

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1907

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES SMITH (Sponsor), PIERSON, WALTON GRAY, ELLINGER, PACE, MORGAN, GARDNER, MCNEIL, NICHOLS, LAFAVER, ANDERS, RUNIONS, MCDONALD, NORR, WRIGHT, PETERS, HUMMEL AND CURTIS (Co-sponsors).

6009L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 167.131, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to school transfers, with an emergency clause.

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

Section A. Section 167.131, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 167.131, to read as follows:

167.131. 1. The board of education of each district in this state that does not maintain an accredited school pursuant to the authority of the state board of education to classify schools as established in section 161.092 shall pay the tuition of and provide transportation consistent with the provisions of section 167.241 for each pupil resident therein who attends an accredited school in another district of the same or an adjoining county.

2. The rate of tuition to be charged by the district attended and paid by the sending district is the per pupil cost of maintaining the district's grade level grouping which includes the school attended. The cost of maintaining a grade level grouping shall be determined by the board of education of the district but in no case shall it exceed all amounts spent for teachers' wages, incidental purposes, debt service, maintenance and replacements. The term "debt service", as used in this section, means expenditures for the retirement of bonded indebtedness and expenditures for interest on bonded indebtedness. Per pupil cost of the grade level grouping shall be determined by dividing the cost of maintaining the grade level grouping by the average daily pupil attendance. If there is disagreement as to the amount of tuition to be paid, the facts shall be submitted to the state board of education, and its decision in the matter shall be final.

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.

16 Subject to the limitations of this section, each pupil shall be free to attend the public school of
17 his or her choice.

18 **3. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 2 of this section and any other**
19 **provision of law, the tuition rate charged by a receiving school district during a school year**
20 **shall not exceed fifty percent of the tuition rate of the sending district as it was calculated**
21 **in the year prior to the sending district's loss of accreditation.**

Section B. Because of the immediate financial hardship experienced by unaccredited
2 school districts due to tuition rates charged for students transferring to accredited districts, this
3 act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and
4 safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and
5 this act shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.

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