**
40 **grade school, a child within the metropolitan school district shall have a vested right to**
41 **continued attendance at said school as long as said child remains a resident of the**
42 **metropolitan school district.**

43 **11. Annually, during the first five years after the effective date of this section, fifty**
44 **percent of the savings in transportation costs which result from decreased busing of**
45 **students within the metropolitan school district shall be paid by the state of Missouri to the**
46 **metropolitan school district as reimbursement for the cost of transition to the kindergarten**
47 **through eighth grade system.**

48 **12. Annually, during the second five years after the effective date of this section,**
49 **thirty-five percent of the savings in transportation costs which result from the decreased**
50 **busing of students within the metropolitan school district shall be paid by the state of**
51 **Missouri to the metropolitan school district as reimbursement for the cost of transition to**
52 **the kindergarten through eighth grade system. The savings reimbursement shall cease at**
53 **the end of the tenth year.**

54 **13. The metropolitan school district shall develop a method for measuring the**
55 **savings in transportation costs, which method shall be subject to review by the department**
56 **of elementary and secondary education.**

 Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to address the rights of students in
2 metropolitan school districts section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate
3 preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an
4 emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full
5 force and effect upon its passage and approval.

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