

HCS SS SCS SB 68 -- ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Henderson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 16 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Legislative by a vote of 10 to 0.

See the summary sheet for a detailed description of the House Committee Substitute version of the bill.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will help districts develop policies that will be used to eliminate electronic devices from the classroom. Currently, there is a communication problem as students cannot communicate face to face with people in the same room. This bill will prevent cheating, sexting, and loss of instructional time. The bill provides for local control and while there is room for improvement this language addresses a major concern that teachers have regarding climate in the classroom.

Testifying in person for the bill were Senator Henderson; Excelined In Action; and Missouri NEA

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the Courage2Report program is instrumental in helping ensure that credible threats are reported and handled by qualified professionals, reported to local law enforcement and to schools.

Testifying in person on the bill was Missouri School Boards' Association.

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.