CCS SB 599 -- EDUCATION

This bill changes the laws regarding education.

CHILD ABUSE REPORTS RECEIVED BY SCHOOLS

Currently, if a school receives a report of child abuse that arises from school personnel following a district policy on spanking or the use of reasonable force to protect persons or property or a report made for the sole purpose of harassing a school employee, the school superintendent or school board president must send a notice of the incident to the county juvenile officer. The bill requires the notice to be sent to county law enforcement. Currently, the juvenile officer or a law enforcement officer designated by the juvenile officer must investigate the incident and issue a report of his or her findings and recommendations. The bill requires the investigation to be conducted and the report to be issued by a law enforcement officer in the county. A law enforcement officer who knowingly falsifies or withholds any information relative to an investigation or report will be quilty of a class A misdemeanor.

GIFTED EDUCATION

A school district must include in its annual school accountability report card whether the district currently has a state-approved gifted education program and the percentage and number of students being served by the program.

SCHOOL FOUNDATION FORMULA

The moneys received in the school fund of Iron County, Reynolds County, Jefferson County, and Washington County from the payment of a civil penalty pursuant to a consent decree in 2011 in the case of United States of America and State of Missouri v. the Doe Run Resources Corporation d/b/a "The Doe Run Company" and the Buick Resource Recycling Facility, LLC, because of environmental violations cannot be included in any school district's local effort calculation for purposes of the school foundation formula.

This provision expires July 1, 2016.

CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION INSTRUCTION

Any public school or charter school serving grades nine through twelve may provide instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation to its students. Students with disabilities may participate to the extent appropriate as determined by the provisions of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The instruction may be part of a health education course and must include hands-on practice and skills testing to support cognitive learning. A school may develop an agreement with a local first responder organization to provide the required practice and testing. Curriculum sources and teacher qualifications are specified in the bill.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The State Board of Education within the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must develop standards for agricultural education that may be adopted by an appropriately accredited private school in order to qualify the school to apply to the state chapter of the Future Farmers of America for the approval of a local chapter. The standards must be consistent with the federal Vocational Education Act, but the local chapter will not be eligible to receive state or federal agricultural vocational education funding and must annually reimburse the department for the cost of oversight and maintenance of the program.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must provide staffing support including, but not limited to, statewide coordination for career and technical student organizations' activities that are an integral part of the instructional educational curriculum for career and technical education programs approved by the department. Those organizations include, but are not limited to, DECA, FBLA, FFA, FCCLA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and TSA. The department must continue to handle the funds from the organizations in the same manner as it did during the 2011-2012 school year and may require a local organization to provide sworn affidavits annually by personnel in the organization who are responsible for the funds as to the proper handling of the funds.

The provisions of the bill regarding career and technical student organizations contain an emergency clause.