

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By _____

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for House Bill Nos. 408, 306 & 854, Page 1, Section A, Line
2 2, by inserting after all of the said section and line the following:

3
4 "160.1052. 1. Sections 160.1052 to 160.1055 shall be known and may be cited as the
5 "Missouri Educators and Parental Empowerment and Rights Act".

6 2. As used in sections 160.1052 to 160.1055, the following terms mean:

7 (1) "Local educational agency" or "LEA", each:

8 (a) School district as defined in section 160.011;

9 (b) Charter school as described in section 160.400; and

10 (c) Virtual school as described in section 161.670;

11 (2) "Parent", a child's parent, legal guardian, or other person having charge, control, or
12 custody of the child.

13 3. The general assembly hereby recognizes that:

14 (1) The collaboration of both parents and teachers has a profound effect on the educational
15 success of Missouri's children;

16 (2) Education is essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people;

17 (3) Considering that parents are the first teacher of their child and are uniquely qualified to
18 understand and advocate for their child, the state recognizes their importance in the education of
19 their children; and

20 (4) Considering the years of education and continuous updating of knowledge that teachers
21 undertake and achieve, it is important that teachers be given the respect such teachers have earned
22 and deserve.

23 160.1053. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Parents' Bill of Rights".

24 2. To foster and maintain collaboration between parents and teachers, parents shall have the
25 following rights under this section:

26 (1) The right to receive information, upon request, regarding what their minor child is being
27 taught in school including, but not limited to, curricula adopted under section 160.514;

28 (2) The right to review such curricula, upon request, free from any requirement to agree to a
29 nondisclosure agreement or other similar form, as allowed by law;

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1 (3) The right to receive information, upon request, about who is teaching their minor child
2 including, but not limited to, guest lecturers and outside presenters;

3 (4) The right to receive information, upon request, about individuals and organizations
4 receiving LEA contracts and funding in the LEA in which their minor child is enrolled, except that
5 no personally identifiable information about any student shall be released;

6 (5) The right to visit the school their minor child attends during school hours in accordance
7 with reasonable regulations created under section 160.1055;

8 (6) The right to view and, upon request, receive a copy of all school records, medical or
9 otherwise, concerning their minor child, in accordance with state and federal law;

10 (7) The right to receive information, upon request, about the collection of their minor child's
11 data and the transmission of such data to entities outside the LEA;

12 (8) The right to have an LEA governing board that is open, transparent, and accountable to
13 the patrons of the LEA under state and federal laws;

14 (9) The right to be informed regarding situations affecting their minor child's safety in
15 school, in accordance with section 160.1055;

16 (10) The right to provide authorization for their minor child to participate in field trips; and

17 (11) The right to be free from their minor child being encouraged or experiencing any
18 attempt at coercion to withhold information from such minor child's parents by an LEA employee,
19 except that any such employee required to report suspected abuse or neglect under sections 210.109
20 to 210.183 may encourage a minor child to withhold information where disclosure could reasonably
21 result in abuse or neglect.

22 160.1054. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Educators' Bill of
23 Rights".

24 2. To foster and maintain collaboration between teachers and parents, each teacher has the
25 following rights under this section:

26 (1) The right to be free from physical abuse from a student. Such abuse is grounds for the
27 suspension or expulsion of the student as provided in chapter 167;

28 (2) The right to be free from physical abuse from a parent and to be protected from oral,
29 written, or electronically generated threats of harm. Such abuse is grounds for the prohibition of the
30 physical presence of the perpetrator of such abuse on the LEA's property and at the LEA's events
31 and may result in other legal actions taken by such teacher;

32 (3) The right to be evaluated for competency by an administrator under board policy and,
33 upon request, to be assigned a peer mentor to observe and coach the teacher;

34 (4) The right to exercise the freedom of speech, religion, and the expression of such
35 teacher's opinions as is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States;

36 (5) The right to be treated with civility and respect as a professional;

37 (6) The right to be given regularly scheduled preparation time during contract hours;

38 (7) The right to teach protected by official immunity, as provided by state law, and to be
39 covered by LEA insurance for work-related duties;

1 (8) The right to have the opportunity to implement a discipline plan in the classroom as
2 allowed in section 160.1055 and to have the opportunity to provide the administration with such
3 teacher's professional opinion regarding the discipline of a student;

4 (9) The right to be considered a professional, with all the appropriate rights, responsibilities,
5 and privileges afforded to other recognized professions, in accordance with section 168.011;

6 (10) The right to teach in a safe, secure, and orderly environment that is conducive to
7 learning and to report any concerns regarding the safety and security of the teaching environment
8 and receive a response from the LEA;

9 (11) The right to intervene for the protection of pupils in incidents of school violence and be
10 entitled to all defenses to criminal charges available to the intervenor under chapter 563; and

11 (12) If such teacher is a beginning teacher, the right to receive leadership and support in
12 accordance with beginning teacher assistance programs as provided in state law.

13 160.1055. 1. Each local educational agency shall develop policies and procedures for such
14 LEA to follow to accommodate and assist parents and teachers in the exercise of the rights
15 described in sections 160.1052 to 160.1055.

16 2. Each LEA's governing board shall affirm the board's commitment to ensuring sufficient
17 and effective accountability and transparency to parents in the LEA's jurisdiction by adopting
18 policies that:

19 (1) Recognize and affirm the protected right of parents to guide the education of their minor
20 child;

21 (2) Encourage communication between parents and the LEA relating to parental rights and
22 parental concerns about their minor child's education and educational experience through the LEA's
23 community engagement initiatives required under 162.058; and

24 (3) Collaborate with parents to identify ways in which parents can exercise parental rights
25 and communicate such ways to parents in a clear, consistent manner that can be easily understood
26 by all parents.

27 3. Each local educational agency shall notify parents in a timely manner if their child is
28 involved in a safety incident in which a school employee is charged with a crime.

29 4. Each local educational agency shall provide prompt notification to parents of any serious
30 disciplinary incidents involving their child and shall offer a meeting or conference to discuss the
31 behavior and outline steps for correction and improvement.

32 5. (1) Each local educational agency shall adopt reasonable procedures for parents to follow
33 when visiting their minor child during school hours.

34 (2) Each local educational agency shall adopt reasonable procedures for parents to follow:

35 (a) During an emergency in which the safety of the students requires:

36 a. A lockdown to limit exposure of building occupants to an imminent hazard or threat; or

37 b. A lockout to prevent an outside hazard or threat from entering the building; or

38 (b) When such local educational agency is required to prohibit an individual from having
39 any interaction with a minor child due to an order entered under any provision of state or federal law

1 restricting or prohibiting such individual from interacting with such minor child or the LEA has
2 otherwise prohibited the individual from accessing school property or events.

3 6. (1) Teachers, school administrators, parents, and students shall be fully informed of the
4 rights conferred upon parents and teachers under sections 160.1052 to 160.1055. Each LEA shall
5 provide a physical or electronic copy of sections 160.1052 to 160.1055 to each parent, teacher, and
6 student at the beginning of each school year.

7 (2) Each local educational agency shall post the rights listed in sections 160.1052 to
8 160.1055 on such LEA's website or provide a printed copy if no website exists.

9 7. (1) Each local educational agency shall adopt, enforce, publicly post, and annually
10 review a code of student conduct as described in sections 160.1052 to 160.1055.

11 (2) Such code of conduct shall promote safe, respectful, and orderly learning environments
12 by reinforcing teacher authority in maintaining classroom discipline and enhancing parental
13 involvement in student behavioral issues and shall set forth expectations for behavior consistent
14 with ethical responsibility, community standards, and regard for school authority.

15 (3) Each local educational agency shall adopt such code of student conduct for the 2026-27
16 school year and all subsequent school years.

17 (4) The state department of elementary and secondary education may offer guidance and
18 technical assistance to local educational agencies to ensure compliance. The department shall not
19 impose undue burdens or mandates on such LEAs.

20 8. The code of student conduct required under subsection 7 of this section shall:

21 (1) Reinforce respect for teachers, administrators, and staff, emphasizing that willful
22 disobedience or disregard toward school personnel is not tolerated;

23 (2) Promote high expectations of personal responsibility, encouraging students to uphold
24 values such as honesty, diligence, and civility;

25 (3) Include measures to address and correct disruptive behavior promptly, ensuring that
26 teachers have the necessary authority and support to remove students from classrooms when
27 warranted, in accordance with training provided by the LEA;

28 (4) Outline a system of graduated consequences for misconduct, balanced by opportunities
29 for students to develop personal resilience and reflect on their actions through LEA-approved
30 interventions;

31 (5) Require parental notification and involvement in significant disciplinary actions,
32 ensuring that parents have timely information and opportunities to engage with teachers and
33 administrators; and

34 (6) Clearly prohibit any policy or program that differentiates treatment of students primarily
35 on the basis of race alone, ensuring that all disciplinary measures are applied equally and fairly to
36 every student.

37 9. (1) A local educational agency may, at such LEA's discretion and with the LEA's
38 governing board's approval, incorporate evidence-based training for teachers and counselors on
39 strategies to guide students toward personal resilience.

1 (2) Such strategies may include:

2 (a) Encouraging personal responsibility and self-management;

3 (b) Providing students with opportunities to develop coping skills, conflict resolution
4 techniques, and appropriate responses to authority; and

5 (c) Using school counselors or other qualified personnel to offer supportive interventions
6 that emphasize respect for self and others, problem solving, and perseverance.

7 (3) The content and method of delivering such strategies shall not reference or require any
8 training or curriculum primarily focused on race, gender, or other similar classifications. Such
9 strategies shall emphasize universal community standards that benefit all students equally.

10 10. Each local educational agency shall ensure that teachers and staff are trained in methods
11 to maintain order, encourage compliance, foster civility, and encourage personal responsibility.

12 11. Each local educational agency shall make efforts to facilitate parental engagement
13 through regular communication, opportunities for parents to review and understand the policy
14 handbook, and the provision of resources that support ethical responsibility and community
15 standards at home.

16 12. Each LEA's governing board shall adopt such policies and procedures required by this
17 section for the 2026-27 school year and all subsequent school years.

18 13. No LEA shall establish policies that prevent a parent or teacher from exercising the
19 applicable rights listed in sections 160.1052 to 160.1055 or any other provision of law.

20 14. No provision of sections 160.1052 to 160.1055 shall be construed to supersede any other
21 federal or state law or any regulation or policy adopted by the state department of elementary and
22 secondary education or the state board of education.

23 15. No provision of sections 160.1052 to 160.1055 shall be construed to supersede any
24 LEA's order, ordinance, or policy relating to the discipline of students."; and

25
26 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
27 accordingly.