HB 1408 -- VIRTUAL EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Spencer

This bill changes the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program (MOVIP) to "The Missouri Course Access Program" (MCAP) and allows any K-12 student to enroll in MCAP courses, to be paid by the school district or charter school that is a local educational agency, if the student is enrolled in a school district or charter school has attended such school for at least one semester immediately prior and has received approval from his or her school counselor or other designated person as described in the bill. The school district or charter school shall pay the course provider directly on a monthly basis until the student discontinues enrollment and shall not pay more than 14% of the state adequacy target.

The bill requires the State Board of Education to provide an easily accessible link for course vendors on the MCAP website, allows anyone to submit courses for approval, and requires vendors to accept monthly payments for students enrolled in their courses.

This bill requires the students' home district to pay the costs associated with MCAP courses up to the equivalent of a full time student, under specified conditions.

The bill has an effective date of January 1, 2019.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 138 and SB 238 (2017).