SS SCS SB 1383 -- AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Washington

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Rural Issues by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Legislative Review by a vote of 6 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill ends the current pilot program for agriculture education in elementary schools and authorizes that beginning in the 2027-28 school year the program can be implemented by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education statewide for all elementary schools that elect to participate. The bill removes the requirement for reporting to the House and Senate committees on agriculture and education and requires the report to be posted on the Department's website.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that agriculture is a driver of the State's economy. Investing in agricultural literacy opens new interests and career paths for students and increases informed decision making as adults.

Testifying in person for the bill were Senator Washington; Missouri NEA; Missouri Pork Association; Missouri Cattlemen's Association; Missouri Soybean Association; Missouri Corn Growers Association; Missouri Farm Bureau; and Arnie C. Dienoff.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

The following testimony is from the Legislative Review Committee hearing on 5-14-26.

Proponents: Supporters say that the bill is a bipartisan project that will support the agriculture industry for years to come.

Testifying in person for the bill was Rep. Diehl.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.