

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| COMMITTEE: Budget | | | | |
| TESTIFYING: | ✓ IN SUPPORT OF | ☐ IN OPPOSITION TO | | ATIONAL PURPOSES |
| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC DIEN | NOFF-STATE PUBLIC AD | VOCATE | PHONE NUME | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | • | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: arniedienoff@yah | oo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 12:59 AM |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FORM | LIS PUBLIC RECOR | D UNDER CHA | PTFR 610, RSMo. |

I am Support of this Proposed State Legislation in the Auditing of Student Populations



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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| REGISTERED LO | OBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: BECKY LOHMANN | ļ | | PHONE NUME 573-424-1 | |
| REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CENTU | RY FOUNDATION | | TITLE: LOBBYIS | Г |
| ADDRESS: 1313 FIELDCREST | • | | | |
| CITY: COLUMBIA | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65203 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT 0 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 12:00 AM |
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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| REGISTERED LO | OBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CHRIS ROEPE | | | PHONE NUMB 816-294-0 4 | |
| REPRESENTING: KANSAS CITY PUI | BLIC SCHOOL DISTRIC | СТ | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: 205 E CAPITOL AV | /E | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65101 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT D 1/11/20 | ATE: 22 12:00 AM |
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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| REGISTERED LO | OBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DEAN JOHNSON | | | PHONE NUME 816-550-43 | |
| REPRESENTING: QUALITY SCHOOL | S COALITION | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: 1100 MAIN ST, 4Th | H FLOOR | | | |
| CITY: KANSAS CITY | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 64105 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT D 1/11/20 | DATE: 22 12:00 AM |
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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORG | ANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DOUGLAS THAMA | AN | | PHONE NUME 816-261-3 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION MISSOURI CHART | ON NAME: FER PUBLIC SCHOOL A | ASSOCIATION | TITLE: EXECUTIV | /E DIRECTOR |
| ADDRESS: 1306 PAPIN STRE | ET | | | |
| CITY: ST LOUIS | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63103 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT I 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 12:00 AM |
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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| REGISTERED LO | DBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KATE CASAS | | | PHONE NUME 314-809-5 | |
| REPRESENTING: EXCELLENCE IN E FOR CHILDREN | EDUCATION ACTION, A | AMERICAN FEDERATION | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: 117 MADISON | | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65101 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT 0 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 12:00 AM |
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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORG | ANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN PENDERG | RASS | | PHONE NUMBE 703-403-07 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO SHOW-ME INSTITU | | | DIR. RESEA | |
| ADDRESS: 5297 WASHINGTO | N PL | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63108 |
| EMAIL: susan.pendergras: rg | s@showmeinstitute.o | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/10/202 | ATE: 22 4:04 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEEThank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Susan Pendergrass, Ph.D., and I am Director of Researchand Education Policy for the Show-Me Institute, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, Missouri-based think tank that advances ensible, wellresearched, free-market solutions to state and local policy issues. The ideas presented here are my own and are offered in consideration of proposals that will affect charter schools in Missouri. Charter schools have been part of the Missouri public education system for nearly 25 years. Currently, over 25,000 issouri children attend public charter schools. Nearly 80 percent of these students are categorized as low income based on their qualification for free or reduced-price lunch in the USDA's National School Lunch Program, and 80 percent of them are students of color. However, public charter school students in Missouri are funded differently and ess equitably than their neighbors who attend their assigned public schools. In Missouri, students are restricted to choosing a public charter school within the district boundaries of either St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS) or Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS), and soon within the Normandy Schools Collaborative. This restriction is due to the uniquely low performance of these public school districts, which makes their students eligible to choose an alternative. Charter schools within KCPS and SLPS are more than just additional schools—they're a lifelineout of failing systems. Although public education has been massively disrupted in the last two years, MAP assessments were administered last year and the results have been released. In the 2020–21 school year, just 13 percent of the SLPS students whocame to school to take the assessment scored proficient or higher in English/Language Arts and less than 8 percent scored proficient or better in mathematics. One can imagine the likely performance of those who were not assessed. Results in KCPS are similar, although the mathematics percentage was one point higher. While public charter schools in these districts faced the same circumstances, their results, while not stellar, exceeded those of the two districts. In ELA, 24 percent of public charter school students scored proficient or higher and in mathematics it was just over 11 percent. Some charter schools, such as University Academy in Kansas City, had rates of proficiency of 40 percent or higher What is wrong with charter school funding?Current Missouri law requires districts to share their state aid with the public charter schools within their borders based on the number of public school students who choose to attend a charter school. However, the law didn't anticipate what would happen if the public school students in charter schools are quaranteed funding that exceeds the total state aid for a district, as is currently the case in KCPS. Over half of the public school students in Kansas City have chosen charter schools, the funding for whom equals the entirety of KCPS's state aid. If more public school students choose charter schools, the pie will not get bigger. Rather, each public charter school student will receive a

smaller slice. HB 1552 would amend this situation by requiring that the state provide the guaranteed amount of state aid per pupil directly to any charter schools that have declared themselves a local education agency, as most have. Secondly, under current law, public charter school students do not have access to the same sources of local fundingas their counterparts attending a district public school. HB 1552 would amend this by having the definition oflocal aid due to public charter school students include property taxes, merchants' and manufacturers' taxes, financial institution tax revenues, all city sales tax revenue, payments in lieu of taxes, and revenues from state-assessed railroad and utilities taxes. CONCLUSIONThere are more than 25,000 public school students in Missouri who receive less public funding than their peerssimply because they have chosen an alternative public option rightfully available to them. These are mostlystudents from disadvantaged backgrounds who live within the boundaries of school districts that fail to getmore than one in ten students to grade level in reading or math. These families are making a very understandablechoice, and their children should not be treated differently HB 1552 provides an opportunity to fix some of theshortcomings in the current charter school law.



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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: AARON MICHELS | | | PHONE NUMBE | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: aaron.michels@gi | mail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/11/202 | ATE: 22 4:17 PM |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | M IS PUBLIC RECOR | D UNDER CHAP | PTER 610. RSMo. |

I am a proud parent of two St. Louis Public Schools elementary students, I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district.



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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ALICE CROCKETT | Г | | PHONE NUM | IBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: ab60lee@gmail.co | om | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 1/11/2 | DATE: 022 11:45 PM | |
| THE INFORMA | THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | | |

I am a teacher in St. Louis Public School district. This bill is does not support our schools. I am Not in favor of Bill 1552. It will hurt St. Louis Public Schools. Please vote No! Financially, and in every other instance our district and students need. full support..



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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ALLISON CHAN | | PHONE NUMB | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: achelgren@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/10/20 | ATE: 22 2:21 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

To the Representatives of the Missouri House Budget Committee,I am a taxpaying, voting resident of St. Louis City and a proud parent of a student within St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS). I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose HB 1552. St. Louis Public Schools are comprised of approximately 20% students in transition or experiencing housing insecurity, 14% English Language Learners, and 16% Special Education students; SLPS provides services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. In my child's Kindergarten classroom, out of 20 children, there are 8 who speak other languages, 2 of whom are English Language Learners, at least one child with Special Education needs, at least one other child (my own) with a Section 504 Plan. and it hurts my heart to think about which of the five and six year olds in his classroom are experiencing housing insecurity. This bill will hurt our most vulnerable children in the city of St. Louis.No charter school comes close to serving these children at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. While there are some charters that serve a similar student population and provide services on a smaller scale, most charters do not. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to charter schools, there is no guarantee that these funds will be utilized to better serve students, let alone our most vulnerable. Charter schools already have no requirement to admit English Language Learners or Special Education students, whereas SLPS is required by law to provide a free and equitable education for every single student. How will we guarantee that these extra funds won't be squandered on wasteful administrator salaries? This bill targets the choice of the majority of families who send their children to St. Louis Public Schools. Our family's experience with SLPS has been nothing but positive. Despite a pandemic, required social distancing, required masking, and a multitude of other reasons that he shouldn't feel this way, my 6 year old looks forward to going to his neighborhood public school every single morning; he is thriving in SLPS. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing them down. We should be increasing their funding, not finding ways allocate funds elsewhere. Please honor my choice as a parent and a taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars within our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote NO on HB 1552.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: AMANDA E DOYLE | | | PHC | NE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | I NAME: | | TITL | E: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STA | TE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: adoylestl@gmail.co | om | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2022 2: | 11 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of St. Louis City and the parent of two SLPS students. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. We have experience in both SLPS and a city-based charter school, and I speak from our experiences with both. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks while ever more charter schools popping up experiment and distract from the kinds of investments sorely needed in our existing schools. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools, in 4 city schools with our kids, has been that it's the best choice for our family, with a caring and professional teaching corps that's unmatched by the other choices available. Our kids thrive there and we are strong advocates for both neighborhood and magnet options. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing them down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. When we were at a charter school (a one-year experiment during Covid/virtual learning), there was really no mechanism for parents to be meaningfully engaged, and no pathway for parents to be involved in decision-making that directly affects their students. The staff of the charter school, while undoubtedly well-meaning, simply lacked the experience, the subject-matter expertise, and the structure to teach successfully. Discipline and classroom management, too, were chaotic. I think it's so important to preserve accountable public education, and ask you to vote no on HB 1552.



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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: AMANDA WALLA | CE | | PHONE NUMBI | ER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: mandv.s.wallace@ | Damail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/10/202 | ATE: 22 6:31 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

To our elected officials,I am a resident of St. Louis City and a St. Louis Public Schools parent of three. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552.This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools is fantastic! I have three children in three different SLPS schools that we LOVE! Even though they are great schools, they NEED APPROPRIATE FUNDING! Think of how great our city could be if we invested in our children in a way that they deserve. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote no on HB 1552."Thank you,Amanda Wallace



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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: AMY D CROWLEY | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: amthax@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE 1/10/2022 | 2:25 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of St. Louis City and a St. Louis Public Schools parent. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools has been exceptional. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote no on HB 1552.



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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: AMY MURPHY | | | PHONE NUMBE | R: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | · | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: amylmurphy74@s | sbcglobal.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/10/202 | ATE: 22 8:11 PM |
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As a parent of two children in a Missouri public school, I oppose this bill. Thank you.



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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ANDREA DURWA | Y | | PHONE NUMBE | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: averya219@gmail | .com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/10/202 | ATE: 22 7:10 PM |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | M IS PUBLIC RECOR | D UNDER CHAP | PTER 610. RSMo. |

Charter and private schools should not receive funds intended for public education. This bill will destroy so many schools. Please stop the attack on public education.



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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORG | ANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ANGELA BANKS | | | PHONE NUME 314-345-4 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION ST LOUIS PUBLIC | ON NAME: SCHOOL DISTRICT | | TITLE: CFO | |
| ADDRESS: 801 N 11TH ST | | | | |
| CITY: ST LOUIS | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63101 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT 0 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 12:00 AM |
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| WITNESS NAME: ANGELA MISSOU | RI | | PHONE NUME | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: amiller1011@yaho | oo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/9/202 | OATE: 2 9:18 AM |
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Bill is a continued attempt to undermine the stability and fiscal support of Missouri public schools. I support public schools and oppose charter schools in Missouri.



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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ANTIONETTE COUSINS | | PHONE NUMBER 314-496-088 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BOARD OF EDUCATION CITY OF ST. LOU | JIS | SCHOOL BO | OARD MEMBER |
| ADDRESS: 2809 CAROLINE STREET | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63104 |
| EMAIL: Antionette.Cousins@slps.org | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT DA 1/10/2022 | TE: 2 2:52 PM |
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| WITNESS NAME: AVIS FUNCHES | | | PHONE NUM | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: anigib@yahoo.co | m | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT 1/10/20 | DATE: 022 4:13 PM |
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| WITNESS NAME: BART SARACINO | | | PHONE NUMB | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | N NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: bart.saracino@gma | ail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/10/20 | OATE: 22 9:52 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | | |

I am a parent of a St. Louis Public Schools student, I am a resident of St. Louis City, and a taxpayer. Please do not redirect funds from SLPS to charter schools. Do the right thing and fund charter schools directly from state funding as intended. Charter schools can be a good alternative for some families but they are not a substitute for public schools. Fund them on their own, do not take from public

schools. It's not a zero-sum game. Oppose HB1552.



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| WITNESS NAME: BEN C CONOVER | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | · | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: benjamin.charles.conover@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2022 2: | 42 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Hello House Budget Committee Members. My name is Ben Conover, I am a St. Louis, Missouri resident. and I am writing to you today to urge you to oppose HB 1552. This bill would divert approximately \$17million in funding from Saint Lous Public Schools (SLPS) to charter schools at a time where the district can least afford it. Proponents of this bill will tell you they are attempting to "fix a glith" by which charter schools receive less per capita funding than students in public schools. But this is not a glitch. Rather, this is an equitable set-up that takes into account the differences in expenditures and financial situations for individual charter schools and districts like SLPS. SLPS provides pre-school services, transportation with unique cost factors with respect to desegregation and the Magnet proram. and special education including 3 highly specialized special education schools. Further, SLPS mannage funds for at least 30 non-public schools within the City of Saint Louis. In addition to adhering to more stringent requirements tha charter schools, SLPS employees full time nurses, social workers, family community specialists, security services - all employees that charter schools may not have. Further, they implement a lead abatement program, manage legacy costs, and support 92% of the homeless students in St. Louis City, which creates a higher need for trauma-informed services creating an additional cost. While proponents of school choice try to redirect government money towards themselves, the majority of public school students in St. Louis will suffer. The arrangement proposed by this bill is not supported by either major city district (Kansas City or St. Louis) for implementation in St. Louis and was opposed in 2021 by the Missouri School Boards Association, along with the teachers in both districts. Equity and equality are not the same. This proposal would serve to create more inequity and benefit privately-operated charter schools at the expense of public school students. I urge you to oppose HB1552. Thank you for your consideration.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: BILL STEPHENS | | PHONE NUMB | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | · | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: stephens.z.bill@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT D 1/10/20 | ATE: 22 6:03 PM |
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THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As an elected official and resident of the City of St. Louis, I would like to present to the committee the recent duplicity and misleading while under oath by the Opportunity Trust to the St. Louis City Education & Youth Matters Committee, as well as introduce Board of Aldermen Resolution 65 calling for a citywide moratorium on new schools and development of a citywide education plan, which could be hindered by House Bill 1552.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 | |
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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | | _ |
| WITNESS NAME: BRYAN CAMPBEL | _L | | PHONE NUME | BER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | • | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | _ |
| EMAIL: bwcampbell70@g | mail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT I 1/9/202 | DATE: 22 1:52 PM | |
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Missouri already ranks 49th in state funding for schools. This bill siphons money away from public schools. Taking money away from public schools when Missouri is already ranked at the very bottom nationally in state funding is just plain wrong.



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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORG | ANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: BYRON CLEMENS | | | PHONE NUME 314-781-2 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION AMERICAN FEDER | N NAME: RATION OF TEACHERS | S ST LOUIS | TITLE: CO-CHAIF | ₹ |
| ADDRESS: 2710 HAMPTON | | | | |
| CITY: ST LOUIS | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63139 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT 0 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 12:00 AM |
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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: C. PROMBO | | PHONE | NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | · | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: c.a.prombo.lpmo@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | MIT DATE: 0/2022 3:46 PM | |
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If charter schools are going to receive the same per pupil funding as regular public schools then charter schools should accept students with disabilities like regular public schools do.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CARIS ROWSELL | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: carisrowsell@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2022 9: | 58 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I live in St. Louis City and am a St. Louis Public Schools parent/caregiver. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. They can also choose who will attend their schools and they have no accountability to choose a diverse group of students including those below poverty lines. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools is committed to equal care of the students and desire to provide a safe learning environment. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote no on HB 1552.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| BUSINESS/ORG | ANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CARRON JOHNSO | DN | | PHONE NUME 314-781-2 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO AMERICAN FEDEI | ON NAME: RATION OF TEACHER | | | /E BOARD VP MEMBER |
| ADDRESS: 2710 S HAMPTON | AVE | | | |
| CITY: ST LOUIS | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63139 |
| EMAIL: | | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT I 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 12:00 AM |
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| WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE EFTHI | M | | PHONE NUMBI | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | • | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: chrissyefthim@gn | nail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D. 1/9/2022 | ATE: 2 6:59 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of and active voter in the St. Louis City. I am also a proud St. Louis Public Schools parent/caregiver. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools is (say what you love about SLPS) We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote no on HB 1552.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 | |
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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE HOLTZ | | | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TITLE: | | | | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | · | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: christineholtz3@yah | oo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 1/10/2 | DATE: 022 2:15 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Christine Holtz. My children take the bus to and from their SLPS school each day (if it is running) so that my husband and I can both get to work on time. HB 1552 would be taking away valuable funding necessary for working parents like us to get our kids to school on time each morning using the provided bus transportation. Charters do not require bus routes and therefore are not accessible to all city children. HB 1552 would take \$17.5 million away from St. Louis Public Schools. Missouri is 49th out of 50th in state education funding. This statistic should bring shame and a desire to increase funding instead of taking away from an already underfunded district that is legally mandated to serve ALL children. If a family chooses to send their student to a Charter school, then they can do fundraising just like we have to do in order to provide additional resources at our school. Do not take our funding away and give it to private Charter schools. Thank you for your time. Christine Holtz



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| WITNESS NAME: COLLEEN SMYTH | | | PHONE NUME | BER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | · | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: colleen.oconnell.s | smyth@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT I 1/10/20 | DATE: 122 1:26 PM | |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | M IS DUBLIC PECOP | D LINDED CHA | DTED 610 DOM | |

I am a Missouri St. Louis City resident and former SLPS parent and a taxpayer. I oppose defunding public schools in order to fund charter schools, because public schools are required to provide many

more high-cost services like transportation and special education. Where will these students learn without public schools when charters "can't meet their needs?" Please vote no on HB1552.



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| WITNESS NAME: CYDNEY MOORE | | | PHONE NUME | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | · | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: ckyd43@yahoo.co | om | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 0 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 9:36 AM |
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I am a parent of a St. Louis Public Schools student, I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 | |
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| WITNESS NAME: DARREN P O'BRI | EN | | PHONE NUME | BER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: darren.obrien@ic | loud.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT [1/11/20 | DATE: 122 8:28 AM | |
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THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a Missouri resident and a taxpayer. I oppose defunding public schools in order to fund charter schools, because public schools are required to provide many more high-cost services like transportation, special education, and services to English Language Learners, and students who lack stable housing situations. Where will these students learn without public schools when charters "can't meet their needs?" Please vote no on HB1552.



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| WITNESS NAME: DENIS THIEN | | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | N NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: denis_thien@yaho | o.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2022 1: | 14 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Denis Thien, and I am a proud Missouri resident. I am writing to you today to urge you to vote no on HB 1552. My child attends an elementary school in the city of St. Louis. My family believes that public education is a public good and that all children should be provided the support and the services they need to thrive equitably. Undermining public schools moves us further away from the goal of the equitable provision of public education so that all of our children can thrive. While HB 1552 purports to provide equal funding to charter and public schools, it unfairly advantages charter schools by providing dollars for services they do not or are not required to provide, namely transportation, special education services. ESOL services and more. The financial impact of this could be staggering. with experts estimating a \$17 million per year loss in funding for my local district, Saint Louis Public Schools, and impacting the education of my child and his peers. This bill is an attack on Saint Louis Public Schools.Funding certain, privately-operated schools more for providing less services and not requiring equitable service provision is not fair. Charter schools are not accountable to voters through elected school boards and they are not required to serve all children. HB 1552 would harm students in public schools and advantage already well-funded charter schools. That is not something our legislators in Jefferson City should support. If legislators want to provide more funding for publicly funded educational institutions across the state, that would be wonderful and I highly encourage you to do so, since Missouri is already second to last among states in funding education. But, please DO NOT make this a zero sum game for our children.



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| WITNESS NAME: DENISE LEBEGUE | | | PHONE NUME | BER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | <u> </u> | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: dmarie824@aol.co | om | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT I 1/10/20 | DATE: 1 22 9:17 PM | |
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I am a STL City resident, SLPS parent and a taxpayer. I oppose defunding public schools in order to fund charter schools, because public schools are required to provide many more high-cost services like transportation and special education. Where will these students learn without public schools when charters "can't meet their needs?" Please vote no on HB1552.



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| WITNESS NAME: PHONE NUMBER: DOROTHY ROHDE-COLLINS | | | | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TITLE: | | | | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STA | TE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: rohdecollins@gma | ail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2022 1: | 33 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Good afternoon Members of the House Budget Committee.This letter is written in opposition to HB1552. This bill is harmful to SLPS and the students it serves. I am asking you to vote NO on this bill.Saint Louis Public Schools (SLPS) serves approximately 20,000 students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade. These students come from every neighborhood across the City of St. Louis and speak over 50 different languages. SLPS is the core of the city's education system. Over the past decade, SLPS had demonstrated continued success in areas of attendance, academic performance, graduate rate, ACT scores, and fiscal health. It achieved full accreditation in 2017 and has continued to maintain its accreditation since then. The strategic plan for SLPS identifies five main pillars a system of excellent schools, fairness and equity, culturally responsive teachers and leaders, read to succeed, and community partnerships - all of which communicate the district's commitment to providing a quality education to every child living within the City of St. Louis. SLPS enrolls all children without regard to zip code, housing stability, previous education, need for special services, or their family's ability to participate in the education process. For over 150 years, SLPS has educated, loved, nurtured, and supported children and their families. Never has this been more clear than during the COVID-19 pandemic. The district has provided food, internet access, and technology directly to children so that they can continue to access the education to which they are entitled. Saint Louis Public Schools will always do whatever it takes to meet the needs of the children of the City of St. Louis. Every day, SLPS employees work hard to give their students what they need and deserve, but its funding keeps getting divided up across more and more education providers. The school age children population in the City of St. Louis is declining, yet the number of schools is increasing. HB1552 will make it more difficult for SLPS to meet the needs of its diverse student population during an already unbelievably difficult time. Instead of recognizing the unrelenting efforts of the district and rewarding it with additional funding, HB1552 takes money from SLPS and diverts it to other entities which are not held to the same accountability standards. Instead of improving the lives and education of children, this bill will reinforce the fragmented education system that exists in St. Louis. Continuing to divide up the limited education funds amongst a growing number of schools perpetuates the duplication of resources and supports a bloated bureaucracy of administrative salaries, when these public tax dollars should go to support children's academic, social, and emotional needs.HB1552 is harmful and works against Saint Louis Public Schools and the children it serves. Dorothy Rohde-Collins Doctoral Student. Education Policy & Equity, Saint Louis UniversityFormer Member, Board of Education of the City of St. Louis (Saint Louis Public Schools)3654 Botanical AveSt. Louis, MO 63110



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| WITNESS NAME: ELLEN WILSON | | | PHONE NUM | BER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | <u> </u> | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: ewilson107@gma | il.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 1/9/202 | DATE: 22 6:44 AM | |
| THE INCORMATION ON THIS FORM IS BURLIC DECORD LINDER CHARTER 610 DSMo | | | | | |

I am a teacher who has worked in public, private and charter schools. The charter school model is a failure. The idea assumes that education is a business which needs competition to help the best schools succeed and leaves others to fail. But these are children, not toasters. A child's third grade year shouldn't be an experiment. Please don't take essential funding for our public system to give to "innovators" who think they can run a school. Invest in all children and the system we have.



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| WITNESS NAME: EMILY HUBBARD | | | PHONE N | UMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | · | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: eighjay@gmail.co | m | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | | MIT DATE: 0/2022 6 | :32 PM |
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| WITNESS NAME: ETHAN E EVANS | | PHONE NUMBER | ₹: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: ethanevans15@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DAT 1/9/2022 | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Missouri Republicans have long tried to point out how state public schools are "struggling" despite continued willful attempts to defund them and replace them with charter options. If you defund a program, you don't get to then point at it and say it's underperforming. Expanding charter options and continuing to take funds from public schools will punish poor students and students with special needs whose families cannot pick up and move and "choose" where to go to schools. Schools should not be run as business opportunities.



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| WITNESS NAME: GEORGIAN GRAN | Т | | PHONE NUMB | ER: | |
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THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of St. Louis City and a Parent of two St, Louis Public School students. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provided services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools is has been overall very positive. The schools have a unique and diverse student population, the teachers have been excellent and the atmosphere is warm and caring. Both of my children have received excellent educations so far. The biggest problems I have seen are due to inadequate support snd funding by the city and state. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote no on HB 1552.



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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: HANNAH REINHAR | Т | | PHONE NUMBE | R: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | · | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: reinharthc@gmail.c | om | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/9/2022 | TE: 11:33 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

January 9. 2021My name is Hannah Reinhart. I am a Missouri resident, and I am writing to you today to urge you to vote no on HB 1552. My son, Thorson, is in PK4 at our neighborhood elementary school in the City of St. Louis. My family believes that public education is a public good and that all children should be provided the support and the services they need to thrive equitably. Undermining public school funding moves us further away from the goal of the equitable provision of public education so that all of our children can thrive. While HB 1552 purports to provide equal funding to charter and public schools, it unfairly advantages charter schools by providing dollars for services they do not or are not required to provide, namely transportation, special education services, ESOL services and more. The financial impact of this could be staggering, with experts estimating a \$17 million per year loss in funding for my local district, Saint Louis Public Schools, and impacting the education of my children and their peers. This bill is an attack on Saint Louis Public Schools.Funding certain, privatelyoperated schools more for providing less services and not requiring equitable service provision is not fair. Charter schools are not accountable to voters through elected school boards and they are not required to serve all children. HB 1552 would harm students in public schools and advantage already well-funded charter schools. That is not something our legislators in Jefferson City should support. I agree that the public education of children across Missouri needs more support and I would wholeheartedly support the legislature increasing that funding across the state. I do not agree with making this a zero sum game that hurts SLPS students, teachers and staff. I stand with Saint Louis Public Schools, the Missouri National Educators' Association, the Missouri School Board Association, and the American Federation of Teachers in opposing HB1552 and I am asking you to do so as well. Thank you for time and consideration, Hannah Reinhart 4120 Connecticut St. Louis, MO 63116



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JENNY ELLIOTT | | | PHONE NUME | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jennyelliott04@gn | nail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 0 1/11/20 | DATE: 1 22 1:35 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | | |

I am a parent of two children who lives in St. Louis City and a St. Louis City taxpayer. My children have attended SLPS, Charter and private schools. It does not benefit any of us to underfund, or defund the St. Louis City Public School district. I strongly oppose HB1552.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JESSICA ANN SCHOEMEHL | | PHONE NUM | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jes121jes@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 1/11/20 | DATE: 022 10:14 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a parent of 3 children attending SLPS. Is this bill unfairly divides funds between charter and public schools. The children of Saint Louis public school district face many challenges already we already we do not need our funds diverted to charter schools. I have an autistic son that has shown great improvement in his behaviors over the last school year. I fear that if thus bill passes his and ALL of the children in SLPS will suffer. Many people in our district do not have the opportunity to even go to a charter school because they don't provide transportation also their uniform shirts costs about \$30 a piece. To take money away from the public school district to further fund the charter schools is wrong. Please vote no, this bill is nothing other than a political attack. Please do not put my children's education at stake to further your political agendas.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | TE: 11/2022 |
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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JONATHAN ROWSELL | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | · | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jonathanrowsell@mac.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 1/10/2022 1 | 10:47 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Good morning. I am a parent of a St. Louis Public Schools student, I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer who works in St. Louis City. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district as it allows opportunities for all students to attend regardless of socio economic status and from all walks of life. A robust public school system is essential to the continued health and growth of St. Louis. My family chooses to live in the city, but if the educational needs of my children were impacted, then this would be pause for thought. We need to invest in the next generation.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KATY BECKEMEY | /ER | | PHONE NUMB | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: katybeckemeyer@ | yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D. 1/10/202 | ATE: 22 8:24 PM |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | M IS PUBLIC RECORE | D UNDER CHAI | PTER 610, RSMo. |

As the parent of public school students, I oppose this bill.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | OATE: /11/2022 |
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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KELLY HICKS-HOLLOWAY | | PHONE NUMBER | : |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | · | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: bohostylez@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DAT 1/11/2022 | 8:09 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Charter Schools receive their funding from the portion of State Revenue allocated to the St. Louis Public Schools through the state funding formula. Previously SLPS would receive the money then pay charter schools based on enrollment. The state changed the law so now charter schools can become their own Local Education Agency (LEA) and receive the money from the state directly. As a result, SLPS keeps very little of the state allotment through the funding formula. In exchange, SLPS keeps all of the local effort (primarily property taxes). This was preferable for charter schools for the last 20 years. However, as TIFs have expired and property values in St. Louis have increased, local tax revenue has also increased while the state routinely refuses to increase state education funding (Missouri is proudly either 49th in state funding).Rather than increase charter school funding through state aid, the education reform/privatization movement (Opportunity Trust, Rex Sinquefield etc.) has lobbied hard (Dozens of lobbyists and millions of campaign donations) to market this as a "glitch" that unfairly favors SLPS over charters. This would divert about \$17.5 million from SLPS to charters. What it doesn't account for, are the additional costs that a public school district, serving a large population of marginalized students that need extra support. (SLPS has approximately 20% students in transition/homeless, 14% English Language Learners, 16% Special Education.) While some charters serve a similar student population and provide these services on a smaller scale, some charters do not."



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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY HICKS | FRANKS | | PHONE NUME | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Kimberly.franks@ | ATTENDANCE: SUBMIT DATE: 1/11/2022 9:14 AM | | | |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD LINDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo | | | | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMC

I am a parent/caregiver of a St. Louis charter school student. I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. No matter where my children attend school, I believe that a well-funded, democratically-led school district is vital to my community. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district.



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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: KRISTIN BRYANT | -GILREATH | | PHON | IE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TITLE: | | | | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE | E: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: kkbryant03@yaho | oo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | UBMIT DATE: /10/2022 8: | :13 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | | | |

As a parent of two children attending public schools I oppose this bill



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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LATONIA D. PEARSON | | PHONE NUMBER | : |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: latonia.pearson@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DAT 1/9/2022 (| E: 6:35 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a parent of a St. Louis Public Schools student and graduate of St. Louis Public Schools. I am a law professional, real estate professional, and Notary Public in the City of St. Louis. I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district. I have no desire to send my student to a Charter school and do not want to be forced to due to lack of funding to St. Louis Public Schools.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LAUREN E REA PRESTON | | PHONE NUMBE | R: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Laurenreapreston@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/8/2022 | TE: 7:11 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My daughter attends a SLPS school. She has selective mutism, autism, and dyslexia. The school can't afford for her to meet with a reading specialist one-on-one under her IEP. Her school doesn't have a full-time nurse. There is lead on the fence surrounding the school. The school no longer has an art teacher since last year. All Missouri children deserve a quality education. We need to fund all schools at a higher rate. The answer is not to take away money from one system and give it to another. We need to raise the funding of schools above 49th in the nation. Support more funding for districts and charter schools.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LINDSAY JOVANO | DVICH | | PHONE NUMB | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | • | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lindsay.jovanovicl | h@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/9/202 | ATE: 2 11:24 AM |
| THE INCORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | MIC DUDI IC DECOD | D LINDED CHAI | DTED 640 DCMa |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. I am a resident and tax payer of St. Louis City. I have chosen ST. Louis Public Schools for both my children (ages 8 and 5) because I believe all children deserve access to free, public education. Charter schools divert attention and funds away from our most vulnerable students and do not serve the

greater needs of the community as a whole. Please do not defund our schools!



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LISA A GOODEN | | | PHONE NUMBER | R: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mamagooden@gr | mail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DAT 1/10/2022 | E: 2 10:46 AM |
| | | M IS PUBLIC RECORD | | , |
| Traditional district | ts are required to provi | 52. I am a parent of 3 publed transportation and to e of them have a small num | nroll ALL STUDEN | TS. Charter |

I writing to urge you to Vote No on HB 1552. I am a parent of 3 public school students in Kansas City. Traditional districts are required to provide transportation and to enroll ALL STUDENTS. Charter schools do not enroll all students, many of them have a small number of spaces available. Some charter schools like Académie Lafayette and are enrolling very disproportionate numbers of students from middle class and wealthy families compared to traditional schools. This same charter school routinely receives hundreds of thousands of dollars in philanthropy every year that traditional district does not. Some charter schools provide NO TRANSPORTATION like Brookside Charter Schools and Citizens of the World. Some charter schools have very low numbers of students needing special education services or English language learning. Traditional districts serve ALL STUDENTS and therefore have higher funding needs.Additionally, charter schools do not operate with the same level of accountability and transparency as traditional schools. If equal funding is requested, these charter schools must first show that they are meeting the same requirements as traditional school districts:-

Locally elected boards- All financials, board minutes, board meetings open and available to the public- Enrolls all students- Serves the same demographics as traditional schools – race, ethnicity, special education, language learning needs- Accreditation status publicly available - Transportation provided to all schoolsThank you for your consideration.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 | |
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| WITNESS NAME: MARGARET FARF | RELL KHAZAELI | | PHONE NUME | BER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | | • | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: mollie.farrell@gm | ail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/11/20 | DATE: 122 9:32 AM | |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | M IS DUBLIC PECOP | D LINDED CHY | DTED 610 PSMo | |

I am a parent of a St. Louis charter school student. I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. No matter where my children attend school, I believe that a well-funded, democratically-led school district is vital to my community. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: MARGARET PHIL | LIPS | | PHONE NUM | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | · | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: mphillips@igc.org |) | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 1/11/2 | DATE: 022 12:19 AM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | | |

HB 1552 claims to address "inequalities" in school funding, but really it is an attempt to funnel property tax money away from the St. Louis Public Schools to charter schools. Charter schools are not accountable to the school board yet they take money away from the public schools. The school system

is in dire need of funds as it is; do not take money away from it.Sincerely,Margaret PhillipsCity of St. Louis



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MARIA SAPP | | PHONE NUMB | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: masha.sapp@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D. 1/8/2022 | ATE: 2 4:33 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am an SLPS parent. Our family bought a house in St. Louis (City) when my daughter was 8 months old in order to take advantage of the city's gifted magnet schools. She has attended SLPS since prekindergarten, and was recently accepted to Metro High School, the top-ranked public high school in Missouri. House Bill 1552 would divert millions in funding from public schools to invest in charters, which have none of the same commitment to students and communities. Public schools are the foundation of our democracy, and if they're not living up to everyone's expectations, maybe it's because their resources are being diluted by private interests that mostly care about undermining teachers' unions at the expense of children and families who need strong, consistent, nurturing schools (both neighborhood and magnet) with a real sense of responsibility to the communities they serve. While some charter schools do a good job for some students, they're making it impossible for historic public educational institutions to reach their potential. Taxpayer money should support the community as a whole--not fly-by-night corporate-sponsored entities that are here one year and gone tomorrow. We need to invest in lasting institutions with long-term commitment to the public welfare. For this reason, I oppose HB 1552 and urge you to vote against it.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW R. DAVIS | | PHONE NUMB 314-412-7 (| |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF | ST. LOUIS | TITLE: SECRETA | RY |
| ADDRESS: 5122 WASHINGTON PLACE | | | |
| CITY: ST LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63108 |
| EMAIL: matt.davis@slps.org | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT D 1/10/20 | ATE: 22 2:20 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM | I IS PUBLIC RECORI | D UNDER CHA | PTER 610. RSMo. |



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| | | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MOLLY KOEBBE | | | PHONE NUME | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | DN NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: molly@koebbe.org | g | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 0 1/10/20 | DATE: 122 12:58 PM |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | M IS PUBLIC RECORD | LINDER CHA | PTER 610 RSMo |

I am a parent/caregiver of a St. Louis Public Schools student(s), I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| | WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: MONIQUE MULLEN | | PHONE NUMBE | R: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: moniquemullen0@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/11/202 | TE: 2 7:03 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Do not divert funding from SLPS to transfer to charter schools. Charters are NOT required to provide the same services as public schools and there is no "Glitch" in the funding formula. SLPS must provide Special Education services and therapies, transportation, and services to English Language Learners and students who lack a stable housing situation. Charters are not required to provide these services. SLPS is the only place many students can go when they are turned away when charters say "sorry, we just can't meet your needs." A \$17.5 million loss would be absolutely devastating to our kids.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: NANCY TRACY | | | PHONE NUME | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | • | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: netnan57@att.net | | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 0 1/9/202 | DATE: 2 2 9:24 AM |
| THE INFORMA | TION ON THIS FOR | M IS PUBLIC RECOR | D LINDER CHA | PTER 610 RSMo |

Stop stealing money from the public school system! You should be funding them much more than you are now! This is extremely divisive and uncalled for! No money for your inadequate private schools!



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DA ⁻ | TE: 1/2022 |
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| | | WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NICHOLAS CLEM | ENT, MA GIFTED EDUC | ATION | Ph | HONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TI | TLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | ST | TATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: nfc11@sbcglobal. | net | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/10/2022 8 | :19 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of the city of St Louis, and a 20-year employee of the St Louis Public Schools, now retired. I was Special Area Teacher of the year in 2017. I am opposed to HB 1552. On the face of it is unjust. It is a gross injustice to rob SLPS of \$17 million and give it to charter schools. Staff cuts would result, more school closures, and cuts to services to those who most need them. Hb1552 takes money from SLPS which takes services away from poor children. HB 1552 only helps charters and hurts SLPS. HB 1552 makes funding less equal. It increases the burden on SLPS. Charters receive public money but are essentially private schools. 40% of charter schools opened in St Louis have closed due to poor performance or outright fraud. The last closure in 2020: the director was sentenced to 1+ years in jail for fraud. Logical, because charters lack transparency and accountability. SLPS has a publicly elected school board. (Citywide elections are paid for by SLPS, not charters.) None of the 32 charter schools' boards are publicly elected. They're private boards. When corruption and incompetence close a charter, SLPS must accept the cost of taking their students, maintaining records, dealing with the chaos. Charters don't. How many charters have homeless students? SLPS has 3000 +. Certification is not required of all charter teachers. Charters reduce school choice by diluting the funding pool. There is no more choice to go to Dunbar school. It's closed. The charter school movement is aimed at eliminating public schools. As charters have proliferated, and poor families have suffered, crime has exploded. Are you sure you want to damage the one democratic institution which steadfastly carries out the mission of education for all? Costs required by law of St Iouis Public Schools, not paid by charter schools1. The Desegregation Agreement requires SLPS to pay to the Special School District services for city students attending county districts. The average per year over the past three years is 5 million dollars.2. Court ordered Magnet School transportation - 21 million dollars. 3. Court ordered Magnet School staffing -3 million dollars. 4. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires service to all students. While Charter schools are also required to provide the same services, they never or rarely provide services to all students. Students in these categories include: moderate, self-contained; public separate; private placement settings. Total after federal and state reimbursement- 36 million dollars. Other services required by SLPS whose cost has yet to be calculatedA. Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) evaluations are required at least 90 days or more prior to the child's third birthday and the eligibility determination is to be completed by or before the child's third birthday. SLPS is required to provide services to students that reside in the city who attend schools, head starts, and other agencies.B. Alternative Education to students in the Saint Louis Justice Center and Griscom, which are juvenile correctional facilitiesC. SLPS is required to manage student records and support students whose charter schools have closed. D. Election costs for citywide School Board elections. E. Services to homeless students.F. Services for early childhood.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| COMMITTEE: Budget | | | • |
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| WITNESS NAME: NIESHA CLARK | | PHONE NUM | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | · | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: nclark3781@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 1/9/20 | DATE: 22 8:18 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of St. Louis City and a St. Louis Public Schools parent/caregiver. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools is (say what you love about SLPS)We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote no on HB 1552.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: OTTO FAJEN | | | PHONE NUI 573-634- | |
| REPRESENTING: MISSOURI NEA | | | TITLE: LEGISLA | ATIVE DIRECTOR |
| ADDRESS: 1810 EAST ELM S | TREET | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | • | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65101 |
| EMAIL: otto.fajen@mnea. | org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 1/10/2 | DATE: 2022 9:40 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The Association appreciates the opportunity to present written testimony regarding HB 1552. The Association opposes the bill as filed.HB 1552 would revise the law specifying payments to charter schools and shift more local school funds to charter schools. The Association urges the legislature to provide an allowance in the calculation of charter school funding for maintaining district capacity to serve all students. Even charter school students rely on the district to remain capable to serve all students, in the case that one or more charter or district schools close and to maintain the other functions needed at the district level.The Association also believes that all charter schools should be subject to the same standards of accountability, transparency and respect for the rights of students, parents and staff as are applicable to traditional public schools.On behalf of the Association, I thank you for the opportunity to offer our testimony on this bill.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: PAUL HUSCH | | | PHONE NUME | BER: |
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| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: Phhusch@gmail.c | com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 0 1/9/202 | DATE: 2 10:15 AM |
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Taking millions of dollars from public education for charter schools with minimal oversight would be a gross misuse of taxpayer money.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 | |
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| WITNESS NAME: PAULA S COCHRA | AN | | PHONE NUMB | ER: | |
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| ADDRESS: | | | <u>, </u> | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: paulacochran@zo | homail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/8/202 | ATE: 2 12:04 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The so-called "Fix the Glitch" is a *myth* perpetuated by right wing privatizers. It is simply cash grab from St Louis Public Schools. If passed, the legislation would defund SLPS to the tune of \$17mil/yr and divert that money to charter schools without requirements to offer comparable services to students (such as special education, transportation). Funding certain, privately-operated schools more for providing fewer services and not requiring equitable service provision is not fair. I believe in public schools and am certain that the success of the United State in the world is due to the availability of free public education for ALL who live here. I do not support any bill that defunds public schools (that is, takes public school funds and funnels them to private, charter, or anything BUT traditional public schools). Missouri schools have a long history of precarious, inadequate funding. This is short-sighted and self-defeating on the part of legislators and voters who tolerate it. FIX this, don't further damage public education.HB1552 is not a school choice bill, it is an anti-public schools bill. Please do NOT sell our kids out to private interests.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DAT 1/1 | TE: 1/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: REBECCA A REIN | HART | | PHO | ONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | N NAME: | | TITI | LE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STA | ATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: reinhartba@gmail. | com | ATTENDANCE: Written | | SUBMIT DATE: 1/10/2022 7 | :38 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

January 10. 2022My name is Becky Reinhart. I'm a Missouri resident, and I'm writing today to urge you to vote no on HB 1552. My 16-month old, Frankie, is not yet in school. When he's old enough, however, he will be attending St. Louis Public Schools, just like I did as a kid. My family believes that public education is a public good and that all children should be provided the support and the services they need to thrive equitably. Undermining public school funding moves us further away from the goal of the equitable provision of public education so that all of our children can thrive. While HB 1552 purports to provide equal funding to charter and public schools, it unfairly advantages charter schools by providing dollars for services they do not or are not required to provide, namely transportation, special education services, ESOL services and more. The financial impact of this could be staggering, with experts estimating a \$17 million per year loss in funding for my local district, Saint Louis Public Schools, and impacting the education of my children and their peers. This bill is an attack on Saint Louis Public Schools. Funding certain, privately-operated schools more for providing less services and not requiring equitable service provision is not fair. Charter schools are not accountable to voters through elected school boards and they are not required to serve all children. HB 1552 would harm students in public schools and advantage already well-funded charter schools. That is not something our legislators in Jefferson City should support. I agree that the public education of children across Missouri needs more support and I would wholeheartedly support the legislature increasing that funding across the state. I do not agree with making this a zero sum game that hurts SLPS students, teachers and staff.I stand with Saint Louis Public Schools, the Missouri National Educators' Association, the Missouri School Board Association, and the American Federation of Teachers in opposing HB1552 and I am asking you to do so as well. Thank you for time and consideration, Becky Reinhart3400 Humphrey St.St. Louis, MO 63118



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: rebeccadurst@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/9/202 | ATE: 2 9:29 PM |
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THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. My husband and I looked at several private and charter school before choosing St. Louis Public Schools. Ultimately, only SPLS could provide us with the experience we wanted for our children. We are residents of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school

district. SLPS provides so much more than education to a large and economically diverse population. Educating our youth pays off exponentially!



SAINT LOUIS

richard@mojwj.org

EMAIL:

MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: DATE: HB 1552 1/11/2022 COMMITTEE: **Budget ✓** IN OPPOSITION TO \square IN SUPPORT OF FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES TESTIFYING: **WITNESS NAME** BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: WITNESS NAME: PHONE NUMBER: **RICHARD VON GLAHN** 314-540-2049 BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TITLE: **MISSOURI JOBS WITH JUSTICE** POLICY DIRECTOR **ADDRESS** 2725 CLIFTON STATE:

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

ATTENDANCE:

Written

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SUBMIT DATE: 1/10/2022 5:28 PM

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Missouri Jobs with Justice is a statewide coalition of faith, labor, community and students groups as well as activists dedicated to an economy and democracy that work for all. We believe strongly in the role that democracy plays in our communities and our workplaces and it is our faith in democracy that leads us to oppose HB 1552. As Missourians, we know our communities and our neighbors. And no matter what we look like or what's in our wallets, we want our kids to get the best education to prepare for the future. Unfortunately, some special interests view public education differently, believing that the market should determine the education our children receive. Despite our ranking as the 49 in the nation in state support for public schools, they seek to further siphon off that limited support and provide it to unaccountable charter schools. We are not uniformly opposed to charter schools. But we do believe public money must have public accountability. By refusing to fall under the jurisdiction of locally elected school boards, we believe charter schools forfeit the right to public funding. Charter schools do not have to provide the same services that communities demand of public schools, nor do they respect the rights of teachers to have a voice at work, often running expensive anti-union campaigns when teachers seek union representation. All schools that seek public funding must have the same standards of accountability, transparency, and respect for the rights of students, staff, and parents. Instead of bickering over an already insufficient level of state support for students, let's fully fund our classrooms and protect a local school system that works for our children and teachers, not special interests seeking dictatorial control over education. We oppose HB 1552 or any legislation that seeks to move public money through any entity besides the locally elected school board that is there to represent the communities priorities in education.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| REGISTERED LO | OBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: RON BERRY | | | PHONE NUMB 660-537-22 | |
| REPRESENTING: AMERICAN FEDER | RATION OF TEACHERS | S - MISSOURI | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: PO BOX 722 | | | · | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65102 |
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| WITNESS NAME: SARAH H STOUT | | | PHONE NUME | BER: | |
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THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

January 10, 2021My name is Sarah Stout. I am a Missouri resident, and I am writing to you today to urge you to vote NO on HB 1552. My two children attend City Garden Montessori Charter School. My family believes in public education and that public schools need the support to have equitable services. I do NOT support giving more public school funding to charter schools. The school my children attend does not have the same expenses that the district schools have. They do not provide bus service. They do not have extra curricular activities. They do not provide ESOL. They do not have to follow the same regulations. Charter schools are not accountable to voters through elected school boards and they are not required to serve all children. And they are top-heavy with administration and their high salaries. Missouri schools definitely need more financial support! Missouri is currently 49th out of 50 in state-provided education funding. I would wholeheartedly support the legislature increasing that funding across the state, for public schools and charter schools. But we do not need to be stealing from one to pay the other, particularly charter schools who are already better funded by donors. I stand with Saint Louis Public Schools, the Missouri National Educators' Association, the Missouri School Board Association, and the American Federation of Teachers in opposing HB1552 and I am asking you to do so as well. Thank you for hard work and consideration, Sarah Stout



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| WITNESS NAME: SARAH HOBSON | | PHONE NUMBER | R: |
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| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: sarah.hobson@communityalliesconsult ing.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/11/202 | TE: 2 10:24 AM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Please do not take more funding from public schools and give it to charter schools. Our public schools need their funding to provide a full range of services that charter schools are not always held to - to families who are already facing city budget challenges. Pitting schools against one another and taking from public schools to channel funding to charter schools is not healthy or productive for youth and their families who need the specific kinds of services public schools provide. These services include special education, transportation, trauma-informed teaching and more.



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| WITNESS NAME: SARAH SULLIVAN | | PHONE NUMBER | : |
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| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: frostss@hotmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DAT 1/10/2022 | E: 6:01 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a proud parent of a St. Louis Public Schools student. My family has had a very positive experience at both SLPS schools our child has been enrolled in so far, for elemenary and middle school. We are very excited about heading to another SLPS school for high school in the fall: Metro, the most highly ranked public high school in the state, according to US News. I am a resident of St. Louis City and a taxpayer. I oppose HB1552. Please do not defund our school district.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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| WITNESS NAME: SCOTT KIMBLE | | | | NUMBER: 38-4825 | |
| REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ASSOCIA | TION OF SCHOOL A | DMINISTRATORS | TITLE: | | |
| ADDRESS: 3550 AMAZONAS DR | ₹. | | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | | STATE: MO | | ZIP: 65109 |
| EMAIL: scott.kimble@mcsa. | org | ATTENDANCE: Written | | MIT DATE: 0/2022 4:4 | 44 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on House Bill 1552. The Missouri Association of School Administrators would like to go on record in opposition to HB 1552 for the following reasons: First, there are approximately 37 local revenue sources that school districts can receive depending on where the school district is located and the taxes that have been levied in those particular areas. This bill specifically enumerates six of those local sources (i.e., Property Taxes and Delinquent Taxes, Merchants' & Manufacturers' Taxes, Financial Institutions' Taxes, City Sales Taxes, Payments In Lieu of Taxes, and State Assessed Railroad and Utilities) but also includes vague language that might encompass more. Specifically, on line 148 of page 5 of the bill, it states that charter schools would have access to "any future aid." We are uncertain as to what any future aid entails. We believe that the Legislature should be specific and clear when enumerating funds so as to avoid unnecessary confusion and potential litigation. Second, we believe there is an issue with including the city sales tax that the St. Louis City Public School District receives. That tax was voted on by the people of St. Louis to go specifically to the St. Louis Public School District. The voters of St. Louis did not anticipate when they voted on that tax that said funds would be redirected to unelected charter school boards. Third, providing additional money, especially local money, to schools that do not have locally elected individuals overseeing millions of taxpayer funds, is concerning. Individuals that serve on charter school boards are not required to live within the state of Missouri, let alone the geographic area in which the charter school sits, and we think that is wrong. And, providing charter schools greater funding when they do not enroll the same number and type of students that the traditional public schools enroll creates an unfair financial advantage, specifically when reviewing special education incidence rates and English language learner incidence rates. For example, according to 2019-20 data from the Kansas City Public School District (KCPS): o 15 of the 20 charter schools in Kansas City failed to enroll as many students with special needs, on a basis, as the Kansas City Public School District. o Further, 15 of the 20 charter schools in Kansas City failed to enroll as many English Language Learners, on a percentage basis, as the Kansas City School District. Thus, KCPS is left to educate a greater number of students that are, traditionally, more expensive to educate. Because KCPS pulls a greater percentage of these students, their resources are going disproportionately towards educating these students over general education students than local charter schools. That isn't fair, and it isn't right. Also, we think this further evidences that when you have dual educational systems operating in the state, like we do with charter schools and traditional public schools, you cannot fund them the way that they need to be funded because one will always be taking from the other. Lastly, we also think it is important to point out that our current charter school system allows for mass inefficiencies. As an example of these inefficiencies, during the 2017-18 school year, there were 45 elementary school options, 23 middle school options,

and 15 high school options in the Kansas City Public School District's boundaries when both traditional public school options and charter school options were combined, for a total of 83 school buildings. For comparison, in a district of like student size, the Springfield Public School District operated only five high schools, 11 middle schools, and 37 elementary schools, for a total of 53 buildings, a difference of 30 buildings between the two districts. As a result of increasing the number of buildings needed to house a like student population, non-instructional-related costs (e.g., heating, cooling, etc.) increase which, in turn, results in fewer dollars being spent on instruction. In spending less on classroom instruction and other education-related activities, students are deprived of a robust educational experience. To better highlight these inefficiencies, with regard to the high schools in Kansas City, six of the 15 high schools in the 2017-18 school year were traditional public high schools while the remaining nine were charter high schools. The average enrollment in the traditional public high schools was 657 students per building while the average student enrollment in charter high schools was 237 per building. For comparison's sake, the Springfield Public School District's average high school enrollment was 1,455 per building. For the reasons listed above, we ask that you please vote "No" on HB 1552. Thank you for your time and consideration.



shelley.watkins@gmail.com

MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: DATE: HB 1552 1/11/2022 COMMITTEE: **Budget ✓** IN OPPOSITION TO \square IN SUPPORT OF FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES **TESTIFYING: WITNESS NAME** INDIVIDUAL: WITNESS NAME: PHONE NUMBER: SHELLEY WATKINS-PARKER **BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:** TITLE: ADDRESS: CITY: STATE: 7IP· SUBMIT DATE EMAIL ATTENDANCE:

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Written

1/10/2022 5:01 PM

Hello,I am a resident of St. Louis City and a St. Louis Public Schools parent to a twelve-year-old attending McKinley Middle School. I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless, special needs, immigrant and refugee children than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at a level that St. Louis Public Schools does. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. My experience with St. Louis Public Schools has been wonderful for my son. He has thrived in a program no other district, charter, or private school in the St. Louis area offers. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an accountable elected school board. Vote no on HB 1552.



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| WITNESS NAME: SHERYL FOSTER | | PHONE NUMBE | R: |
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| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: emailfromsheryl@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/10/202 | TE: 2 10:36 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a parent of a high school senior in one of Missouri's public school systems and I also live in a St. Louis suburb. Because the St. Louis Public School System is a significant district, it is important for me to have SLPS be viable for our region. What I understand about charter schools is that they do not provide as many of the services that the public schools do, such as transportation, English as a second language services or special education. If this bill passes, then charter schools would be receiving funds for services that it doesn't provide. I read an estimate that the money siphoned away from SLPS would be approximately \$17 million annually, which is a substantial amount. The St. Louis school system needs those funds to maintain their buildings, support teachers and staff, provide educational materials and services for our community's students. HB 1552 would certainly further constrain a district that also faces numerous challenges. Parents should be able to choose to send their children to charter schools, but charter schools should not get additional funding by hamstringing other schools to get it. Missouri is currently 49th out of 50 in state education funding. Legislators should work to provide more funds to all schools so Missouri can stop scraping the bottom and have a strong education system. Employers seek a business climate with strong school systems and employees with education and skills. Missouri needs to provide a 21st century workforce for these employers instead of creating a brain drain to other states. On another note, one of the more curious aspects of this bill is that it was written by a legislator that doesn't have any charter schools in his district, unless I am mistaken. It is unclear what constituents he is representing.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN SWOPE | | PHONE NUMBER | t: |
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| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: slswope@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DAT 1/11/2022 | E: 2 1:37 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

All taxpayers are stakeholders in public education. Charter schools are not subject to public oversight. Taking money away from public schools weakens the public school. Public schools are required to take all students, regardless of any special needs or services the student has. Charter schools are not. I have read from those in favor that "the money should follow the child". For taxpaying stakeholders without children in public schools why can't we direct where we want the tax dollars we pay to go to the district we want to support? Fundamentally, allowing tax money for public schools where citizens have oversight, to charter schools where we will not have a voice is tantamount to taxation without representation.



| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| WITNESS NAME: SUSAN TOUCHON | ı | | PHONE NUME | BER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIO | ON NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: stouchon@icloud | .com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT 0 1/10/20 | DATE: 122 6:41 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | | | |

I oppose HB1552. Taking away money from St. Louis public school to fund private schools defeats the goal. We need to fully find education, it is the key to our long term success. This would devastate the school district and is not the solution



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| WITNESS NAME: TAYLOR MARCH | | PHONE NUMB | ER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: taylor.ross.march@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT D 1/11/20 | ATE: 22 1:03 PM |
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THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Please VOTE NO ON HB1552,As a parent of a child in St. Louis, I am strongly opposed to any legislation that will take away funds from SLPS. In a school district that predominately serves black students, we should see this bill for what it is, a racist attack on the funding for education of children in St. Louis. As someone who has seen the inner workings of both our public charters and public schools, I am strongly opposed to any legislation that makes it easier for charters to continue to degrade the quality and caliber of our public institutions. Please vote note on this bill.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | | DA' | TE: 11/2022 |
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| ADDRESS: | | | | | |
| CITY: | | | ST | ATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: tkmithen@gmail.c | om | ATTENDANCE: Written | · | SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2022 4: | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Teresa Danieley. I am a Missouri resident, and I am writing to you today to urge you to yote no on HB 1552. My 3 children, ages 11, 9 and 5, all attend our neighborhood elementary school in the City of St. Louis. My family believes that public education is a public good and that all children should be provided the support and the services they need to thrive equitably. Undermining public school funding moves us further away from the goal of the equitable provision of public education so that all of our children can thrive. While HB 1552 purports to provide equal funding to charter and public schools, it unfairly advantages charter schools by providing dollars for services they do not or are not required to provide, namely transportation, special education services, ESOL services and more. The financial impact of this could be staggering, with experts estimating a \$17 million per year loss in funding for my local district, Saint Louis Public Schools, and impacting the education of my children and their peers. This bill is an attack on Saint Louis Public Schools. Funding certain, privately-operated schools more for providing less services and not requiring equitable service provision is not fair. Charter schools are not accountable to voters through elected school boards and they are not required to serve all children. HB 1552 would harm students in public schools and advantage already wellfunded charter schools. That is not something our legislators in Jefferson City should support. I agree that the public education of children across Missouri needs more financial support! Missouri is currently 49th out of 50 in state provided education funding. I would wholeheartedly support the legislature increasing that funding across the state, for public schools and charter schools. I do not agree with making this a zero sum game that hurts SLPS students, teachers and staff.I stand with Saint Louis Public Schools, the Missouri National Educators' Association, the Missouri School Board Association, and the American Federation of Teachers in opposing HB1552 and I am asking you to do so as well. Thank you for time and consideration.



WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| BILL NUMBER: HB 1552 | | | DATE: 1/11/2022 |
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| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: TERESA DANIELEY | | PHONE NUMBE 314-503-741 | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HORACE MANN ELEMENTARY PTO EXECUTE NEIGHBORHOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | • | TITLE: SECRETAR | Υ |
| ADDRESS: 3887 WYOMING STREET | | | |
| CITY: SAINT LOUIS | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 63116 |
| EMAIL: tkmithen@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DA 1/10/202 | TE: 2 12:26 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Dear Members of the House Budget Committee. My name is Teresa Danieley, I am writing to you today, on behalf of myself and the other 3 parent members of the Executive Board of the Parent Teacher Organization at Horace Mann Elementary School in the City of St. Louis (Mann PTO) to urge you to vote no on HB 1552. We believe that public education is a public good and that all children should be provided the support and the services they need to thrive equitably. We are opposed to HB 1552 because it would undermine public school funding and move us further away from the goal of the equitable provision of public education so that all of our children can thrive. Between the 4 of us, we have 7 children currently attending Mann. We send our children to Mann and we choose to serve as officers for the Mann PTO because we love our school community, appreciate its richness and want to support our students, teachers and staff in any way that we can. At Mann, there are ESOL classes for the third of our student body who are learning English as a second or third language; we have crosscategory classrooms for students with autism and many other students who have IEP and 504 plans; we have modest facilities for occupational, physical and speech therapy; and we have gifted services for children who quality. About 20% of students in SLPS overall are unhoused or lack stable housing. which means that those students and their families need extra support and services in order to survive, let alone thrive. SLPS is legally required to provide services to ALL children, including transportation. SLPS already does not have adequate funding or staffing to provide these required services to ALL children. The COVID pandemic has exacerbated the stress on SLPS teachers, staff and students and made meeting the needs of ALL of our children even more difficult. While HB 1552 purports to provide equal funding to charter and public schools, it unfairly advantages charter schools by providing dollars for services they do not or are not required to provide, namely transportation, special education services, ESOL services and more. The financial impact of this could be staggering. with experts estimating a \$17 million per year loss in funding for my local district, Saint Louis Public Schools, and impacting the education of my children and their peers. This bill is an attack on Saint Louis Public Schools. Funding certain, privately-operated schools more for providing less services and not requiring equitable service provision is not fair. Charter schools are not accountable to voters through elected school boards and they are not required to serve all children. HB 1552 would harm students in public schools and advantage already well-funded charter schools. That is not something our legislators in Jefferson City should support. As parents, we believe that the education of children across Missouri needs much more financial support from the Legislature. Missouri is currently 49th out of 50 in state-provided education funding. The Mann PTO Executive Board would wholeheartedly support the legislature increasing funding across the state, for public schools and charter schools. We do not agree with HB 1552, which makes education funding a zero sum game that hurts SLPS students.

teachers and staff. We stand with Saint Louis Public Schools, the Missouri National Educators' Association, the Missouri School Board Association, and the American Federation of Teachers in opposing HB1552. Thank you for your time and consideration. Teresa Danieley, Secretary, on behalf of Devin Tressler, PresidentWhitney Mitchell, Vice-PresidentShannon Reilly, TreasurerParents & PTO Executive Board members, Horace Mann Elementary, in the St. Louis Public School District



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| WITNESS NAME: TIFFANY BOYD | | | PHONE NUME | BER: | |
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| ADDRESS: | | | · | | |
| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: | |
| EMAIL: tiffanysmallboyd@ | gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT I 1/9/202 | DATE: 22 11:28 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of Saint Louis City and a parent in the Saint Louis City public school system I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will hurt the most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. St. Louis Public Schools provide services to more homeless (20%), special education needs (16%), immigrant and refugee children (14% English as a second language) than any other school district in the state. Charter schools pick and choose their kids: SLPS does not. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, our kids will needlessly fall through the cracks with no guarantee that charter school operators won't just use the money for more wasteful administrator salaries. This bill targets the choice of the majority of families in St. Louis who send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. Our family supports SLPS: early childhood education starting at preschool age 3, educators who challenge and care about our child's learning and development, and the community feel in our neighborhood school. We should be building up St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing them down. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars within our school district, run by our accountable elected school board. Vote NO on HB 1552. Thank you for your time.



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| CITY: | | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: tfspies627@gmail | .com | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMI 1/10/ | T DATE: 2022 3:40 PM |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident of St. Louis City and a parent of 2 children who attend St. Louis Public Schools, I am writing to ask you to oppose HB1552. This bill will take away \$17.5 million from St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS) and hurt our most vulnerable children in the City of St. Louis. SLPS provides services to more children who have special needs or are homeless or immigrants and refugees than any other school district in the state. No charter school comes close to serving these kids at the same level as SLPS. and charters are not required by law to provide costly services like transportation and special education testing, therapies, and services to English Language Learners and children who lack a stable housing situation. SLPS has approximately 20% of students in transition/homeless, 14% English Language Learners, and 16% with Special Education needs, including my own daughter who has both an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and a 504 plan for kids with disabilities. If this money is taken away from SLPS and diverted to Charter schools, kids will needlessly fall through the cracks and SLPS will continue to struggle while charter school operators continue to enjoy lack of accountability for how they spend these taxpayers' dollars, unlike public schools. The majority of families in St. Louis choose to send their kids to St. Louis Public Schools. Our family chose SLPS because we believe that public education is a public good, and the only way to safeguard that good is to be active participants in our schools and our district. Our children are receiving an excellent education and we have found an exceptional community of parents and teachers and staff who love and support our children, which brings me to my final point: community. Lack of funding and declining population has already forced 7 schools to close. In many rural communities, the school is the hub of the community where many events and gatherings take place. The same is true of city neighboorhoods - closing schools is devastating to our communities. Many of you don't live in St. Louis or anywhere near it. Do you want the legislature making decisions about the distribution of YOUR property tax dollars in YOUR community? We should be building up St. Louis and St. Louis Public Schools, not tearing it down. I beg you to at least come and visit our schools before you take our funding away. Please honor my choice as a parent and taxpayer to keep our local tax dollars with our school district, run by an elected school board that is accountable to the Public. Please vote no on HB 1552.