

HCS HB 368 -- STATE AID FOR SCHOOLS

SPONSOR: Banderman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 17 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 7 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 368.

Currently, there is additional State funding for school districts that adopt a school calendar that includes 169 schools days. This bill clarifies that a school district or charter school will still qualify for the additional funding, provided that the board adopted calendar includes 169 days even if they are in session fewer days due to exceptional or emergency circumstances or an authorized reduction as provided for in State law.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that there is often inclement weather and this will help address school districts concerns that there are conditions out of the district's control that may necessitate canceling school.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Banderman; Missouri State Teachers Association; Missouri Council of School Administrators; Missouri School Boards' Association; and Missouri National Education Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say clarification on the use of the school day would be helpful and that providing for exceptional or emergency circumstances in lieu of inclement weather would cover additional situations.

Testifying in person on the bill was Perry Gorrell, DESE.

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.