

HB 2409 -- ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION

SPONSOR: Curtis

In order to further certain objectives, including reducing the cost of public education, improving the quality of education, increasing the number of persons with at least a high school education, ensuring that students are prepared for college and careers, increasing funding for education by ensuring that the schools are socioeconomically diverse, and attracting business and new residents, this bill authorizes school districts in St. Louis County to administratively consolidate into one countywide school district.

Deadlines for voluntary consolidations and effective dates for voluntary and involuntary consolidations are set out in the bill.

Any consolidation must ensure that no attendance area of any school in the resulting district contains a population with an average household income that is more than \$30,000 higher or lower than the average household income of the population of any other attendance area. The department will determine the sources used to calculate average household income.

The state board will have the power to close schools or take any other action necessary to accomplish the administrative consolidation in the manner required under the bill.

The bill has a contingent effective date providing that it will become effective only upon approval of a constitutional amendment removing the prohibitions related to school district boundaries and affairs.