

HB 552 -- SCHOOL DISTRICT BONDING CAPACITY

SPONSOR: Derges

This bill expands the powers of the State Board of Education to allow the board to establish criteria for submitting petitions for modification of the limitation of debt.

The bill also outlines those procedures for a modification of the limitations of debt petition process under Section 26(b), Article VI, of the Constitution of Missouri. Upon the grant of the modification by the state board, and the approval of the electors in the district, the district may borrow and issue bonds for the following purposes: purchase or improvement on a site, addressing safety concerns, purchasing school buses, and constructing, furnishing, equipping, repairing, remodeling, or making additions to buildings necessary for school district purposes. The bill outlines criteria for the state board to prioritize applications and establishes limits as outlined in the bill.

This bill will not become effective unless an amendment of Section 26(b) of Article VI of the Constitution of Missouri is approved by a majority of the qualified voters.

This bill is similar to HB 1897 (2020).