



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3483		DATE: 4/1/2026	
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: ANN ALOFS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF		PHONE NUMBER: 314-440-9000	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: STATE PUBLIC ADVOCACY		TITLE: STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE	
ADDRESS: POST OFFICE BOX #1535			
CITY: O'FALLON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63366
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 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: PAL TEAM LEAD VOLUNTEER	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1352			
CITY: ST. CHARLES		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63302
EMAIL: dlb@missouriequity.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 1:05 PM	

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The Missouri Equity Educational Partnership supports the very narrow focus of this bill, and looks forward to the finished product because some days we also need to truly understand how a bill becomes a law in Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EDGAR CONNOLLY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: FRANKIE SOETAERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOY BESS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/31/2026 1:59 PM	

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As both a classroom teacher and as district social studies curriculum coordinator, I have benefited greatly from educational materials previously created by different entities within our state government. These ready-made materials have saved me hours and hours of research and time. I appreciate knowing that these materials have been curated by professionals and vetted for use in all our public school classrooms. With this in mind, I submit my support of House Bill 3483 and House Bill 3532, instructing the General Assembly to create additional materials for use in educating public school students on the legislative process in Missouri.

I have personally used information created by the Attorney General’s Office on our state government, flag, symbols, and Capitol building. I have used materials on Famous Missourians created by the Secretary of State’s Office. The booklet, “Do you know MO?”, created by the House of Representatives has been a wonderful companion to my district’s 3rd grade visits to the state Capitol. I have benefited greatly from the lesson plans created by DESE through programs like the MO LEAP Blocks and the Civics and Patriotism task force.

The creation of additional educational materials specifically about the legislative process by experts on this somewhat confusing process, will truly enhance our educational practices and make teachers feel more confident about the areas in which to focus their instruction. I am excited to see that both these Bills mention real work experiences, place-based learning, and opportunities for civic engagement. Involving students IN the legislative process is so much more authentic than reading about it in a textbook or pamphlet. If we can help our students experience the role that our citizens play in our democratic republic, they are more likely to become active and engaged citizens in the future. I am so thankful to the Representatives and Senators who represent my school district who always seem to find time out of their busy schedules to meet with students when they visit the Capitol. Even during the crazy weeks of spring as the legislative session closes, they find ways to offer a wave from the House floor to our students in the viewing seats of the Chamber. That personal connection to their government officials makes our students feel that their presence at the Capitol is a welcome one. The General Assembly should work to create pathways that foster personal connections between all representatives and the students in their districts.

And finally, as a member of the Principles of Civics & Patriotism Advisory Committee, created by House Bill 3002 in 2022, I have seen first hand how involving a diverse group of teachers in the process of creating educational materials yields an authentic product, ready for use in the classroom. I would encourage the General Assembly to involve classroom teachers, for whom these materials are designed to be used, all along the way.

Thank you for your time and for consideration of House Bills 3483 and 3532, supporting our public school classrooms.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LIAM NEALE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW GRIESE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-443-6831	
REPRESENTING: ACTIVATE MISSOURI		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST ACTIVATE MISSOURI	
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CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63117
EMAIL: Mgriese55@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 11:18 AM	
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Activate Missouri wants to go on record as supporting HB 3532. We believe that students should be taught about civic engagement and the legislative process in school. We believe that this will boost civic engagement as students transition to adulthood.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN KELLER		PHONE NUMBER: 314-918-0049	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI CIVIC LEARNING COALITION		TITLE: CHAIR	
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EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/1/2026 12:00 AM	
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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: 4/1/2026 7:24 AM	

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HB 3483 requires the General Assembly to create educational materials for public schools explaining the legislative process. While civic education is important, this proposal raises significant constitutional and structural concerns regarding neutrality, control of information, and the use of public education systems for state-authored messaging.

At its core, this bill assigns a political body the authority to create instructional content about itself without requiring independent academic review, bipartisan oversight, or adherence to objective educational standards. This creates an inherent conflict of interest and undermines the expectation that public school materials be developed through neutral, pedagogically sound processes.

By placing control of civic education materials in the hands of the General Assembly, the bill risks promoting a state-endorsed viewpoint without safeguards ensuring balanced or opposing perspectives are presented. Public education, while subject to state control, is still constrained by constitutional limits that prohibit the government from advancing one-sided ideological narratives without justification.

Public school students are a captive audience, required to attend and engage with assigned instructional materials. If those materials are created by a political body without neutrality safeguards, this raises concerns about compelled exposure to state-crafted messaging, particularly where no alternative viewpoints or independent review mechanisms are required.

The bill provides no standards governing accuracy, neutrality, or review of the materials. This absence of statutory guidance creates arbitrary discretion in how content is developed and presented, raising due process concerns related to lack of clear, enforceable boundaries on state action within public education.

HB 3483 effectively bypasses established educational authorities—such as curriculum developers and education departments—and vests content creation authority in a legislative body without requiring expertise or defined criteria. This raises concerns regarding improper delegation of educational functions without standards or qualifications.

Beyond constitutional concerns, the bill also authorizes the use of public funds (up to \$60,000 annually) to produce these materials without requiring independent validation or accountability mechanisms.

Bottom line:

HB 3483 allows a political body to create educational content about itself for use in public schools without safeguards for neutrality, oversight, or academic integrity.

The General Assembly is hereby placed on notice that this proposal raises concerns regarding viewpoint control, compelled exposure within a captive audience, lack of due process safeguards, and the absence of independent educational oversight in state-developed instructional materials.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/29/2026 10:16 PM	
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All curriculum should be written by curriculum experts with education degrees, not by citizen legislators.