

HB 2220 -- STEM STUDIES ENHANCEMENT

SPONSOR: Dohrman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Higher Education by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill allows students enrolled in a STEM studies enhancement program (an undergraduate program offered by a Missouri higher education institution to high school students that emphasizes applied, advanced skills in any field related to STEM), who have a household income not exceeding 110% of the state median and otherwise meet the provisions of the bill, to receive a dual credit scholarship. The STEM studies enhancement scholarship will be based on the average tuition cost of a community college course in the state.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 1093 (2019).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will improve education opportunities for students with lower incomes and that typically rates charged for dual credit are much lower than the rates charged on a college campus.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dohrman; Missouri Community College Association; and Council On Public Higher Education.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.