



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1062</b>		DATE: <b>2/24/2025</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Emerging Issues</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 11:37 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I am in Support of this Bill that no City, Village, Township or County shall pass and enact any Ordinances prohibiting the Sale, Rent, Lease, Transfer of any School Property in the best-interests of the Public and Political Subdivisions. I however, believe very strong in Solid Public School Education and related Services.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>BRYANT NELSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>bryant937@me.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 5:02 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I am in strong support of this Bill as it will limit vacant buildings in our community if Charter Schools are looking for property. It's only reasonable that we have input being tax payers, and community residents.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAVID JACKSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-406-2933</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>CONFLUENCE CHARTER SCHOOLS</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 1865</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65102</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 12:00 AM</b>	

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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DENITRIA NEIL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>info@northcountyinnovativeschool.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 1:18 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 1062, which allows for the use of closed district school buildings by charter schools. This legislation is a crucial step toward ensuring that public school buildings remain active community assets, rather than becoming abandoned properties that contribute to urban decay. Allowing charter schools to utilize closed district school buildings presents numerous benefits: Preserving Educational Facilities within the Community – By enabling charter schools to repurpose these buildings, public education remains present within the community, maintaining access to quality educational institutions for families. Providing Families with More Schooling Options – Families deserve access to diverse educational choices that align with their children's unique learning needs. HB 1062 ensures that communities continue to have viable alternatives within the public education system. Preventing Urban Blight and Economic Decline – When school buildings are left vacant and deteriorate, they become eyesores and safety concerns. Allowing charter schools to repurpose these structures keeps them in use, promoting neighborhood stability and growth. Maximizing Public Investment in School Infrastructure – Public funds have already been invested in these buildings, and allowing them to sit vacant is a misuse of taxpayer resources. Charter school use ensures that these facilities continue serving their intended purpose—education. Encouraging Efficient Use of Educational Resources – Many districts have excess building capacity due to declining enrollment. Rather than leaving these properties underutilized, allowing charter schools to use them can alleviate financial burdens on school districts while benefiting students. HB 1062 is a practical and forward-thinking approach to making better use of public resources while supporting educational choice and community development. I respectfully urge you to support this legislation and ensure that school buildings remain assets rather than liabilities to our communities. Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your leadership in supporting policies that benefit students, families, and communities.



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<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>F. BISHOP</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>feliciabishop0429@gmail.com</b>		ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/23/2025 8:35 PM</b>

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It's vitally important that charter schools are given the opportunity to occupy school buildings that are no longer in use. It will prevent from further creating blighted areas.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JORDAN ZAKERY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>217-358-2741</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>EXCELINED IN ACTION</b>		TITLE: <b>LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1350 N. MERIDIAN STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>INDIANAPOLIS</b>		STATE: <b>IN</b>	ZIP: <b>46202</b>
EMAIL: <b>jordan@excelined.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 1:43 PM</b>

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Hello, My name is Jordan Zakery, Legislative Director for ExcelinEd in Action. Our organization works with state lawmakers and partner organizations nationwide to pass legislation that empowers families with educational opportunity, prepares students for college and career, prioritizes early literacy grounded in the science of reading, expands innovation and strengthens school performance.? We rise in support of HB 1062 as it protects charter schools from regulations that would make it more difficult for to secure much needed facilities. Charter schools are public schools and should not be restricted from engaging in agreements to secure property needed to educate their students. Thank you. Sincerely, Jordan Zakery



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MIRANDA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>Dravantelliott@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 1:07 PM</b>
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I am submitting this statement in support of HB 1062, which seeks to ensure that school district properties can be sold, leased, or transferred to charter schools without unnecessary municipal restrictions. I believe that properties owned by traditional school districts, funded by public dollars, should be made available to charter schools if they are truly vacant—meaning they are not being used in any form or fashion by the district. However, I encourage the bill to further define the term “vacant” to ensure that buildings repurposed by the district for other uses are not mistakenly classified as vacant under this legislation. This clarification would help avoid potential conflicts and ensure that only properties without any current district use are eligible for transfer to charter schools. Vacant school buildings can often become eyesores, negatively impact property values, and contribute to neighborhood decline. They may also force families to relocate to areas with better school access. Allowing charter schools to utilize these properties revitalizes communities, preserves neighborhood integrity, and expands educational opportunities—all while ensuring public resources continue to serve public education. I also support HB 1062’s provision that voids ordinances, deed restrictions, or contracts that prevent charter schools from accessing these facilities. It’s important that public properties continue to benefit students and communities, without arbitrary barriers. Thank you for your consideration of HB 1062, and I urge you to advance this bill with clear language around the definition of “vacant” to ensure its effective and fair implementation.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>RACHEL POWERS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-574-9642</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>THE OPPORTUNITY TRUST</b>		TITLE: <b>PARTNER COMMUNITY COALITION</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>5501 DELMAR BLVD A300</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63112</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN GIBSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>Onesuegibson@protonmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/21/2025 9:42 PM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TRICIA WORKMAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-402-2538</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MO CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOC.</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>115 E HIGH ST</b>			
CITY: <b>JC</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>EMILY HORNSTRA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>emlife@att.net</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/24/2025 12:51 AM</b>
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