

## HB 1543 -- School Protection Measures

Sponsor: Wallace

This bill changes the laws regarding school employee liability, safety practices, and reporting acts of violence. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Expands the reporting of acts of violence to include all teachers at the student's school building and other employees who need to know;
- (2) Specifies that a suspended student who is not allowed on school property without specific permission is also prohibited from attending school events occurring off school property;
- (3) Expands employee immunity from following established discipline policies to include policies of student discipline;
- (4) Adds the use of force to protect persons or property by school district personnel to the provisions regarding spanking which is not to be considered as abuse that would be investigated by the Children's Division within the Department of Social Services as long as the spanking or use of force does not give rise to an allegation of sexual misconduct and another employee is present as a witness;
- (5) Requires, by July 1, 2012, the State Board of Education to add provisions to any school facilities and safety criteria developed for the Missouri School Improvement Program that suggest required drills regarding standards for safe facilities occur at least annually and requires that all staff receive sufficient training on the school's security and crisis management plan that is maintained throughout the school year;
- (6) Revises, in school residency provisions, the meaning of "homeless children and youths" to be consistent with the federal definition and specifies which educational records are needed for enrollment;
- (7) Changes the current requirement for forwarding educational records from 48 hours to two business days, adds individual education plans and health records to the requirement, and allows private and parochial schools to request a copy of specified school enrollment records;
- (8) Requires a notice of reportable offenses to be attached to an offending student's record and transcript;
- (9) Allows all public school districts to require a school

uniform or restrict student dress. Currently, these provisions require only the St. Louis City School District to consider adopting a school uniform;

(10) Makes the list of reportable student offenses in Section 167.115, RSMo, consistent with the list in Section 160.261;

(11) Consolidates the provisions regarding expulsion and suspension;

(12) Exempts unqualified employees who refuse to administer medication or medical services from disciplinary action for the refusal;

(13) Exempts qualified employees from any civil liability for administering medication or medical services, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other lifesaving methods, in good faith and according to standard medical practices;

(14) Specifies that a student must be allowed to self-administer medication for any chronic health condition;

(15) Adds other school employees trained and supervised by the school nurse to the list of individuals who are authorized to use an epinephrine auto-syringe on a student and specifies that these employees will be immune from civil liability when done in good faith and according to standard medical practices; and

(16) Requires, by July 1, 2011, the Children's Services Commission to recommend best practices on interagency communications regarding students receiving state services while protecting the privacy of the involved student and family.