



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 538		DATE: 1/29/2025	
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: 1/29/2025 11:51 PM

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

I am in full Support of this Bill to ensure that Our School Children are protected and safe. This Bill NEEDS to be passed immediately!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHARLENE WALL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: charlenewall700@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:38 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
Every child deserves to have transportation to public schools.			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LARA WAKEFIELD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: wakefieldconsultationservices@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:18 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Dr. Lara Wakefield. I'm a Speech Language Pathologist who worked in public schools for 15 years until around 2009. After that, I started a private practice advocacy consulting business to assist parents with understanding the confusing process of special education. I work with parents in 112 districts in Missouri, but the majority of my families are in Boone County. Over the past 30 years, I've seen the dire need to make sure there are background checks in place for volunteers, bus aides, and bus drivers who are transporting Missouri's precious cargo. I support this bill due to the charter school expansion that now includes Boone County as a place where charter schools can develop. It's extremely important to add this language to the existing law to add this layer of protection of all students. Five of my clients have been physically assaulted, sexually assaulted, or emotionally abused by contracted bus company aides or bus drivers in the past 4 years. Some of my clients have communication challenges and may not be able to express to a teacher or parent what happened to them on a bus. So, there may be more instances that have occurred but we may never know. When investigations started for the five clients I mentioned, it was discovered that the bus company had not done their due diligence on background checks. And that the school district had not reviewed those omissions. This bill offers a layer of protection for charter schools and the update will serve as a reminder to public schools and contracted companies to make sure they are doing the appropriate background checks on their staff. Thank you for considering this information, Lara Wakefield



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LAUREN HULSE		PHONE NUMBER: 913-484-2075	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HOPSKIPDRIVE		TITLE: GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MGR.	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: LOS ANGELES		STATE: CA	ZIP: 90011
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/26/2025 12:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMIE WRUCK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jamiewruck@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:54 PM

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

We know you are dismantling public schools for profits. Democracy can't exist without education. Representatives, your families are not rich enough to withstand the fall of Democracy. Fascism may make you feel powerful now, but you really need to take a hard look into history. You will see what happened to majority of those involved in fascist take overs. -The discarded pawns. Because that is your future unless you stand up and do what is right.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LINDA HOECHST		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: lchoechst@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 6:10 PM
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I oppose HB538



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LISA KIENTZEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: profelisap@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 6:22 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
We need more funding for school transportation!			