

HB 1628 -- Dropout Prevention Grants for St. Louis Public Schools

Sponsor: Nasheed

This bill establishes the Metropolitan District Dropout Prevention and Recovery Program, a pilot program within the St. Louis Public School District. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will distribute three-year, renewable grants from funds appropriated to the newly created Metropolitan District Dropout Prevention and Recovery Fund. Grantees will be schools within the metropolitan school district which may contract with organizations to provide program services. They must cooperate with the department on annual evaluations to determine replicable results and best practices. Applications for the grants will be taken during school year 2010-2011 to begin implementation of the program for the 2011-2012 through 2013-2014 school years. The program will focus on researched-based behavior-change outreach strategies, establish close relationships with all interested parties, establish a referral system based on individual assessments, achieve academic progress for students, and help students acquire job skills and a good work ethic.

The provisions of the bill will expire six years from the effective date.