



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| BILL NUMBER: HB 1153 | | DATE: 2/19/2025 | |
| COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education | | | |
| TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES | | | |
| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| REGISTERED LOBBYIST: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: GARRETT WEBB | | PHONE NUMBER: 219-229-1104 | |
| REPRESENTING: ALIGNED | | TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST | |
| ADDRESS: PO BOX 1219 | | | |
| CITY: JEFFERSON CITY | | STATE: MO | ZIP: 65102 |
| EMAIL: webb@coestrategies.com | ATTENDANCE: In-Person | SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 12:16 PM | |

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Aligned is a nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition of business and civic leaders committed to improving access to career-based education and high quality early childhood education in Kansas and Missouri. We strongly support efforts to improve teacher recruitment and retention efforts, particularly alternative pathways to teacher certification and opportunities for experiential credentialing outside of the classroom.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JOSH FREEMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: freeman@foxc6.org | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/18/2025 12:10 PM |
| THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. | | |

As a teacher who is in my 25th year in education, I see a very strong trend in staffing issues. Data shows there are less students entering education programs at colleges and universities and there is an increase in educators who are leaving the field before retirement. This is creating fewer applicants for more jobs, and I believe we are going to reach a point to where jobs are going to be unable to be filled . HB1153 has potential to help solve those problems. From my viewpoint it has many safeguards to help find quality staff members, and many of those mirror programs already in place (participation in professional development, working with mentor teachers, testing requirements, etc). Thank you for working for a solution to best serve our students.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 11:54 PM |
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: CHERYL SHEA | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: docshea3@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/17/2025 7:48 PM |
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This proposed bill authorized the state Board of Education to certify teachers upon certification by Teachers for Tomorrow. When I search for Teachers for Tomorrow, my search indicates this is a non-profit organization to alleviate poverty in Cambodia. Perhaps the bill was meant to read Teachers of Tomorrow. If so, the bill needs to be re-written with the correct organization. However, upon reading the reviews for Teachers of Tomorrow, here are some quotes "they are a classic age old scam.", "an absolute joke", "Kept scamming even though told them 5 times to stop". Reviews on TrustPilot. The Texas Teachers of Tomorrow is in jeopardy of losing its accreditation according to the Dallas News. They state that the organization misled potential teachers, they were out of compliance with key standards such as admission, curriculum and governance. Missouri deserves teachers who are educated and certified by qualified university programs and not by unqualified programs.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: DAN PAYNE | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: ddpayne1982@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 9:39 AM |

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Our children's education should be taught by a person who has achieved a higher education degree in the field they are teaching.



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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: JERE HOCHMAN | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: jhstlny@gmail.com | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 1:58 PM |

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Absolutely not! Stop diminishing the PROFESSION. Train subs for long term subbing with a cap. But NOT CERTIFICATES. You write bills by legislators who create a stigma for teaching. Bills that claim falsehoods and "I heard once..." as if there's rampant problems you need to prevent. TRUST TEACHER. And stop scaring them away with "rights" bills and GIVING CERTIFICATES TO "temp" teachers. Even TFA required pursuit of a degree.



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| WITNESS NAME | | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | | |
| WITNESS NAME: LAUREN HARRISON | | PHONE NUMBER: | |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: | |
| ADDRESS: | | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: | ZIP: |
| EMAIL: lauren.harrison@att.net | | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 8:32 AM |
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| WITNESS NAME | | |
| INDIVIDUAL: | | |
| WITNESS NAME: NANCY COPENHAVER | | PHONE NUMBER: |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: | | TITLE: |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| CITY: | | STATE: ZIP: |
| EMAIL: copenhaver22@sbcglobal.net | ATTENDANCE: Written | SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 3:17 PM |
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As a retired teacher and educator activist, I have had much interaction over the years with forms of alternate certifications for teaching. I remember the early days of ABCTE which was colloquially called "Any Body Can Teach Everything." This is not to say that colleges of education are the only way to train teachers but they have improved immensely in the years since I was in teacher education programs. Getting prospective teachers into classrooms in a variety of ways very early in their training, in fact often as high school students doing tutoring for the A+ program, is a great improvement. . We are also doing a much better job of mentoring young or beginning teachers. Please be sure that you have done adequate research into the experiences of alternative certification programs before adopting them for our Missouri schools.