

HB 2278 -- GRANTS FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Diehl

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Workforce and Infrastructure Development by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Regulatory Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

Beginning January 1, 2025, this bill increases the maximum gross income for eligibility for the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant from \$80,000 to \$100,000 for taxpayers who are married filing jointly and from \$40,000 to \$50,000 for all other taxpayers, adjusted annually based on inflation.

This bill is similar to SB 1056 (2024).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this change is one of the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development's priorities. Demand for the Program has more than doubled since its inception, and in the case of Ozarks Technical College, about 200 people were interested but couldn't qualify because of the income level.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Diehl; Taylee Soukup, Missouri Department of Higher Education; Council on Public Higher Education; Missouri Community College Association; Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industry; and the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.