

HCS HB 169 -- INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA

SPONSOR: Gannon

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Student Accountability by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 3.

This bill establishes the "Internet and Social Media Awareness Program" to increase awareness of appropriate online behavior and skills among students in public schools.

In coordination with the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council, materials will be developed and evaluated by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Beginning in school year 2020-2021, each public school shall provide instruction in 4th grade, and an optional course in 8th grade on how to navigate online courses and engage in appropriate online behavior.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill is important for all students and would empower teachers to do the right thing regarding the instruction of online classes. Supporters also indicate that this is an example of realworld learning and that allowing school boards to develop policies is an important aspect.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Gannon; JT Circle of Hope; Missouri National Education Association; MO Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics; and Microsoft Corp.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.