



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 220		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			
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
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
I Support this Bill.			



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BRENT HEMPHILL		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: CONNECTIONS ACADEMY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 156			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 12:00 AM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DR. JERRY HOBBS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jerry@hobbstopcc.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 2:14 PM
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I am in support of this bill. Taking state mandated tests are already stressful and overwhelming for students. Remote testing aligns with the learning environment that virtual students are most familiar with. It offers flexibility to meet the needs of students who have various issues that prevent them doing well in a remote testing environment. Parents are forced to take off work, get sitters for younger children, pay for travel, lodging, and food, which is prohibitive to many parents. Remote testing has been done for many years through tests such as the LSAT, Praxis, GRE, CLEP, among others.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KATE CASAS		PHONE NUMBER: 314-809-5042	
REPRESENTING: ACCEL		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 117 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65108
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KYNA IMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-651-1185	
REPRESENTING: PARENTS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL OPTIONS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1483			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SAMOY MAINDA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: themaında@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 11:16 PM
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Good afternoon committee, my name is Samoy Mainda and I am here in support of HB 220. I am the proud mother of three wonderful children. One of my kids is my 15 year-old energetic, full of energy, extremely smart, and very headstrong daughter name Hannah. Hannah, has been a virtual student at Missouri Virtual Academy (MOVA) for the past three years since HB 1552 was passed in June 2022. She has suffered from dyslexia her entire life, but has come a long way since kindergarten when we first decided to have her in virtual schooling back in 2014 in Michigan. I say all of this because as a mother I have seen Hannah go through some serious challenges in school even in kindergarten when my husband and I decided to start virtual education for her in 2014. The challenges she was enduring turned into triumphs due to virtual education. I am not boasting, but I have never seen a young lady thrive and succeed as much as my daughter has with Missouri virtual Academy.(MOVA). Her grit enthusiasm and a strong sense of self has allowed her to achieve a GPA of 4.0, and the decision after high school, to further her education and study to become a travel nurse Hannah for years has suffered from testing anxiety, and it has truly been one of the challenges we have struggled with for many years. At her virtual school, her weekly testing is always done on her laptop in the comfort of her room with no problems. However, when it comes to state testing, that is not the case and that is where we begin to have a lot of issues preparing to go to another facility to do the state testing instead of remotely doing it at home. The stress that my daughter endures weeks prior to the actual testing is detrimental. The strain of having to go to another location to test, being in a different surrounding, even something as simple as having to sit in another chair and desk that she is not used to for someone who suffers from testing anxiety, this can be the difference between acing a test and failing a test. As a mother who is a protector, it pains me to see my daughter go through this type of anxiety to the point where she becomes sick and emotionally and mentally drained. Hannah has so many dreams and so excited to become a travel nurse and help individuals in need. Her focus is children and we are going to do our very best to do what we can as a family to get her there. I say all of this because you can be a part of my daughter's dreams and making sure to pass HB 220 where children are allowed to test at home who are virtual students. You will be given children all across the state of Missouri, who are virtual students the safety, secure surroundings they are used to, and determination to do the very best that they can on their tests. Passing this bill will also be extremely beneficial for families, such as myself who won't have to worry about taking time off from work, traveling to various testing sites, or even having to pay for hotel accommodations and travel expenses to get to the testing that is required. In conclusion, I ask you to remember that every child is different when it comes to their education, so many children in the great state of Missouri learn differently, test differently, and have different future career paths. In order for them to accomplish those dreams it is vital to allow children such as my daughter to be able to test in their safe havens in order to fulfill their lifelong dreams. Thank you so very much for your time and

thank you in advance for passing HB 220.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TOM DEMPSEY		PHONE NUMBER: 636-288-7461	
REPRESENTING: STRIDE, INC.		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 3103 BUCKSKIN PATH			
CITY: ST. CHARLES		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63301
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 12:00 AM	
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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			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: PERRY GORRELL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-751-4446	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION		TITLE: CHIEF OF GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS	
ADDRESS: 205 JEFFERSON STREET, JEFFERSON STATE OFFICE BUILDING			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2025 12:00 AM	
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