

HCS SB 687 -- STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

SPONSOR: Sater

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 2.

This bill provides that if less than 25% of the public school student transportation funding formula is funded by the state, a school board may vote to reduce its allocation of foundation formula money going to professional development from a minimum of 1% to a minimum of 0.5% (Section 160.530, RSMo).

The bill also allows the Kansas City school district to contract with any governmental agency for the purpose of transporting high school children for extra-curricular activities (Section 304.060).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that given a shortage of funding to pay for both student transportation and professional development, transportation is the greater need.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Sater and the Missouri School Administrators Coalition.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that we shouldn't need to make decisions like this; both professional development and student transportation are important and should be fully funded.

Testifying against the bill was the Missouri National Education Association.