

HCS HB 228 -- SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETINGS

SPONSOR: Basye

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS by Consent" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 16 to 0. Voted "Do Pass- Consent" by the Standing Committee on Consent and House Procedure by a vote of 8 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 228.

This bill prevents any public school districts and charter schools from prohibiting a parent or guardian from audio recording any meeting held under the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or a Section 504 plan meeting (Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973).

Districts or charter schools may not require parents to provide more than 24 hours notice in order to record said meeting, and no school district employee who reports a violation under this section shall be subject to discharge, retaliation, or any other adverse employment action for reporting.

This bill contains an emergency clause.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 1540 (2020).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that it is currently against the law to not allow the recording of these meetings, and that these meetings include very detailed and complex amounts of information. Having a recording benefits the students and parents. Several other states have specific policies that allow recording of meetings and Missouri statutes need to clarify that recording these meetings for personal use is allowed.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Basye; Michelle Ribaud; Kids Win Missouri; Missouri Disability Empowerment; and Sara Rivera.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.