

HCS HB 2445 -- SCHOOL DISTRICTS

SPONSOR: Sassmann

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 16 to 2.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2445.

This bill specifies that the Gasconade County R-II, Maries County R-II, and the West St. Francis County R-IV school districts which crosses county lines shall use the dollar value modifier for the formula calculations for school funding from the county with the highest value.

This bill is similar to SB 818 (2022).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that districts that cross county lines have a disadvantage when the state formula is calculated and receive less money. Districts that are near a county with a higher cost of living have to compete for resources and hire teachers from those counties which are compensated for their higher cost of living with an increased dollar value modifier unlike the districts specified in the bill which are at a disadvantage.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sassmann; Glenn Ely; and Dr. Jeri Kay Hardy, Gasconade County R-II School District.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the description for the schools included in the bill will allow only those specific locations to use the adjusted dollar value modifier and that once they have been included they will remain included even if the population shifts.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri NEA.

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