

HCS HB 1212 -- EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

SPONSOR: Stacy

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 9 to 5. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 3.

This bill would modify the section of law known as "Bryce's Law" by changing the definition of "Department" from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to the office of the State Treasurer. The bill also removes the sunset provision for Section 161.825, RSMo and has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2020.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that by changing the bill from DESE to the State Treasurer more promotion will occur and consequently more support may be generated.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Stacy; Missouri Education Reform Council; and David Steward II.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that current priorities should be funded in education and this bill has a fiscal note.

Testifying against the bill was the School Administration Coalition.