

HCS HB 476 -- SCHOOL DISTRICTS

SPONSOR: Fitzwater (144)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues in Education. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Education by a vote of 9 to 1.

Currently, hold harmless school districts with an average daily attendance of 350 or less receive state aid under a different calculation than hold harmless school districts with an average daily attendance of greater than 350. This bill provides that any school district that increases from 350 students or less to over 350 students or any school district that decreases from over 350 students to 350 or less must maintain the increase or decrease past the 350 student benchmark for two consecutive school years before a change in the formula calculation will occur.

This bill contains an emergency clause.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that because of an anomaly in the formula, this school district will lose a large portion of its funding. This was not the intent of any past legislation and should be rectified.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Fitzwater (144); Bradley Crocker, Superintendent, Valley R-VI School District; and Missouri Association of School Administrators.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.