

HB 2310 -- ADMISSION OF NONRESIDENT PUPILS

SPONSOR: Wiemann

NON RESIDENT STUDENT TRANSFERS

This bill defines "non-resident district" and "resident district" (Section 167.1200,RSMo).

The bill specifies that a student may attend school in any nonresident district. The nonresident district is not required to add teachers, staff, or classrooms to accommodate transfer applicants and the school may establish standards for transfer applications (Section 167.1205).

Beginning in school year 2022-23 students that transfer to a nonresident district may complete remaining school years as long as parents pay required tuition fees and provide transportation.

The cost for tuition is based on the current expenditure per pupil of the nonresident district attended by a student transferring, compared to the current expenditure per pupil of the student's resident district, the parent of the student shall pay the nonresident district a tuition rate equal to the difference in such amounts for each school year the student attends school in the nonresident district. Changes to this calculation will be updated and notification provided to pupil's parents annually before August 1.

Students who wish to attend nonresident schools that have an academic or competitive entrance process shall furnish proof that they meet the admission requirements.

The bill establishes when a student may be denied a transfer based on his or her discipline record and includes an appeal procedure (Section 167.1210).

The bill establishes that annually, before February 1, each school district shall set and publish the number of transfer students the district is willing to receive for the following school year. This number does not have to be more than zero.

The processes for a transfer application, and the details for notifications of acceptance or rejection are specified within the bill. The bill explains the reasons that an eligible application may be rejected and notification must be provided in writing by August 1 of the school year for which the student wishes to attend (Section 167.1215).

ENFORCEABLE DESEGREGATION EXEMPTION

This bill provides that, prior to April 1, a school district may annually declare an exemption for the upcoming school year, from the requirements set forth in this bill, provided that the school district is subject to a desegregation order or mandate of a federal court or agency remedying the effects of past racial segregation or subject to a settlement agreement remedying the effects of past racial segregation. Additional exemptions are specified for students who qualify for transfers under other listed sections (Section 167.1220).

This bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2021

This bill is similar to HB 465 (2019).