

HB 102 -- MUSIC THERAPISTS

SPONSOR: Swan

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 9 to 1 with 1 present. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative Oversight by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill allows a music therapist who has completed specific training and examination requirements shall be deemed certified by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the purpose of providing music therapist services within the first steps program.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that music has the ability to positively affect neural areas of the brain in a way some other therapies are unable. Even though music therapy is in high demand and able to help with many issues, Missouri is not providing it for children in the first steps program. This bill will help to close that gap and allow access.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Swan.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.