

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

House Resolution No. 5358

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CURTIS.

6400H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

2 **WHEREAS**, inadequate and inequitable funding of the state's public schools has existed
3 for many years due to an insufficient state adequacy target and a failure to fully fund the
4 foundation formula; and

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5 **WHEREAS**, the inadequate funding of the state's public schools has perpetuated a
6 system of separate but equal in fact, if not in law, by underfunding schools with large minority
7 populations; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, schools with large minority populations that are underfunded graduate
10 students who are less well-prepared than other students; and

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12 **WHEREAS**, students who graduate from a school with a large minority population less
13 well-prepared than other students are more likely to attend a historically black institution of
14 higher education, including the state's two esteemed historically black institutions of higher
15 education, Lincoln University and Harris-Stowe State University; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, historically black institutions of higher education often struggle financially
18 due to having smaller endowments, less money from alumni giving, and lower levels of federal
19 and state investment; and

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21 **WHEREAS**, the attendance of the students at historically black institutions of higher
22 education maintains and perpetuates the system of separate but equal; and

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24 **WHEREAS**, raising the state adequacy target by basing it on those districts that spend
25 the most rather than those districts that spend the average amount could result in increased state
26 funding of schools with large minority populations; and

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28 **WHEREAS**, increased state funding of schools with large minority populations could
29 help begin to dismantle the system of separate but equal:

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31 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the members of the Missouri House
32 of Representatives, Ninety-ninth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, hereby urge a
33 commitment to ensuring that the public schools of this state receive adequate and equitable
34 funding and that the state adequacy target is appropriately raised to achieve adequate and
35 equitable funding; and

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37 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
38 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
39 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and each
40 member of the General Assembly.

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