

HB 2860 -- ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
SPONSOR: Byrnes

This bill creates code of conduct standards for members of school boards and for the governing board of charter schools. The bill requires a public disclosure of member and employee conflicts of interest as specified, including payments in excess of \$500 per year to the following: superintendents, administrative staff, chief purchasing officers, and general counsel for school districts. Such individuals must disclose additional information as specified in the bill. The bill prevents school districts from retaining any attorney or law firm for the purpose of providing counsel during an administrative or legal proceeding concerning a student if the attorney or law firm employs or contracts with the school district's members or employees (Section 162.106, RSMo).

This bill requires that for hearings regarding children with disabilities, the burden of proof and the burden of production will be on the school district regarding any matter related to identification, evaluation, reevaluation, classification, educational placement, disciplinary action, or the provision of free appropriate public education. The bill provides protections for students in a IEP proceeding, including mediation, being allowed to remain in the present educational placement or stay put during the pendency of the proceedings (Section 162.961).

This bill requires that the most recent student special education records as defined in the bill are to be retained by school districts as part of the student's permanent record and such records may not be destroyed by the district (Section 167.027).

This bill is similar to HB 3238 (2026) and HB 1714 (2024).