

HCB 7 -- SUPERINTENDENT EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS

SPONSOR: Christofanelli

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "to Introduce" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill requires every superintendent and assistant superintendent to enter into a written employment contract with a school district before beginning employment. The requirements of the contract are described within the bill and only apply to contracts executed on or after the effective date of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that these are common sense guidelines to superintendent buyouts and the additional transparency is important. Current contracts range from handwritten notes to boilerplate language and this bill sets boundaries to these contracts.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Christofanelli and Peter Franzen, Children's Education Alliance of Missouri.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that limits imposed by the bill would limit local control by the district and that superintendents deserve three year contracts as an incentive and to offer stability to a district.

Testifying against the bill were School Administration Coalition; and Missouri School Board Association.