



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2172		DATE: 1/27/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 11:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CAMELLIA PETERSON		PHONE NUMBER: 417-726-9475	
REPRESENTING: AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 94			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: cpeterson@afphq.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 11:31 PM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ELIMANE MBENGUE		PHONE NUMBER: 816-206-1512	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ACADEMIE LAFAYETTE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 201 EAST ARMOUR BOULEVARD			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64111
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KATE CASAS		PHONE NUMBER: 314-809-5042	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 117 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TRICIA WORKMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-4430	
REPRESENTING: MO CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOC.		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 115 E. HIGH			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS ROEPE		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 205 E. CAPITOL AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVA-LEIGH BRUSH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-600-6018	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI EQUITY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1352			
CITY: ST. CHARLES		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63302
EMAIL: dlb@missouriequity.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 8:59 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
The Missouri Equity Education Partnership opposes this bill.			



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: RON BERRY		PHONE NUMBER: 660-537-2239
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN FEDERATION IF TEACHERS OF MISSOURI		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST
ADDRESS: PO BOX 722		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: ronalddberr@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2026 4:10 PM

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The American Federation of Teachers of Missouri oppose both HB 2172 and HB 2404.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/25/2026 11:11 PM	

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

HB 2172 is an aggressive overreach that strips local communities of lawful control over their own public property and substitutes legislative force for local democratic decision-making.

This bill retroactively voids valid deed restrictions, contracts, and property-use decisions made by school districts, counties, and municipalities.

In doing so, it directly conflicts with Article I, Section 13 of the Missouri Constitution, which prohibits laws impairing the obligation of contracts. Declaring duly executed agreements “void from inception” is not regulation — it is a constitutional violation.

HB 2172 also undermines Article IX of the Missouri Constitution, which entrusts the management and governance of public education to locally elected school boards.

Decisions about school facilities are not abstract real-estate transactions; they involve voter-approved bonds, long-term enrollment planning, safety considerations, and fiscal stewardship.

This bill overrides those local judgments in favor of a state-mandated outcome that benefits a specific class of entities.

The so-called “right of first refusal” provisions are coercive.

School districts are forced to publicly market assets, delay transactions, and negotiate under artificial timelines — even when doing so conflicts with future district needs or voter intent.

This is not local flexibility; it is state compulsion disguised as choice.

Further, HB 2172 creates unequal treatment among public educational entities, privileging charter schools while denying traditional public schools and local voters equal authority over publicly funded assets.

**That raises serious concerns under Article III, Sections 40 and 42, which prohibit special laws and require equal application of legislation.
 Public school buildings are paid for by local taxpayers.**

The authority to decide their future belongs to the communities that funded them — not to the General

Assembly picking winners and losers.

HB 2172 erodes local democracy, violates constitutional protections, and sets a dangerous precedent for legislative seizure of community property. It should be rejected.