

HCS HB 941 -- MODELS OF READING INSTRUCTION

SPONSOR: Lewis

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 20 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Legislative by a vote of 7 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 941.

This bill prohibits school districts from using a three-cueing system to teach students to read words. The bill defines a "three-cueing system" as any model of teaching students to read based on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues, also known as "MSV". Reading instruction may include some components of "MSV" however it will not be used for word reading.

This bill is similar to SB 556 (2025).

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 the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and schools are working toward teaching using the system put in place a few years ago using phonics as the primary technique. Outdated systems like the "three-cueing" system do more harm than good with students often guessing and students with dyslexia never able to really learn to read.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Lewis; EXCELINED; Kathryn Bonney; and ALIGNED.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the emphasis on the importance of learning to read and the successfulness that a solid foundation in reading has on other subjects is important. The current system of training teachers in the science of reading and addressing the concerns of the "MVS" system is ongoing.

Testifying in person on the bill were Missouri NEA and Perry Gorrell.

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.