

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2479

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ROWLAND (155).

5743H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 171.053, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to excused absences for students.

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

Section A. Section 171.053, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 171.053, to read as follows:

171.053. 1. The general assembly hereby finds and declares that:

(1) The Future Farmers of America Organization (FFA Organization), Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and 4-H programs in the state and the organized competitions held as a part of the Missouri state fair involve an education and learning process that is not otherwise available in the regular curriculum of secondary education in Missouri;

(2) The principles and practices learned by students in such programs are highly beneficial to students;

(3) Participation in such programs should be encouraged; and

(4) One method of encouraging participation in such programs is to allow such participation to be counted as school attendance for the purpose of determining state school aid.

2. It is the purpose and intent of this section to assure that participation of students in sanctioned activities of such programs be allowed to such extent as may be determined appropriate by the school boards of the various school districts.

3. Any school district which allows an excused absence for athletics or any other extracurricular school activity shall allow[, pursuant to its written policy and with the approval of the responsible sponsoring school employee,] any student enrolled in the district to use such regularly scheduled instructional time as is reasonably necessary for such student to participate

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.

18 in an officially sanctioned activity of any such program; provided, if the program is not a part of
19 the Missouri state fair or 4-H, that such program has a local chapter which is officially
20 recognized by the student's school. **Any student who is enrolled in the school district and**
21 **lives in the same household as the student who is allowed to use regularly scheduled**
22 **instruction time as described in this subsection shall be allowed to use the same amount of**
23 **regularly scheduled instruction time as such student and shall be considered a participant**
24 **in the program for purposes of this section.**

25 4. For the purpose of distributing state school aid pursuant to section 163.031, a student
26 who is participating in an officially sanctioned activity of any such program, as provided
27 pursuant to subsection 3 of this section, **and any student who lives in the same household as**
28 **such student**, shall be considered to be attending regularly scheduled instruction in the district
29 and such hours of participation occurring during the regular school day shall be included in the
30 district's calculation of average daily attendance, as defined in section 163.011.

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