

HB 519 -- MISSOURI EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP

SPONSOR: Matthiesen

This bill modifies the definition for "qualified student" for the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship program.

Currently, an elementary or secondary school student who is a resident of the state can qualify if he or she is a member of a household whose total annual income does not exceed an amount equal to 300% of the income standard used to qualify for free and reduced price lunches and he or she: attended a public school for one semester during the previous 12 months, is eligible to begin kindergarten or 1st grade, or is a sibling of a scholarship recipient.

This bill allows an elementary or secondary school student who is a resident of the state to qualify if he or she is a member of a household whose total annual income does not exceed an amount equal to 300% of the income standard used to qualify for free and reduced price lunches, without the additional requirements described above.

This bill is similar to HB 1671 (2024).