

**GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS UPDATE**

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:**

Section 161.092, RSMo

Consent  
Item

Action  
Item

Report  
Item

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY**

Access, Opportunity, Equity – Provide all students access to a broad range of high-quality educational opportunities from early learning into post-high school engagement.

Teachers and Leaders – Prepare, develop and support educators to ensure an effective teacher in every classroom and an effective leader in every school.

Efficiency and Effectiveness – Create an internal environment of continuous improvement, effective programming and efficient business operations.

**SUMMARY**

Staff will discuss filed bills relating to education for the 2020 legislative session. The report relating to the filed bills will be distributed at the meeting.

**PRESENTER**

Michael Harris, Chief of Governmental Relations, will participate in the presentation and discussion of this agenda item.

| SENATE BILLS |         |  |                     |
|--------------|---------|--|---------------------|
| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
| SB 525       | Emery   | <p>This act defines a "recovery charter high school" as a charter school for students in grades nine through twelve who are in recovery from substance use disorder or dependency. Such charter school must educate all available eligible students who are in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders such as anxiety, depression, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); must meet state requirements for awarding a high school diploma; and must support students in working a strong program of recovery.</p> <p>A recovery charter high school shall enroll all pupils in the district in which it operates; nonresident pupils eligible to attend a district's school under an urban voluntary transfer program; nonresident pupils who transfer from an unaccredited district; and any nonresident pupil, who is in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders. Admission shall be limited to pupils who are in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders.</p> <p>A recovery charter high school may enroll students residing in a state other than Missouri, provided such student is in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders set forth in the act. This act grants the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education the authority to enter into agreements with other states to develop a reciprocity agreement for students seeking to attend a recovery charter high school in Missouri. The out-of-state student's district of residence shall pay to the recovery charter high school an annual amount equal to 105% of the previous year's per pupil expenditure in Missouri, and the student shall not be included in Missouri's count of average daily attendance. If an out-of-state student resides in a state that is not subject to a reciprocity agreement, such student may attend a recovery charter high school provided such student pays to the school 105% of the previous year's per pupil expenditure in Missouri.</p> <p>Under this act, if a recovery charter high school that has not declared itself as a local educational agency has one or more nonresident pupils, the nonresident pupils shall not be counted for purposes of determining state aid. Each school district that has one or more of its resident pupils attending such a charter school shall pay to the charter school, for each such pupil, 100% of its average per-pupil expenditure, excluding interest payments and grants.</p> <p>If a recovery charter high school that has declared itself a local educational agency has one or more nonresident pupils, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall reimburse such charter school an amount set forth in the act. Upon notice of the charter school's declaration of local educational agency status, the Department shall reduce the payment made to the school</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

| SENATE BILLS |         |  |                     |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|              |         | <p>district in which the charter school is located by the amount set forth in the act, and pay such amount directly to the charter school.</p> <p>This act also permits charter schools to receive payments from school districts.</p>   |                     |
| SB 527       | Emery   | <p>Under current law, the school board of any district in any district which is sponsoring a charter school as of August 27, 2012, and the special administrative board in a metropolitan school district, is eligible to sponsor a charter school. Under this act, the school board in any district in which a charter school may be operated shall be eligible to sponsor a charter school, however a special administrative board in a metropolitan school district may not.</p> <p>Current law outlines the process to be used when changes in a school district's accreditation status affect a charter school. Under this act, changes in a school district's accreditation status shall not affect the operation or sponsorship of charter schools. Sponsors are prohibited, under current law, from receiving from an applicant, any fee for the consideration of a charter and from conditioning its consideration of a charter on the promise of future payment of any kind. Under this act, applicants are also prohibited from such actions.</p> <p>Charter schools are permitted to affiliate with a four-year college or university, including a private college or university, a community college, or, under this act, vocational or technical schools.</p> <p>Under this act, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is required to remit funds for each charter school to the school's sponsor provided the sponsor fulfills its sponsorship obligations with regard to each charter school it sponsors and expends its charter school sponsorship funds in a manner that avoids conflicts of interest, inducements, or incentives that might compromise the sponsor's judgment in charter approval and accountability.</p> <p>Current law prohibits a university, college or community college from granting a charter to a nonprofit corporation if an employee of the university, college or community college is a member of the corporation's board of directors. Under this act, no employee, trustee, agent, or representative of a sponsor shall simultaneously serve as an employee, trustee, agency representative, vendor, or contractor of a charter school sponsored by such entity. Members of such governing boards holding office prior to the effective date of the act are exempt from such provision.</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

| SENATE BILLS |         |  |             |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>Sponsors of charter schools are required, under current law, to develop policies relating to a performance contract that the sponsor will use to evaluate the performance of the charter school. Under this act, such performance framework is required to set forth the academic and operational performance indicators, measures, and metrics that shall guide the sponsor's evaluation. The framework must meet, but shall not be limited to, the current state academic performance standards. This act also requires a sponsor to develop policies and procedures relating to sponsor conflicts of interest and ethics.</p> <p>Current law grants the State Board of Education the authority to ensure the charter school sponsor is in compliance with the requirements set forth in statute, and to evaluate sponsors every three years. This act transfers such authority to the Department.</p> <p>The Department is also authorized to recommend corrective action, which under this act may include terminating the sponsor's authority to sponsor any charter schools. Final corrective action shall be determined by the Department, rather than by the State Board.</p> <p>Under this act, if a charter school fails to receive a renewal of its charter contract after a three-year term, the sponsor shall be prohibited from sponsoring any new charter schools until the Department has completed an evaluation and the sponsor has received notice that it is in compliance.</p> <p>No charter school, under this act, shall be required to purchase services from its sponsor as a condition of charter approval, or of executing a charter contract, nor may any such condition be implied. However, a charter school may, at its discretion, chose to purchase services from its sponsor. If a charter school does choose to purchase services from the sponsor, the parties are required to execute an annual service contract, separate from the charter contract, stating the parties' mutual agreement concerning any services to be provided by the sponsor and any service fees to be charged to the charter school. The act prohibits a sponsor from charging more than the market rates for services provided to a charter school.</p> <p>Within 30 days of the end of the fiscal year, a charter school sponsor is required to provide to each school it oversees, an itemized accounting of the actual costs of services purchased from the sponsor. Any difference between the amount initially charged and the actual cost shall be</p> |             |

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|              |         | <p>reconciled and paid to the owed party. If either party disputes the accounting or charges, such party may request that the Department conduct a review.</p> <p><u>CLOSURE, TRANSFER, AND MERGING OF CHARTER SCHOOLS</u></p> <p>If a charter school closes, the sponsor of the charter school is required to oversee and work with the school to ensure a smooth, orderly, and complete closure and transition for students and parents. Such closure, dissolution of the charter school, and disposition of its property shall be governed by the charter contract.</p> <p>Transfer of a charter contract and oversight of a charter school, from one sponsor to another, along with merging of one or more charter schools or a charter school and a local education agency into a single charter school is prohibited unless a special petition is filed with the Department by a charter school or its sponsor. The Department shall review such petitions on a case by case basis and may grant transfer requests in response to special circumstances, evidence that such a transfer would serve the best interests of the charter school's students, and agreement by the school and the sponsor.</p> <p>A sponsor is permitted to relinquish its sponsorship at any time by sending a letter to the Department stating its intention and the date of relinquishment. However, if a sponsor relinquishes sponsorships, all of the sponsor's existing charter contracts and sponsorship fees are transferred to the Commission, and such sponsor will no longer be eligible to sponsor a charter school.</p> <p>A transfer or merger shall not extend the term of any existing charter contract that has been transferred or has been part of a merger.</p> <p><u>CHARTER CONTRACTS</u></p> <p>Current law sets forth the requirements that a charter school application must meet. This act modifies such provisions and removes the requirements that an application include a legally binding performance contract that describes the obligations of the school and sponsor. An application is not required to include a description of the school's pupil performance standards, but instead must submit a proposal for the charter school performance provisions and the sponsor's performance framework. The act also removes the requirement that an application include preopening requirements for applications that require that charter schools meet all health, safety, and other legal requirements prior to opening, and a description of the agreement and time</p> |             |

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|              |         | <p>frame for implementation as to when the sponsor shall intervene in a charter school, revoke a charter school for failure to comply with the act, and when a sponsor will not renew a charter.</p> <p>Under current law, if the charter application is denied, the proposed sponsor shall notify the applicant in writing as to the reasons for its denial and forward a copy to the State Board within five business days following the denial. The State Board has the authority, under current law, to grant or deny a charter application and, if granted, to act as sponsor. This act transfers such authority to the Commission.</p> <p>Under current law, if a charter is approved, the application is required to be submitted to the State Board along with a statement of finding by the sponsor that the application meets certain requirements, and a monitoring plan under which the charter sponsor shall evaluate the academic performance reports of students enrolled in the charter school. This act requires the application be submitted to the Department, instead of the State Board, within 15 days of approval, and removes the requirement that a monitoring plan be submitted along with the application. This act also repeals the requirement that the State Board approve or deny a charter application within 60 days of receipt, and the provisions stating that the State Board may deny a charter on the grounds that the application fails to meet the requirements. The denial is no longer required to be in writing and identify the specific failures of the application.</p> <p>Current law sets forth requirements of a charter contract, which includes providing certain information to the State Board. Under this act, a charter contract shall require a charter school to provide a statement outlining a conflict of interest policy and a code of ethics, and incorporate application materials submitted into the charter contract. Charter schools operating on August 27, 2020, shall have until August 28, 2023, to meet such requirements. This act also repeals the provision requiring a charter contract to design a method to measure pupil progress toward the academic standards adopted by the State Board. A charter contract must instead comply with the performance provisions in the charter contract, which are required to be based on the performance framework established by the sponsor, and collect annual student performance data necessary to measure annual performance targets, with such targets being subject to approval to the sponsor, rather than requiring data defined by the annual performance report to be collected.</p> <p>Under current law, a vsponsor's policies shall give schools clear and timely notice of contract violations or performance deficiencies and mandate intervention based upon findings of the State</p> |             |

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|              |         | <p>Board that the charter school's annual performance results are below the district's annual performance report. Such provision is repealed under this act.</p> <p>A sponsor is required to revoke a charter during the charter term if, under this act, the charter school fails to meet the standards set forth in the act in three of the last four years.</p> <p><u>CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL</u><br/>                     Under current law, the sponsor's renewal process of a charter school shall be based on a thorough analysis of a comprehensive body of objective evidence and consider if the school has maintained results on its annual performance report that meet or exceed the district in which the school is located, and whether the charter school is organizationally and fiscally viable. This act repeals such provisions, and replaces them with provisions requiring the sponsor to consider whether the charter school has met the annual performance targets, and that the school has not been identified as experiencing financial stress in the three of the last four school years. If the Department verifies that the charter school has met the objectives set forth in the act, the Department shall notify the sponsor that the renewal has met all requirements. If a charter school fails to meet such standards for two of the three consecutive years immediately before a decision whether to renew the charter contract is made, any renewal granted shall only be for a three-year term. If a charter school again underperforms for two years of the three-year term, the school's charter contract shall not be renewed.</p> <p><u>CHARTER SCHOOL OVERSIGHT</u><br/>                     This act repeals the provision requiring the Joint Committee on Education to create a committee to investigate facility access and affordability for charter schools.</p> <p>This act repeals the requirements set forth under current law that a high-quality charter school must meet. The act replaces such provisions with the requirement that the percentage of students who perform proficient and advanced on the annual statewide system of assessments in English language arts and mathematics in the charter school is higher than the average percentage of grade-level equivalent students in the state for two of the three immediately preceding years, or that the average rate of growth in such subjects is equal to or higher than the average percentage of growth in students in the state for two of the three immediately preceding years.</p> <p><u>CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND DISBURSEMENT OF STATE AID</u><br/>                     Current law requires workplace charter schools to enroll any student whose parent is employed in the business district, who submits a timely application. This act repeals such provision.</p> |             |

Legislation for the 2020 Legislative Session  
 as of 1/4/2020

| SENATE BILLS |         |   |             |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>If capacity is insufficient to enroll all pupils who submit a timely application, the charter school shall have an admissions process that does not discriminate based on parents' ability to pay, except that, under this act, a charter school may give a preference for admission to students who will be eligible for the free and reduced price lunch program in the upcoming year.</p> <p>This act repeals the provision requiring a charter school to make available for public inspection the results of background checks on the charter school's board members.</p> <p>This act modifies the calculation of the amount a school district with one or more pupils attending a charter school shall pay to the charter school.</p> <p>A school district having one or more resident pupils attending a charter school shall pay to the charter school an annual amount set forth in current law, plus local aid received by the school district divided by the total weighted average daily attendance of the school district and all charter schools within the school district. Local aid is defined as all local and county revenue received by the school district and charter schools within the school district.</p> <p>A charter school that has declared itself a local educational agency shall receive all state aid calculated under this act from the Department, and all local aid calculated under the act from the school district. A charter school shall receive an annual amount as set forth in the act.</p> <p>Each month the school district shall calculate the amount of local aid owed to the charter school by the school district, and the school district shall pay such amount to the charter school. If any payment of local aid is due, the school district shall make monthly payments on the twenty-first day of each month, beginning in July of each year. If the school district fails to make timely payments to the charter schools, the Department shall impose any penalty deemed appropriate.</p> <p>Each school district shall, as part of an annual audit, include a report converting the local aid received from an accrual basis to a cash basis. Such report shall be made publicly available on its district website.</p> <p>The Department shall be required, under this act, to conduct an annual review of any payments made in the previous fiscal year to determine whether there has been any underpayment or overpayment. Such review shall include a calculation of the amount of local aid owed to charter schools using the first preceding year's annual audit. The school district shall pay to the charter</p> |             |

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|              |            | <p>school the amount calculated by such review. In the event of an underpayment, the school district shall remit the underpayment amount to the charter school. In the event of an overpayment, the charter school shall remit the overpayment amount to the school district. If the school district or charter school fails to remit any required payment, the Department shall impose any penalty deemed necessary.</p> <p>If a prior year correction of the amount of local aid is necessary, the school district shall recalculate the amount owed to the charter school or provide a bill to the charter school for any overpayment amount.</p> <p>Each charter school and each school district responsible for distributing local aid to charter schools shall include as part of their annual independent audit, an audit of pupil residency, enrollment, and attendance in order to verify pupil residency in the school district or local education agency.</p> <p>The provisions of this section shall become effective on July 1, 2021.</p> <p><u>THE CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP FUND</u><br/>This act creates the "Charter Public School Sponsorship Fund" to be used by the Commission to pay expenses associated with sponsorship of charter schools.</p> |                     |
| SB 528       | Cunningham | <p>Under this act, in any fiscal year in which the total foundation formula appropriation is greater than the amount reimbursed to schools, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall transfer the excess funding to the School Transportation Fund established in this act.</p> <p>This act establishes the "School Transportation Fund" in the State Treasury. The fund shall be administered by the commissioner of the Department, and any funds deposited into the fund shall be paid to school districts to provide transportation to students, in addition to state aid currently provided for transportation of students, based on the number of students transported by the district.</p>  | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 529       | Cunningham | <p><u>ECONOMIC NEXUS</u><br/>Beginning October 1, 2020, this act provides that a vendor shall be considered to be engaging in business activities in this state if such vendor had cumulative gross receipts of at least \$100,000 from the sale of tangible personal property for the purpose of storage, use, or consumption in this</p>   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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|              |         | <p>state in the previous twelve-month period, as described in the act. Vendors meeting such criteria shall be required to collect and remit the use tax as provided under current law.</p> <p>Eighty percent of the use tax revenue collected from remittances made pursuant to this provision shall be deposited in the School Transportation Fund, which is created by the act, to fund school district transportation costs pursuant to current law. The remaining twenty percent of use tax revenues shall be deposited in the County Jail Reimbursement Fund, which is created by the act, to fund reimbursements made to counties for certain jail costs as provided under current law.</p>   |                     |
| SB 534       | Romine  | <p>Current law defines a charter school as an independent public school, and sets forth the areas in which a charter school may be operated, which entities are eligible to sponsor charter schools, and how changes in a school district's accreditation status shall affect charter schools.</p> <p>This act repeals such provisions, and defines a charter school as a semi-autonomous public school that may be operated in any school district, sponsored only by the school board of the district or by a special administrative board for the district. This act shall not affect charter contracts that are in effect on the effective date of this act until the expiration of such contract.</p> <p>Current law provides that the charter school shall select the method for election of officers based on the class of corporation selected. Under this act, the method for election of officers of the charter school shall be mutually agreed to by the charter and sponsoring school board.</p> <p>This act also repeals provisions relating to the expenses associated with sponsorship of charter schools, and provides that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall monitor each school board's sponsorship and ensure the school board meets certain requirements set forth in the act. Current law permits the Department to withhold a sponsor's funding if such sponsor is found to be in material noncompliance with its sponsorship duties. This act repeals this provision.</p> <p>If the State Board removes the authority to sponsor a currently operating charter school, the State Board, rather than the Missouri Charter Public School Commission, shall become the sponsor of the school for the remainder of the term of the charter contract. The State Board shall not be authorized to renew the contract. Further, the state and the sponsoring district shall not be liable for any outstanding liability or obligations of the charter school. This act does not exempt the charter sponsor or resident district from liability.</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>This act repeals provisions setting forth the application and approval process for charter school sponsors, and instead provides that the Department shall exercise sponsorship oversight and monitoring to ensure that local school districts only sponsor charter schools that meet criteria set forth in the act, and do so by way of a procedure that complies with the process outlined in the act.</p> <p>Any person, group or organization seeking to establish a charter school shall submit the proposed charter to the local school board or special administrative board, rather than to a charter sponsor. This act repeals the provision requiring a charter to include a legally binding performance contract that outlines the obligations and responsibilities of the school and sponsor, and also repeals all contract requirements. Instead, a charter shall include a contract that outlines the responsibilities of the school to provide students with a free, accessible, non-sectarian, quality education that is delivered subject to the same basic safeguards and standards as other district schools, including certain standards set forth in the act.</p> <p>A charter school may be approved, under this act, only if the sponsor determines the charter is both necessary to meet the needs of students in the district and will meet those needs in a manner that improves the local public school system. Charter schools may be authorized or expanded only after a district has assessed the impact of the proposed charter school on local public school resources, programs and services, and other elements set forth in the act. The impact analysis shall be independent, developed with community input, and be publicly available.</p> <p>If a proposed charter is denied by a sponsor, the charter may be submitted to the State Board, who may only consider appeals of approvals or denials on the grounds that the sponsor's process for approving a charter was not properly followed or that the approval or denial was arbitrary or illegal. This act repeals current provisions setting forth charter school requirements, and charter school sponsor requirements.</p> <p>The charter of a charter school may be amended by mutual agreement of the governing body of the charter school and the sponsor, rather than at the request of the governing body and upon approval of the sponsor. This act also repeals provisions relating to when the sponsor and governing board shall review the school's performance, management and operations, and requires the sponsor and governing board to do so as provided in the charter contract.</p> |             |

| SENATE BILLS |         |  |             |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>This act repeals the provisions requiring the Department to calculate an annual performance report for each charter school, and requiring the Joint Committee on Education to create a committee to investigate facility access and affordability of charter schools.</p> <p>This act repeals all provisions relating to high-quality charter schools.</p> <p>A charter school shall enroll, under this act, all pupils residing in the district in which it operates as provided in the contract, provided that charter schools operating under contracts in effect on the effective date of this section may enroll pupils as provided in the charter and contract in effect on the effective date of this act.</p> <p>This act repeals provisions setting forth exceptions to the admissions process set forth in current law, as well as provisions requiring charter school students who have been enrolled for a full academic year to be counted in the performance of the charter school on statewide assessments.</p> <p>This act further repeals the provision requiring a charter school to make available a copy of the written copy of any contract between a charter school and an educational management company.</p> <p>Provisions relating to state aid for workplace charter schools are repealed under this act, in addition to certain provisions setting forth the amount of state aid charter schools shall receive from the Department. Any dispute between the school district and a charter school as to the amount owing to the charter school shall be resolved as provided in the contract, rather than by the Department.</p> <p>This act prohibits a charter school from being operated by a management company or any entity other than the charter school board and the chief administrative officer, and repeals provisions setting forth the requirements for proposal requests.</p> <p>Provisions allowing the Department to obtain information regarding the financial condition of a charter school, and outlining the determination for whether a charter school shall be identified as experiencing financial stress are repealed under this act.</p> <p>A sponsor shall be required to promptly notify the governing board of a charter school if such school is experiencing financial stress. Current law requires a sponsor to notify the board by November first. Upon receiving such notification, the charter school and sponsor shall mutually</p> |             |

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|              |          | <p>agree to a revised budget and education plan that shall meet certain requirements set forth in the act.</p> <p>Provisions allowing a sponsor to make suggestions to improve a plan are repealed, along with provisions allowing the Department to withhold any payment aid due to a charter school until compliance with current law.</p> <p>Current law allows a charter school to employ non-certificated instructional personnel provided certain conditions are met. This act repeals such provision and requires a charter school to employ certificated personnel under the same requirements applicable to instructional personnel of the district.</p> <p>Under this act, the Missouri Charter Public School Commission shall be prohibited from approving or renewing any charter for sponsorship on or after the effective date of this act.</p> <p>The Commission shall be abolished 30 days after the date of the last expiration of existing charter contracts effective on the effective date of this act, for charter schools sponsored by the Commission on the effective date of this act.</p> |                     |
| SB 536       | Romine   | Under this act, the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Career and Technical Advisory Council, shall develop a statewide plan establishing the minimum requirements for a career and technical education (CTE) certificate. Each local school district shall determine the curriculum, programs of study, and course offerings based on the requirements of the statewide plan.   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 581       | Cierpiot | <p>This act establishes the "Show Me a Brighter Future Scholarship Program".</p> <p>For all fiscal years beginning on July 1, 2021, any taxpayer who makes a qualifying contribution to the Show Me a Brighter Future Scholarship Fund set forth in the act may claim a tax credit equal to 100% of the total contribution. The amount of the tax credit claimed by an individual taxpayer or a married couple filing jointly shall not exceed 50% of the taxpayer's state tax liability for the year in which the credit is claimed, nor shall a corporate taxpayer claim a tax credit in excess of 50% of such taxpayer's state tax liability for the year.</p>  | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>The State Treasurer shall certify the tax credit amount to the taxpayer. Such credit may be carried forward to any of the taxpayer's three subsequent tax years. No tax credits authorized under the program shall be transferred, sold, or assigned, and are not refundable.</p> <p>The cumulative amount of tax credits that may be allocated to all taxpayers contributing to the scholarship fund in the first year of the program shall not exceed \$25 million. If the amount of the tax credits claimed in the first tax year exceeds 90% of the tax credits available, the amount of tax credits available shall increase by 10% in the subsequent year. Tax credits shall be allocated by the State Treasurer on a first come, first served basis.</p> <p>A taxpayer who makes a contribution to the scholarship fund shall not designate the student who will receive a scholarship grant.</p> <p>The State Treasurer shall adopt rules and procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this act, including rules setting forth the order of preference for scholarship awards, reporting requirements, responsibilities of a parent of an eligible student, and responsibilities of an eligible student's district of residence.</p> <p>Scholarship grants shall be provided to eligible students with a qualified tuition savings account or an Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) account.</p> <p>Under this act, an eligible student is any student who is a member of a household whose total annual income does not exceed an amount equal to two times the income standard used to qualify for free and reduced price lunch, who has attended a public school in the preceding semester or is starting school in the state for the first time, or who is starting school in Missouri for the first time and is a sibling of a student already enrolled in the program.</p> <p>The amount of scholarship grants awarded to eligible students shall be equal to the state adequacy target, and the amount of scholarship grants awarded to a special education eligible student shall be in an amount equal to the state adequacy target multiplied by 1.75.</p> <p>Scholarship funds in a qualified tuition savings account shall only be used for payment of tuition at a qualifying school. Scholarship funds in an ABLE account shall only be used for tuition at a qualifying school, special education services, therapies, and transportation.</p> |             |

| SENATE BILLS |            |  |                     |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR    | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|              |            | The State Treasurer may bar a parent from future participation in the program if the State Treasurer establishes that the parent has intentionally spent scholarship grant funds for a purpose other than that allowed under the act or by rule.   |                     |
| SB 582       | Arthur     | <p>Under this act, school districts and charter schools shall receive state school funding under the foundation formula for high school students who are taking competency-based courses offered by their school district or charter school.</p> <p>Attendance of a student enrolled in a competency-based course shall equal the product of the district or charter school's prior year average attendance percentage multiplied by the total number of attendance hours normally allocable to a non-competency-based course of equal credit value.</p>   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 583       | Arthur     | <p>For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2021, this act establishes a tax deduction in the amount of 100% of unreimbursed educator expenses incurred by an eligible educator, not to exceed \$500.</p> <p>An eligible educator is defined as an individual who is a kindergarten through grade twelve teacher, instructor, counselor, principal, or aide in a school for at least 900 hours during a school year.</p> <p>Educator expenses are defined as expenses incurred as a result of the participation by the educator in professional development courses related to the curriculum in which the educator provides instruction, and expenses in connection with books, supplies, computer equipment and other equipment, and supplementary materials used by the eligible educator in the classroom.</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 603       | O'Laughlin | <p>This act modifies provisions relating to charter schools.</p> <p><u>CHARTER SCHOOLS</u><br/>Under this act, charter schools may be operated in a charter county or in a city with a population greater than 30,000.</p> <p>Charter schools may be operated in a school district that has been accredited without provisions, provided the charter school applicant submits a proposed charter to the school district for approval, along with evidence of community support for the operation of the charter school in the district. If the school board denies the charter school, the sponsor may appeal the decision to the Missouri Charter Public School Commission. The Commission may approve the charter</p>  | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

Legislation for the 2020 Legislative Session  
as of 1/4/2020

| SENATE BILLS |         |  |             |
|--------------|---------|--|-------------|
| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>application if it finds it more likely than not that there is community support for the charter school.</p> <p>The school board of the district in any district that is sponsoring a charter school in a charter county is eligible to sponsor a charter school.</p> <p>Procedures relating to changes in a school district's accreditation status that affect charter schools are repealed under this act.</p> <p>If a charter school fails to receive a renewal of its charter after a three-year term, the sponsor of the charter school at the time of the failure of renewal shall not sponsor any new charter schools until the State Board of Education has completed an evaluation and received a determination of compliance with state law for all charter schools sponsored by the sponsor and meets the state standards of sponsorship.</p> <p><u>UNDERPERFORMING CHARTER SCHOOLS</u></p> <p>Under this act, a charter school will be classified as underperforming if the charter school has received scores demonstrating that the percentage of students who perform proficient and advanced on the annual statewide system of assessments in English language arts and mathematics in a charter school is lower than the average percentage of grade-level-equivalent students attending nonselective attendance centers in the school district in which the charter school is located who perform proficient and advanced in English language arts and mathematics.</p> <p>A charter school will not be considered as underperforming if 50% or more of the school's students were previously considered dropouts, as defined under current law, or the average rate of growth in English language arts and mathematics on the annual statewide system of assessments is higher than the average growth in English language arts and mathematics for grade-level-equivalent students attending nonselective attendance centers in the school district in which the charter school is located.</p> <p><u>ESTABLISHING A CHARTER</u></p> <p>Current law requires a person, group, or organization seeking to establish a charter school to submit the proposed charter to a sponsor. The charter shall include a legally binding performance contract that describes the obligations and responsibilities of the school and the sponsor and shall, under this act, address the term of the charter, which shall be five years and may be renewed for a</p> |             |

| SENATE BILLS |         |  |             |
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|              |         | <p>five-year term. However, if a charter school underperforms for two of the three consecutive years immediately before a decision whether to renew the school's charter is made, such renewal shall only be for three years. If the charter school again underperforms for two years of the three-year term, the school's charter shall not be renewed.</p> <p>This act also requires the charter to show evidence of community support for the charter school, for all charter schools in school districts accredited without provision.</p> <p>Under current law, a charter school, per its charter, must be financially accountable. A charter school that receives local educational agency status must meet the requirements imposed by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act for audits of such agencies and comply with all federal audit requirements for charters with local educational agency status. Under this act, charter schools must make the results of such audits available on their website.</p> <p>A charter school must also seek to ensure that the percentage of its students who perform proficient and advanced on the annual statewide system of assessments in English language arts and mathematics is equal to or higher than the average percentage of grade-level-equivalent students attending nonselective attendance centers in the school district in which the charter school is located who perform proficient and advanced in English language arts and mathematics.</p> <p>A sponsor shall revoke a charter or take other appropriate remedial action, which may include placing the charter school on probationary status for no more than 24 months, at any time if the charter school underperforms for at least two years.</p> <p>Current law requires a sponsor to confirm that each charter school they sponsor is in material compliance and remains in material compliance with the charter and with statute. Under this act, the sponsor's renewal process of the charter school must consider if the charter school has underperformed for two of the three consecutive years immediately before a decision whether to renew the school's charter is made.</p> <p>The sponsor of a charter school is required to submit a revised charter application to the State Board for review beginning August first during the year in which a charter is considered for renewal, which shall include a financial audit performed by an independent third party and be paid for by the charter school.</p> |             |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p><u>CHARTER SCHOOL ADMISSION</u><br/>                     A charter school is required to enroll nonresident pupils who are residents of the state of Missouri, unless the pupil's enrollment will cause a resident pupil to be denied enrollment.</p> <p>Information a charter school must currently make available shall, according to the act, also be available on the charter school's website.</p> <p><u>DISTRIBUTION OF STATE SCHOOL AID</u><br/>                     If a charter school has one or more nonresident pupils, the nonresident pupils shall not be counted for purposes of determining the amount of aid. Each school district that has one or more of its resident pupils attending a charter school shall pay to the charter, for each pupil, 100% of its average per-pupil expenditure excluding interest payments and grants.</p> <p>A charter school that has declared itself as a local education agency shall, under current law, receive an annual amount set forth in statute. Under this act, if a charter school has one or more nonresident pupils, the charter school will receive payment from DESE in the amount set forth in current law. However, the nonresident pupils will not be counted for the purposes of determining state aid. Each school district that has one or more of its resident pupils attending a charter school that has declared itself as a local education agency as a nonresident pupil shall pay to the charter school, for each pupil, 100% of its average per-pupil expenditure excluding interest payments and grants.</p> <p>Upon notice of the charter school's declaration of local education agency status, DESE shall reduce the payment made to the school district in which the charter school is located from any source by the amount specified in current law, and pay directly to the charter school the annual amount reduced from the school district's payment.</p> <p>Under current law, a charter school may not charge tuition or impose fees that a school district is prohibited from charging or imposing, except that a charter school may receive tuition payments from districts in the same or an adjoining county for nonresident students who transfer to an approved charter school, and, under this act, payment from school districts as described above.</p> |             |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
|              |         | <p><u>POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS</u><br/>                     Under this act, a political subdivision shall not adopt, enforce, impose, or administer an ordinance, local policy, or local resolution that prohibits property sold, leased, or transferred by the political subdivision from being used for any lawful education purpose by a charter school.</p> <p>A political subdivision may not impose, enforce, or apply any deed restriction that expressly, or by its operation, prohibits property sold, leased, or transferred by the political subdivision from being used for any lawful educational purpose by a charter school.</p> <p>If a political subdivision offers property of the political subdivision for sale, lease, or rent, the political subdivision shall not refuse to sell, lease, or rent to a charter school solely because the charter school intends to use the property for an educational purpose.</p>   |                     |
| SB 614       | Emery   | <p><u>TEACHER TENURE AND REDUCTION IN FORCE</u><br/>                     This act limits teacher tenure to teachers first hired by a district before August 28, 2020. Teachers hired on or after August 28, 2020, shall not receive tenure. Additionally, any teacher first employed by a school district on or after August 28, 2020, shall not be eligible to participate in the current Teacher Choice Compensation Package.</p> <p>The act repeals the criteria that a school board uses when placing teachers on leave of absence because of a decrease in student enrollment, district reorganization, or financial condition.</p> <p><u>ABOLITION OF COURSES OR SUBJECTS IN THE ST. LOUIS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT</u><br/>                     This act repeals a provision governing the St. Louis City School District that requires when particular subjects or courses of instruction are eliminated, the teachers of those subjects or courses not be placed on leave of absence if they are qualified to teach other subjects or courses and a position is available.</p> <p><u>TEACHER AND ADMINISTRATOR EVALUATIONS</u><br/>                     Current law requires each school board to cause a comprehensive, performance-based evaluation for each teacher and administrator. This act specifies that the evaluation be done annually for each teacher and administrator. For teachers, the evaluation system developed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be used, or a district evaluation that utilizes the standards and indicators in the Department's system. In addition, this act requires the school board of the St. Louis City School District to perform such an evaluation for St. Louis teachers.</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|              |         | <p><u>SALARY SCHEDULES</u><br/>                     Each school district shall develop and adopt a performance salary schedule for all instructional personnel by July 1, 2021. The performance salary schedule shall review and may provide annual salary adjustments based upon performance determined by the annual evaluation system used by the district. Teachers shall be evaluated using multiple, fair, rigorous, transparent, and valid measures. A district may use the model evaluation form developed by the Department or a district evaluation form that utilizes the standards and indicators in the Department's system. Multiple measures of student achievement shall count for a minimum of 30% of the overall evaluation. The performance salary schedule shall not use advanced degrees as a basis for setting a salary schedule unless the advanced degree is in the area of certification or expertise.</p> <p>The Department may provide technical assistance to school boards in developing and implementing a local evaluation system. The Department shall develop a resource bank that includes resources that are appropriate to districts of different sizes, demographics, and locations.</p> <p>A district may develop additional salary schedules differentiated on assignment to a school receiving federal Title I funds, teaching in a subject area for which there is a teacher shortage, or to reflect the supply and demand of the teacher labor market.</p> |                     |
| SB 622       | Romine  | <p>This act establishes the Students' Right to Know Act.</p> <p>Under this act, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall be required to collect certain information set forth in the act, including the most in-demand jobs in the state, starting salary, and the education level required for such job, and information about the cost of colleges and vocational schools in the state, and student loans.</p> <p>This information shall be collected annually by the Department and shall be distributed to every public high school in the state for distribution to students by October 15.</p>   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 626       | Nasheed | <p>Under this act, beginning July 1, 2021, every public school in the St. Louis City school district, including charter schools, shall be required to use a response-to-intervention tiered approach to reading instruction for students determined by their school to be struggling readers. At a minimum, the reading levels of students in kindergarten through tenth grade shall be assessed at the beginning and middle of the school year. Students who score below district objectives for reading shall be provided with intensive, systemic reading instruction.</p>  | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

| SENATE BILLS |         |  |                     |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|              |         | <p>Beginning on January 1, 2021, and each January thereafter, each public school in the St. Louis City school district, including charter schools, must prepare a personalized learning plan for any kindergarten or first grade student whose most recent school-wide reading assessment result shows the student is below grade level. Certain exceptions exist from this requirement. For any student with a personalized learning plan, the student's main teacher must consult with the student's parent or guardian about the plan and must have consent to implement it. If a student is still performing below grade level through the end of the first grade year, the school must refer him or her for assessment to determine if an individualized education program (IEP) is necessary. If an IEP is not necessary, the personalized learning plan must remain in place until the student is at grade level.</p> <p>Any student who is not reading at the second grade level by the end of second grade may be promoted to third grade only if: the school provides additional reading instruction during the summer and demonstrates the student is ready for third grade at the end of summer school; if the school provides a "looping" classroom in which the student remains with the same teacher for multiple years and the student is not reading at the third grade level by the end of third grade, the student must be retained; or the student's parents or guardians may sign a notice that they prefer to have the student promoted except that the school will have final determination to retain.</p> <p>The St. Louis City school district and each charter school located in it must provide in the annual school accountability report card the numbers and percentages by grade of any students at grade level who have been promoted but who have been determined as reading below grade level.</p> |                     |
| SB 627       | Nasheed | <p>This act modifies provisions relating to the election of the members of the Board of Education for the city of St. Louis.</p> <p>This act describes the length of time board members in office on August 28, 2020, shall hold office, and repeals provisions of current law that determine when board members shall be elected.</p> <p>Under this act, beginning with the April 2021 municipal election, and at each succeeding election to fill a vacancy for an expiring term of office, members of the Board of Education for the city of St. Louis shall be elected from the seven subdistricts as set forth in the act. Such members shall assume the duties of their office at the first regular meeting of the Board of Education after their election, and shall hold office for three years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.</p>   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
|              |         | <p>Each of the seven subdistricts shall be established by the Board of Election Commissioners of the City of St. Louis, rather than by the State Board of Education, to be compact, contiguous, and as nearly as equal in population as practicable. No subdistrict shall cross ward lines or be comprised of parts of two or more wards but shall be composed of the whole of two or more wards. Establishment of the initial subdistricts is set forth in the act. In the event the wards are no longer contiguous after the Board of Aldermen is reapportioned after each decennial census, or at any other time, then the subdistricts shall be revised by the Board of Election Commissioners within 60 days after the Board of Aldermen has been reapportioned.</p> <p>This act sets forth the municipal election schedule for each subdistrict.</p>  |                     |
| SB 645       | Hoskins | <p>Under current law, when a sufficient number of children are determined to be gifted and their development requires programs or services beyond the level of those ordinarily provided in regular public school programs, districts may establish special programs for such gifted children. Approval of such programs shall be made by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education based upon project applications submitted by July 15 of each year.</p> <p>Under this act, if 3% or more of students enrolled in a school district are determined to be gifted, the district is required to establish a state-approved gifted program for gifted children. If a school district has an average daily attendance of 350 students or less, the district's gifted program shall not be required to provide services by a teacher certified to teach gifted education. Any teacher who provides gifted services through the program, and is not certified, shall annually participate in at least 6 hours of professional development focused on gifted development.</p> <p>Approval of such programs shall be made by the Department based upon project applications submitted at a time and in a form determined by the Department.</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 649       | Eigel   | <p><u>CHARTER SCHOOLS</u></p> <p>Under this act, charter schools may be operated in any school district located within a charter county, or in any metropolitan district with a population greater than 30,000 with only one school district, except in a district that is accredited by the State Board of Education and that has a resident pupil enrollment of less than 3,000.</p> <p>Procedures relating to changes in a school district's accreditation status that affect charter schools are repealed under this act.</p>   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>If a charter school fails to receive a renewal of its charter after a three-year term, the sponsor of the charter school at the time of the failure of renewal shall not sponsor any new charter schools until the State Board of Education has completed an evaluation and received a determination of compliance with state law for all charter schools sponsored by the sponsor and meets the state standards of sponsorship.</p> <p><u>UNDERPERFORMING CHARTER SCHOOLS</u></p> <p>Under this act, a charter school will be classified as underperforming if the charter school has received scores demonstrating that the percentage of students who perform proficient and advanced on the annual statewide system of assessments in English language arts and mathematics in a charter school is lower than the average percentage of grade-level-equivalent students attending nonselective attendance centers in the school district in which the charter school is located who perform proficient and advanced in English language arts and mathematics.</p> <p>A charter school will not be considered underperforming if 50% or more of the school's students were previously considered dropouts, as defined under current law, or the average rate of growth in English language arts and mathematics on the annual statewide system of assessments is higher than the average growth in English language arts and mathematics for grade-level-equivalent students attending nonselective attendance centers in the school district in which the charter school is located.</p> <p><u>ESTABLISHING A CHARTER</u></p> <p>Current law requires a person, group, or organization seeking to establish a charter school to submit the proposed charter to a sponsor. The charter shall include a legally binding performance contract that describes the obligations and responsibilities of the school and the sponsor and shall, under this act, address the term of the charter, which shall be five years and may be renewed for a three-year term. However, if a charter school underperforms for two of the three consecutive years immediately before a decision whether to renew the school's charter is made, such renewal shall only be for three years. If the charter school again underperforms for two years of the three-year term, the school's charter shall not be renewed.</p> <p>Under current law, a charter school, per its charter, must be financially accountable. A charter school that receives local educational agency status must meet the requirements imposed by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act for audits of such agencies and comply with all federal audit requirements for charters with local educational agency status. Under this act, charter schools must make the results of such audits available on their website.</p> |             |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>A charter school must also seek to ensure that the percentage of its students who perform proficient and advanced on the annual statewide system of assessments in English language arts and mathematics is equal to or higher than the average percentage of grade-level-equivalent students attending nonselective attendance centers in the school district in which the charter school is located who perform proficient and advanced in English language arts and mathematics.</p> <p>A sponsor shall revoke a charter or take other appropriate remedial action, which may include placing the charter school on probationary status for no more than 24 months, at any time if the charter school underperforms for at least two years.</p> <p>Current law requires a sponsor to confirm that each charter school they sponsor is in material compliance and remains in material compliance with the charter and with statute. Under this act, the sponsor's renewal process of the charter school must consider whether or not the charter school has underperformed for two of the three consecutive years immediately before a decision whether to renew the school's charter is made.</p> <p>If a charter school underperforms for two of the three consecutive years immediately before a decision whether to renew the charter is made, any renewal shall be only for a two-year term. If the charter school again underperforms for both years of the two-year term, the charter shall not be renewed.</p> <p>The sponsor of a charter school is required to submit a revised charter application to the State Board for review beginning August first during the year in which a charter is considered for renewal, which shall include a financial audit performed by an independent certified public accountant, and be paid for by the charter school.</p> <p>Information a charter school must currently make available shall, under this act, also be available on the charter school's website.</p> <p><u>CHARTER SCHOOL ADMISSION</u><br/>                     If capacity at a charter school is insufficient to enroll all pupils who submit a timely application, the charter school may give preference to students who will be eligible for the free and reduced price lunch program in the upcoming school year.</p> |             |

| SENATE BILLS |              |  |                     |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR      | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|              |              | <p><u>ST. LOUIS DEED RESTRICTIONS</u></p> <p>Under this act, St. Louis City shall not adopt, enforce, impose, or administer an ordinance, local policy, or local resolution that prohibits property sold, leased, or transferred by the city from being used for any lawful education purpose by a charter school. St. Louis City may not impose, enforce, or apply any deed restriction that expressly, or by its operation, prohibits property sold, leased, or transferred by the city from being used for any lawful educational purpose by a charter school.</p> <p>If St. Louis City offers property of the city for sale, lease, or rent, St. Louis shall not refuse to sell, lease, or rent to a charter school solely because the charter school intends to use the property for an educational purpose.</p> <p>Any deeds that have been executed and recorded prior to the effective date of this act shall be exempt from this provision.</p>   |                     |
| SB 660       | Bernskoetter | Under this act, for any school district located in more than one county, and whose headquarters are located within Owensville, the county signified in the school district number shall be the county in the district with the highest dollar value modifier.  | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 663       | Burlison     | <p>Under this act, a person commits the offense of unlawful use of a weapon if a person knowingly carries a concealed weapon into several locations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any public higher education institution without the consent of a member of the governing body of the institution, unless a person has a valid concealed carry permit;</li> <li>• Any public elementary or secondary school facility without the consent of a member of the school board, unless the person is a designated school protection officer;</li> <li>• Any school bus or on any premises of any school sponsored function, unless the weapon is possessed by an adult and is required in order to facilitate the school sanctioned firearm event;</li> </ul> <p>Finally, this act provides that the offense of unlawful use of a concealed weapon does not include the storage of a firearm in a vehicle, except where prohibited by federal law, so long as the firearm remains stored in the vehicle and is not at anytime brandished.</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR    | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS                |
|              |            | <p><u>CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS</u><br/>                     This act repeals provisions that prohibit someone with a valid concealed carry permit from carrying a concealed weapon in the multiple locations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any higher education institution;</li> <li>• Any portion of a building that has a child care facility;</li> <li>• Any public higher education institution building.</li> </ul> <p><u>PUBLIC EMPLOYEES WITH CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS</u><br/>                     This act prohibits the state or any county, municipality or other political subdivision from imposing any ordinance, rule, policy, contractual agreement, or employment agreement restricting an employee with a valid concealed carry permit from carrying a concealed weapon.</p> <p>Any public higher education institution may construct their own policies regarding concealed carry weapons on their campus, so long as such policies do not generally restrict the ability to carry a concealed weapon.</p> |                            |
| SB 678       | O'Laughlin | Relating to not for profit entities  | 12/15/19<br>Bill Withdrawn |
| SB 707       | Koenig     | <p>This act establishes the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program.</p> <p>For all fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2021, a taxpayer may make a qualifying contribution to an educational assistance organization and claim a tax credit equal to 85% of the amount of the contribution. The amount of the tax credit claimed shall not exceed 50% of the taxpayer's state tax liability for the tax year for which the credit is claimed, and a taxpayer may carry the credit forward to any of the next four tax years. Tax credits authorized under the program may not be transferred, sold, or assigned, and are not refundable.</p> <p>The annual cumulative amount of tax credits that may be allocated shall not exceed \$50 million. The State Treasurer shall establish a procedure to allocate the tax credits to the educational assistance organizations on a first come, first served basis. (Section 135.713)</p>  | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled        |

| SENATE BILLS |         |   |             |
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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>An educational assistance organization shall meet certain requirements set forth in the act, including notifying the State Treasurer of its intent to provide scholarship accounts; being a 501(c)(3) organization; providing a receipt to taxpayers for contributions; ensuring that funds are used as specified in the act; distributing scholarship payments four times per year in an amount not to exceed the state adequacy target; carry forward no more than 25% of the revenue from contributions into the following fiscal year; providing the State Treasurer, upon request, with criminal background checks on all employees and board members; annually administer either the state achievement tests or nationally norm-referenced tests and provide such results to the parents of participating students and to the State Treasurer; conduct an annual parental satisfaction survey; and demonstrate financial accountability and viability, as described in the act.</p> <p>Each educational assistance organization shall publicly report to the State Treasurer, by June first annually, the name and address of the organization, the total number and dollar amount of contributions during the previous calendar year, and the total number and dollar amount of scholarship accounts opened during the previous calendar year.</p> <p>The State Treasurer shall provide standardized forms for program participants, and shall require a taxpayer to provide a copy of such receipt if claiming a tax credit under the program.</p> <p>The State Treasurer or State Auditor may conduct an investigation of any educational assistance organization if it possesses evidence of fraud. In addition, the State Treasurer may bar an educational assistance organization from participating if the organization has failed to comply with program requirements.</p> <p>The State Treasurer shall issue a report on the state of the program five years after it goes into effect, including information regarding the finances of the educational assistance organization, and educational outcomes of qualified students.</p> <p>The provisions of the Missouri Sunset Act shall not apply to the program.</p> <p>A student is eligible to receive funds in a Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Account if he or she is identified as having a disability as set forth in the act, is a child of a parent in active military service, is a ward of the state, or can certify that he or she has been bullied. A high school student may be eligible to receive funds, if he or she is enrolled in a vocational education program at his</p> |             |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>or her high school or at an area vocational school, or in any job training or educational program offered by a labor organization.</p> <p>A qualified student shall also have attended a public school under circumstances set forth in the act or be eligible to begin kindergarten.</p> <p>A parent of a qualified student shall only use the money in the account for certain expenses related to the qualified student's education, as described in the act.</p> <p>The parent of a qualified student shall sign an agreement with an educational assistance organization to enroll the qualified student in a qualified school to receive an education for the student in certain subjects; not enroll the student, other than a student that is in the custody of the state, in a school operated by the qualified student's district of residence or in a charter school; release the district of residence from the obligation of educating the student while the student is enrolled in the program; use the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Account money for only specified purposes; and not use the funds for consumable education supplies or tuition at a private school located outside of the state.</p> <p>The scholarship accounts are renewable on an annual basis upon request of the parent of a qualified student. A qualified student shall remain eligible for renewal until the student completes high school. If a qualified student withdraws from the program by enrolling in a school other than a qualified school, or is disqualified from the program for violations specified in the act, the scholarship account shall be closed and any remaining funds shall be returned to the educational assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified students. When a student withdraws from the program, the responsibility for providing an education for that student transfers back to the student's district of residence.</p> <p>The funds remaining in the scholarship account at the end of a school year shall remain in the account for the following school year. Any funds remaining in the account after graduation shall be returned to the educational assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified students.</p> <p>Beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, the educational assistance organization shall conduct or contract for an annual audit of accounts to ensure compliance. A parent may be disqualified from program participation if the State Treasurer determines that the parent is found to have committed</p> |             |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
|              |         | <p>an intentional program violation. The State Treasurer may refer cases of substantial misuse of moneys to the Attorney General.</p> <p>A person commits a Class A misdemeanor if he or she is found to have knowingly used moneys for any purposes other than those set forth in the act.</p>   |                     |
| SB 718       | White   | <p>This act modifies provision relating to military families, including state designations, programs implemented by the Attorney General, teacher licensing, developmental disability services, and child protection.</p> <p><u>MILITARY FAMILY MONTH</u><br/>This act designates November as "Military Family Month" in Missouri to recognize the daily sacrifices of military families.</p> <p><u>TEACHER LICENSING FOR MILITARY SPOUSES</u><br/>This act provides that a provisional certificate issued to any qualified military spouse who is hired to teach in a Missouri public school is valid for three years. Additionally, no later than 30 days after confirmation of completion of the required background check, the State Board of Education shall issue a full certificate of license to a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces who is stationed in Missouri if all necessary fees are paid and all other requirements are met.</p>   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |
| SB 734       | Emery   | <p>This act modifies the calculation of the amount a school district with one or more pupils attending a charter school shall pay to the charter school.</p> <p>A school district having one or more resident pupils attending a charter school shall pay to the charter school an annual amount set forth in current law, plus local aid received by the school district divided by the total weighted average daily attendance of the school district and all charter schools within the school district. Local aid is defined as all local and county revenue received by the school district and charter schools within the school district.</p> <p>A charter school that has declared itself a local educational agency shall receive all state aid calculated under this act from the Department, and all local aid calculated under the act from the school district. A charter school shall receive an annual amount as set forth in the act.</p> <p>Each month the school district shall calculate the amount of local aid owed to the charter school by the school district, and the school district shall pay such amount to the charter school. If any payment of local aid is due, the school district shall make monthly payments on the twenty-first</p> | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

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| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
|              |         | <p>day of each month, beginning in July of each year. If the school district fails to make timely payments to the charter schools, the Department shall impose any penalty deemed appropriate.</p> <p>Each school district shall, as part of an annual audit, include a report converting the local aid received from an accrual basis to a cash basis. Such report shall be made publicly available on its district website.</p> <p>The Department shall be required, under this act, to conduct an annual review of any payments made in the previous fiscal year to determine whether there has been any underpayment or overpayment. Such review shall include a calculation of the amount of local aid owed to charter schools using the first preceding year's annual audit. The school district shall pay to the charter school the amount calculated by such review. In the event of an underpayment, the school district shall remit the underpayment amount to the charter school. In the event of an overpayment, the charter school shall remit the overpayment amount to the school district. If the school district or charter school fails to remit any required payment, the Department shall impose any penalty deemed necessary.</p> <p>If a prior year correction of the amount of local aid is necessary, the school district shall recalculate the amount owed to the charter school or provide a bill to the charter school for any overpayment amount.</p> <p>Each charter school and each school district responsible for distributing local aid to charter schools shall include as part of their annual independent audit, an audit of pupil residency, enrollment, and attendance in order to verify pupil residency in the school district or local education agency.</p> <p>The provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2021.</p> |                     |
| SB 751       | Hough   | <p>Current law permits the State Board of Education to adopt rules and regulations governing the use of authorized common carriers for the transportation of students on field trips or other special trips for educational purposes.</p> <p>Under this act, no rule or regulation shall require authorized common carriers to provide restroom facilities unless the length of the trip exceeds the length of the school district's longest bus route.</p>   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled |

| SENATE BILLS |            |   |                      |
|--------------|------------|---|----------------------|
| BILL         | SPONSOR    | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS          |
| SB 755       | Sater      | Under this act, information pertaining to the salaries and benefits of the executive director and employees of the Board of the Public School Retirement System of Missouri shall not be considered confidential individually identifiable information.   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled  |
| SB 786       | Romine     | Modifies provisions governing school district and charter school course materials and instruction on human sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases  | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled  |
| SB 787       | Romine     | Beginning July 1, 2021, all public schools and charter schools serving students in grades seven to twelve, and all institutions of higher education that issue student identification cards shall be required to print on either side of the identification card the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.<br><br>Such schools may also print the number for the Crisis Text Line and a local suicide prevention telephone number. Institutions of higher education may also include the phone number of campus police or security, or the local law enforcement authority's phone number.<br><br>If any public school, charter school, or institution of higher education has a supply of unissued student identification cards that do not comply with this act, the school shall issue such student identification cards until the supply is depleted.<br><br>This act shall apply to a student identification card issued for the first time to a student, and to any student identification card issued to replace a damaged or lost student identification card. | 12/13/19<br>Prefiled |
| SJR 50       | O'Laughlin | This proposed constitutional amendment, if approved by the voters, provides that students participating in any event or activity, that is a single-gender event, organized by any statewide activity association shall be required to participate in the event corresponding to the student's biological sex.   | 12/1/19<br>Prefiled  |
| SJR 55       | Eigel      | This constitutional amendment, if approved by the voters, declares that every parent has a fundamental right to exercise exclusive control over all aspects of their minor children's lives without governmental interference, including, but not limited to, decisions regarding their minor children's custody, upbringing, education, religious instruction, discipline, physical and mental health care, and place of habitation. This fundamental right does not extend to any action by the parent that threatens clear, immediate, and substantial physical injury to their minor child, nor permit a parent to compel a minor child to have an abortion.  | 12/18/19<br>Prefiled |

| SENATE BILLS |         |   |             |
|--------------|---------|---|-------------|
| BILL         | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS |
|              |         | <p>This amendment also declares that every parent has a fundamental right to require government entities to obtain the parent's explicit permission before soliciting or sharing information obtained from a minor child about the child or the child's family, unless the information is obtained during a criminal investigation or, if enrolled in public school, the child's knowledge of academic subjects.</p> <p>This amendment guarantees that every parent shall have the fundamental right to decide what educational settings in which to place their child.</p> <p>This amendment lists several circumstances in which government interference with parental rights will be justified, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) When protecting a child from a clear, immediate, and substantial threat of physical injury;</li> <li>(2) When a parent has been found by a court to have knowingly exposed a child to physical neglect, abandonment, reckless endangerment, or sexual or physical abuse;</li> <li>(3) When a parent has been found by a court to be incapacitated or mentally incompetent;</li> <li>(4) When a child has been emancipated by court order in accordance with state statutes;</li> <li>(5) When a court has assumed jurisdiction over a minor child charged with or convicted of violating a criminal statute; and</li> <li>(6) When a court of law has assigned parental rights to one parent or a non-biological parent as a result of mental incompetence, adoption, or marital dissolution.</li> </ol> <p>Finally, this amendment permits any parent whose rights have been adversely affected to challenge the constitutionality of the infringing law, policy, or other government act and seek damages and attorney's fees.</p> |             |

| HOUSE BILLS |          |   |                     |
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| BILL        | SPONSOR  | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
| HB 1262     | Bangert  | This bill requires school districts to provide instruction in cursive writing by the end of the fifth grade, including a proficiency test of competency in reading and writing cursive  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1275     | Unsicker | <p>This bill removes the requirement that, when a student is believed to have committed an act, if committed by an adult, would be assault in the third degree or harassment on school property, including a school bus in service on behalf of the district, or while involved in school activities, the principal immediately report such incident to the appropriate law enforcement agency and the superintendent. The principal must still report to law enforcement, the superintendent, and the parents of any victim as soon as reasonably practical when a student commits any offense specified in Subsection 2 of Section 160.261, RSMo.</p> <p>Currently, when a pupil is discovered to have on his or her person, among the pupil's possessions, or placed elsewhere on the school premises any controlled substance or any weapon, the principal is required to report the discovery to the appropriate law enforcement agency immediately. This bill changes the requirement to being reported as soon as reasonably practical. Furthermore, the bill specifies that, any time a teacher becomes aware of such possession, he or she shall report such incident to the principal as soon as reasonably practical.</p> <p>The bill provides civil immunity for school employees, superintendents, or their designees who provide information to law enforcement or juvenile authorities regarding an instance in which a pupil is believed to have committed an act that, if committed by an adult, would be assault in the third degree or assault in the fourth degree.</p> | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1276     | Unsicker | This bill establishes the "Missouri Employment First Act". The bill requires all state agencies that provide employment-related services or provide services or support to persons with disabilities to coordinate with other agencies, share data where feasible, promote competitive integrated employment, and implement an employment first policy when providing services to persons with disabilities of working age. In addition, state agencies shall offer specified information to all working-age persons with disabilities and to the parents or guardians of youth with a disability. The bill provides that this shall not be construed as requiring any state agency or employer to give a preference in hiring to persons with disabilities, or require a state agency to perform an action not in conformity with federal law.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1279     | Brown    | This bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a model policy, by January 1, 2021, relating to accommodations for breastfeeding. Public school districts must adopt a written policy by July 1, 2021.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |                     |
|-------------|---------|--|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|             |         | The policy must include provisions to provide accommodations to lactating employees, teachers, and students to express, or breast-feed for each public school building within the district for at least a year after the birth of a child. Accommodations must meet requirements as specified in bill and districts must provide a minimum of three opportunities during a school day to express or breast-feed.   |                     |
| HB 1280     | Brown   | This bill defines "growth model" as the use of scores to measure growth of individual students over time, and provides an option that the Missouri School Improvement Plan use either the Statewide System of Assessments or results on multiple standardized formative assessments primarily for the purpose of determining growth and using the growth model to help in determining accreditation classifications.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1281     | Brown   | Currently, a student may be suspended by a school superintendent for 180 days. This bill reduces the amount of time a student may be suspended by the superintendent to 90 days.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1294     | Dinkins | This bill requires public buildings owned or leased by the state to display in a prominent location the national motto of the United States, as outlined in the bill.<br><br>The bill also requires school districts to provide instruction on the national motto of the United States as a part of the social studies curriculum by the 5th grade.<br><br>Beginning in the 2020-21 school year schools are required to display the national motto of the United States, in a prominent location, as defined in the bill.  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1295     | Dinkins | This bill requires schools to offer instructions on hunter safety with a firearm safety component as a required part of sixth, seventh, or eighth grade physical education courses, beginning in school year 2021-22.<br><br>The bill allows high schools to offer at least one elective physical education course that includes firearm safety instruction with a qualified firearm safety instructor.<br><br>This bill requires school districts beginning in the school year 2021-22 to teach in first grade a gun safe program as specified in Section 171.410, RSMo.<br><br>A student shall not be required to participate in any hunter safety instruction or gun safe program if the student or the student's parent or legal guardian has any objection to such instruction. | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |   |                     |
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| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
| HB 1298     | Dinkins | This bill repeals the July 1, 2014 termination date of a provision allowing members of the Public School Retirement System of Missouri who have 31 or more years of creditable service to have their retirement allowance calculated using a multiplier of 2.55%.<br><br>The bill contains an emergency clause.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1301     | Dinkins | Currently, school districts may designate teachers or administrators to be school protection officers. This bill adds other designated school personnel to the list of employees a school district may designate as a school protection officer.  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1304     | Dinkins | This bill specifies that no person shall operate a motor vehicle within a school zone while using a wireless communication device to make or take part in a phone call or to send, read, or write a text message or electronic message unless the device is equipped with technology allowing for hands-free operation or for voice-recognition hands-free texting and is being used in such manner.  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1317     | Sommer  | This bill requires school districts to establish a state-approved gifted program if 3% or more of the students are determined to be gifted. Districts with average daily attendance of more than 350 students are required to have a teacher certificated to teach gifted education, any teacher providing gifted instruction without a gifted-teaching certificate must participate in six hours year of professional development regarding gifted services.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1318     | Sommer  | This bill defines "automated school bus safety camera" and allows school districts to install and operate automated school bus safety cameras to detect violations of "Jessica's Law" Section 304.050, RSMo, relating to stopping for school buses.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1336     | Kelley  | This bill modifies current law regarding reading intervention programs. Each local school district and charter school shall have on file a policy for reading success plans for any pupil in the district, in grades K-4, that requires one, rather than through grade three. Authority to develop guidelines to assist school districts and charter schools in formulating policies for reading success plans is transferred from the State Board of Education to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and each local district shall develop a policy aligned with the DESE reading success plan.<br><br>In this bill, each school district and charter school shall administer a reading assessment or set of assessments to each student within the first 30 days of school for grades 1-4, and by January 31 for kindergarten.<br><br>This bill removes the requirement that school districts and charter schools design a reading intervention plan for the student's fourth-grade year if the student's third-grade reading assessment | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |             |
|-------------|---------|--|-------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS |
|             |         | <p>determines the student is reading below second-grade level. The provision is replaced with a requirement that school districts and charter schools offer a reading success program to each K-4 student who exhibits a reading deficiency or has a formal diagnosis of Dyslexia. Any K-4 student who exhibits a deficiency in reading at any time, based upon local or statewide screening assessments, shall receive an individual reading success plan as defined in the bill no later than 45 days after the identification of the deficiency.</p> <p>In this bill, beginning with the 2020-21 school year, students who are not reading at grade level by the end of the second grade shall receive intensive reading improvement to remedy the student's specific reading deficiency. School districts and charter schools shall provide improvement and support services set forth in the bill.</p> <p>This bill requires school districts and charter schools to establish an intensive acceleration class for any student not reading proficient or above on the third-grade state assessment, and shall meet certain criteria set forth in the bill.</p> <p>This bill allows school districts and charter schools to provide summer reading camps to all third-grade students scoring below proficient.</p> <p>This bill extends the mandatory process of additional reading instruction from grade six to graduation from high school. Each school district and charter school is required to offer summer school reading instruction to any student with a reading success plan. The parent or legal guardian of any student who exhibits a deficiency in reading shall be notified in writing no later than 30 school days after identification of the deficiency.</p> <p>This bill requires the board of each school district and charter school to post, by September 1 of each year, by building, the number and percentage of all students in grades 3-8 scoring at each proficiency level on the English language arts statewide assessment.</p> <p>This bill also repeals provisions of law relating to mandatory retention for reading deficiencies.</p> <p>The bill requires DESE to align literacy and reading instruction, and communicate with institutions of higher education to add Dyslexia education to teacher education programs. The bill also requires the Commissioner of Education to establish a "reading instruction advisory council" as outlined in the bill to provide recommendations regarding any identified improvements to reading instruction and reading policy for Missouri students.</p> |             |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |   |                     |
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| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
| HB 1338     | Kelley  | <p>For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2021, this bill authorizes a tax deduction in the amount of 100% of unreimbursed educator expenses incurred by an eligible educator, not to exceed \$500. An eligible educator is defined as an individual who is a K-12 teacher, instructor, counselor, principal, or aide in a school for at least 900 hours during a school year.</p> <p>Educator expenses are expenses incurred as a result of the participation by the educator in professional development courses related to the curriculum in which the educator provides instruction, and expenses in connection with books, supplies, computer equipment and other equipment, and supplementary materials used by the eligible educator in the classroom.</p> | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1345     | Baker   | <p>This bill allows a school district to offer an elective social studies unit on the Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament of the Bible, or the New Testament of the Bible. The course will include the contents, history, literary style and structure, and influences on society. No requirement shall be made by the district on the text translation students must use. This bill requires that any course offered shall follow applicable laws maintaining religious neutrality, and shall not endorse, favor, promote, or show hostility to any particular religion, nonreligious faith or religious perspective.</p>   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1346     | Baker   | <p>This bill requires that schools, beginning in the 2021-22 school year and continuing thereafter, display the national motto of the United States, "In God We Trust" in a prominent location, as defined in the bill.</p>   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1349     | Baker   | <p>Starting July 1, 2021, this bill requires that students complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before being eligible for a certificate of graduation from a public high school.</p> <p>The bill also requires the State Board of Education to develop a document for school districts to use for exception purposes as outlined in the bill.</p>   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1350     | Kidd    | <p>This bill authorizes a school board to remove its district's operating levy from the definition of levies that are subject to tax increment allocation financing for redevelopment projects pursuant to Section 99.845, RSMo.</p> <p>The bill specifies that a district's operating levy will be removed from the definition if a two-thirds majority of the school board votes in favor after permitting public comment on the matter at two consecutive school board meetings.</p>   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |            |   |                     |
|-------------|------------|---|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR    | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
| HB 1357     | Ellebracht | This bill allows county schools to receive the proceeds of fines for specified municipal ordinance violations in the same manner that they currently collect revenue for fines collected for the breach of state laws.  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1402     | Murphy     | <p>This bill establishes the "Joint Committee on Media Literacy" comprised of 14 members; three to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, three appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate, and eight members appointed by the Governor as outlined in the bill.</p> <p>The purpose of the committee shall be to conduct a study on teaching "media literacy", as defined in the bill as the set of skills required to critically assess, analyze, create, and participate in the information and media environment in all of its formats including, but not limited to, advertising, film and television, journalism, music and radio, magazine and book publishing, websites, and mobile applications.</p> <p>The committee will meet at least once during each legislative session, and organize as outlined in the bill. The committee shall also complete and submit a final report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tem of the Senate, which shall include recommendations and guidance on best practices as outlined in the bill by February 1, 2021.</p> | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1470     | Appelbaum  | <p>This bill establishes the "Jason Flatt/Avery Reine Cantor Act," which states that beginning in the 2021-22 school year, each school district must offer at least two hours of suicide prevention training for all practicing teachers. All teachers, principals, and licensed educators must attend such a training or complete training on suicide prevention through self-review of suicide prevention materials.</p> <p>The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may develop materials to be used for such training or may offer districts materials developed by a third party.</p>  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1479     | Quade      | <p>Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, this bill requires specified charter school applications that are approved by the State Board of Education (SBE) to not become effective until approved by the voters of the district in which the charter school is located.</p> <p>The bill requires the SBE to review applications within 60 days of receipt. If an application fails, the SBE shall notify the charter in writing and identify the specific failures within 10 business days.</p>  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |                     |
|-------------|---------|--|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|             |         | The bill requires that the charter approval be submitted to the voters of the district at the next municipal election or, if the next annual school election is more than 60 days away, at a special election. A majority vote is required for approval of the charter school application.   |                     |
| HB 1480     | Quade   | This bill authorizes the governing body of any county of the first classification with more than 260,000 but fewer than 300,000 inhabitants or any city within the county to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax not to exceed .25% on all retail sales within the county or city for the purpose of funding early childhood education.<br><br>Currently, this applies to Greene County.  | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1483     | Rehder  | This bill requires criminal background checks to be conducted on any person who is 18 years of age or older, who is not counted by the district for purposes of average daily attendance, and who requests enrollment in a course that takes place on school property during regular school hours.<br><br>A person shall be prohibited from enrolling in such a course if he or she has plead guilty to, or been convicted of, any crime or offense which would currently prevent the issuance of a teaching certificate. The background check shall be conducted before the person enrolls in the course.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1487     | Rehder  | This bill allows, a recovery charter high school to be operated in an urban school district containing most or all of Kansas City.<br><br>This bill defines a "recovery charter high school" as a charter school for students in grades nine through 12 who are in recovery from substance use disorder or dependency. Such charter school must educate all available eligible students who are in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders such as anxiety, depression, and attention deficit hyperbillivity disorder (ADHD); must meet state requirements for awarding a high school diploma; and must support students in working a strong program of recovery.<br><br>A recovery charter high school shall enroll all pupils in the district in which it operates; nonresident pupils eligible to attend a district's school under an urban voluntary transfer program; nonresident pupils who transfer from an unaccredited district; and any nonresident pupil, who is in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders. Admission shall be limited to pupils who are in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders. | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |                     |
|-------------|---------|--|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|             |         | <p>A recovery charter high school may enroll students residing in a state other than Missouri, provided such student is in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders specified in the bill. This bill grants the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) the authority to enter into agreements with other states to develop a reciprocity agreement for students seeking to attend a recovery charter high school in Missouri. The out-of-state student's district of residence shall pay to the recovery charter high school an annual amount equal to 105% of the previous year's per pupil expenditure in Missouri, and the student shall not be included in Missouri's count of average daily attendance. If an out-of-state student resides in a state that is not subject to a reciprocity agreement, such student may attend a recovery charter high school provided such student pays to the school 105% of the previous year's per pupil expenditure in Missouri.</p> <p>The bill specifies that if a recovery charter high school that has not declared itself as a local educational agency has one or more nonresident pupils, the nonresident pupils shall not be counted for purposes of determining state aid. Each school district that has one or more of its resident pupils attending such a charter school shall pay to the charter school, for each such pupil, 100% of its average per-pupil expenditure, excluding interest payments and grants.</p> <p>If a recovery charter high school that has declared itself a local educational agency has one or more nonresident pupils, DESE shall reimburse such charter school an amount specified in the bill. Upon notice of the charter school's declaration of local educational agency status, the DESE shall reduce the payment made to the school district in which the charter school is located by the amount set forth in the bill, and pay such amount directly to the charter school.</p> <p>This bill also permits charter schools to receive payments from school districts.</p> |                     |
| HB 1490     | Beck    | <p>This bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a model policy, by January 1, 2021, relating to accommodations for breastfeeding. Public school districts must adopt a written policy meeting the requirements of this bill by July 1, 2021.</p> <p>The policy must include provisions to provide accommodations to lactating employees, teachers, and students to express, or breastfeed in each public school building within the district for at least a year after the birth of a child. Accommodations must meet requirements as specified in bill and districts must provide a minimum of three opportunities during a school day to express or breast-feed.</p>   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |            |   |                     |
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| BILL        | SPONSOR    | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
| HB 1508     | Ellebracht | This bill requires public institutions of higher learning to adopt and implement policies, as outlined in the bill, that will give undergraduate course credit to entering freshman students for each advanced placement (AP) examination upon which such student achieves a score of three or higher. The Coordinating Board for Higher Education will consult with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to identify correlations between subject matter and content in courses and examinations in the AP program, and shall make that information public on the board's website. | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1537     | Washington | This bill requires public schools to adopt and implement a policy beginning in the 2020-21 school year for prefilled auto syringes of epinephrine. The school nurse or a designated employee of the school is responsible for the maintenance of the supply.<br><br>The State Board of Education must develop a model policy for districts to adopt before January 1, 2021.   | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1540     | Basye      | This bill prevents any public school district from prohibiting a parent or guardian from recording any meeting held under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or a Section 504 plan meeting (Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973).<br><br>Districts may not require parents to provide more than 24 hours notice in order to record said meeting, and no school district employee acting in good faith shall face discharge or discriminations for reporting retaliation, discrimination, or violations of IDEA or Section 504 as a result of these recordings.           | 12/2/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1559     | Remole     | This bill defines "private schools" as any non-public school or school operated by a religious organization and specifies that private schools shall not be required to increase their minimum wage annually as required by current law.  | 12/3/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1561     | Baringer   | This bill allows public school students to possess and apply topical sunscreen products, if supplied by the student or his or her parent or guardian, on school property or at a school-related event or activity.<br><br>A public school shall not require a prescription or note from a health care professional in order for a student to possess or apply any sunscreen approved by the Food and Drug Administration for over-the-counter use.  | 12/3/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1565     | Basye      | This bill modifies the way public school districts and charter schools present instruction and course materials on human sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases. The bill includes gender  | 12/3/19<br>Prefiled |

Legislation for the 2020 Legislative Session  
as of 1/4/2020

| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |                     |
|-------------|---------|--|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|             |         | <p>identity or sexual orientation to the current notice, refusal, and removal provisions in Section 170.015, RSMo and provides standing for civil action for remedies permitted by law for failure to enforce compliance provisions as outlined in the bill.</p> <p>The bill also clarifies the definitions for "course materials" and "instruction" to include any educational plan or program, curriculum, textbook, or other instructional materials used by the school district or charter school; any information contained in any school-sponsored speech or in any presentation by a school sponsored speaker; any display permitted by the school district or charter school anywhere on school district or charter school property intended to impart information to students.</p>  |                     |
| HB 1568     | Bailey  | <p>This bill defines "restraint" and "seclusion" and requires school districts to include in policy a prohibition on the use of restraint or seclusion, for any purpose other than the health and safety of students, teachers, and staff members.</p> <p>The bill requires that before July 1, 2021 each school district policy shall include reporting requirements for any occurrence of restraint or seclusion as outlined in the bill. The reporting requirements include parental notification, copy of each report given to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), a right to review a report, and file a complaint of dissatisfaction as detailed in bill.</p> <p>The bill also requires DESE to develop recommendations for data collection and reporting on the use of seclusion or restraint and to present those to the State Board of Education for approval. The provisions of the recommendations shall be in the annual budget presented to the legislature and in updates to the Missouri School Improvement Program.</p> | 12/3/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1569     | Mackey  | <p>This bill defines "restraint" and "seclusion" and requires school districts to include in policy a prohibition on the use of restraint or seclusion, for any purpose other than the health and safety of students, teachers, and staff members.</p> <p>The bill requires that before July 1, 2021, each school district policy shall include reporting requirements for any occurrence of restraint or seclusion as outlined in the bill. The reporting requirements include parental notification, copy of each report given to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), a right to review a report, and file a complaint of dissatisfaction as detailed inbill.</p>   | 12/3/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |   |                     |
|-------------|---------|---|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
|             |         | The bill also requires DESE to develop recommendations for data collection and reporting on the use of seclusion or restraint and to present those to the State Board of Education for approval. The provisions of the recommendations shall be in the annual budget presented to the legislature and in updates to the Missouri School Improvement Program.  |                     |
| HB 1575     | Morgan  | Beginning in the 2021-22 school year, this bill requires a parent or guardian in the City of St. Louis and the Kansas City school districts who chooses to enroll a child in a public, private, parochial, or parish school or full-time equivalent attendance in a combination of schools to do so by the time the child is age five.<br><br>These provisions do not apply to home-schooled children.  | 12/3/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1624     | Gray    | This bill establishes the "Council for Community Education." The council shall study and make recommendations regarding establishing community education programs in which public school buildings are used as community centers operated by the school board in cooperation with other community groups to provide community services.   | 12/6/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1625     | Gray    | This bill requires the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis County to establish seven subdistricts for any school district in St. Louis County that is within, or adjoining another school district that is within, a street light maintenance district with a population less than 3,000. The subdistricts will be established for the purpose of electing school district directors. The bill specifies how the subdistrict boundaries will be drawn.   | 12/6/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1636     | Porter  | This bill allows any school with a four-day school week to set an opening date more than 14 calendar days before the first Monday in September.   | 12/6/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1638     | Taylor  | This bill makes changes to the list of locations an individual can carry a concealed firearm within this state and the list of locations an individual with a concealed carry permit can carry a concealed firearm within the state. This bill also prohibits the state, political subdivisions, and public institutions of higher learning from imposing any policies or contractual requirements that would have the effect of prohibiting employees or students from the carrying of concealed firearms into locations where concealed carry is not otherwise prohibited by law. No changes have been made to the penalties for carrying a concealed firearm in locations prohibited under these sections. | 12/6/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1642     | Taylor  | This bill prohibits the State Board of Education from making any substantive changes to any assessment test developed in accordance with Section 160.518, RSMo, and from eliminating its  | 12/6/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |   |                     |
|-------------|---------|---|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS         |
|             |         | administration until schools have administered the test to students for five consecutive years unless such revision or elimination of a test is required in order to comply with federal law.   |                     |
| HB 1659     | Proudie | <p>The bill establishes the "Missouri Urban and Rural Renewal Workforce Act", and creates a "Missouri Urban and Rural Renewal Workforce", for providing employability skills training, and meaningful work experience leading to credentials and employment necessary to better prepare the citizens in urban and rural areas for meeting basic work requirements.</p> <p>The program will be a year-round community employment program administered under the Division of Workforce Development within the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development. The program will consist of projects that offer paid work experience integrated with educational activities. The division shall give preference to persons whose income is at or below poverty level.</p> <p>The director may segregate programs to take advantage of federal funds. The division can contract with any state agency, local unit of government, governor's advisory council or commission, private not- for-profit organization, or other private entity to be a project sponsor in order to find employment opportunities.</p> <p>A project sponsor shall administer projects funded under the provisions specified in the bill. Participants shall be paid at least the minimum wage and shall be exempt from merit system requirements and benefits. No more than 10% of the funds distributed to a project sponsor used for paying such participants may be expended for administrative expenses and no funds shall be awarded for any program that replaces or supersedes employees engaged in any authorized work stoppage, or that replaces or supersedes currently employed workers, or that impairs existing contracts for services provided by otherworkers.</p> <p>The division shall establish and promote the recruitment of "Show- Me Employers", which shall consist of Missouri-based corporations and businesses agreeing to interview participants completing any of the corps' programs (Section 620.617).</p> <p>This bill creates within the State Treasury, the "Urban and Rural Renewal Workforce Fund", which shall be a designated fund to solely be used for the purposes set forth in Sections 620.608 to 620.619; the State Treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund.</p> | 12/9/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1660     | Proudie | This bill requires schools to provide to any student who requests one, a reimbursable meal which has been approved by the United States Department of Agriculture regardless of whether   | 12/9/19<br>Prefiled |

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| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |                     |
|-------------|---------|--|---------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS         |
|             |         | <p>the student can pay for a meal or owes money for earlier meals, unless the student's parent or guardian has provided written permission to withhold a meal.</p> <p>As specified in the bill, schools may not:</p> <p>(1) Require a student to throw a meal away because of inability to pay for the meal or because of a meal debt;</p> <p>(2) Publicly identify or stigmatize a student who cannot pay for a meal or owes a meal debt; or</p> <p>(3) Require a student who cannot pay for a meal or owes a meal debt to do chores or additional work not required of other students.</p> <p>The bill specifies that if a student owes money for five or more meals, the school must determine if the student is eligible for free meals, attempt to have the student's parent or guardian fill out a meal application, and contact the student's parent or guardian to offer assistance with a meal application.</p> <p>The bill also requires schools to direct communication about a student's meal debt to a parent or guardian, not the student. Schools may not require a parent or guardian to pay fees or costs from collection agencies hired to collect meal debts.</p> |                     |
| HB 1661     | Proudie | <p>This bill requires the Board of Election Commissioners of St. Louis County to establish seven subdistricts for any school district in St. Louis County that is within, or adjoining another school district that is within, a street light maintenance district with a population less than 3,000. The subdistricts will be established for the purpose of electing school district directors. The initial boundaries drawn shall be drawn within 60 days after the effective date, with subsequent boundaries to be drawn within six months after each decennial census is reported. The bill specifies how the subdistrict boundaries will be drawn.</p>  | 12/9/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1663     | Richey  | <p>This bill shall be known as the "Advancing Missouri Teachers Act" and requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, (DESE) to develop a program under which a teacher may take an advanced degree or graduate course that meets the requirements outlined in the bill and apply for reimbursement of up to \$100 per credit hour, subject to appropriations.</p>   | 12/9/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |          |   |                      |
|-------------|----------|---|----------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR  | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS          |
|             |          | The bill establishes the "Advancing Missouri Teachers Fund" for approved disbursements. Approved and completed advanced degrees and graduate courses shall be counted toward a district's salary schedule advancement, and DESE shall submit a report by November 30th of each year to the Joint Committee on Education as specified in the bill.   |                      |
| HB 1664     | Richey   | <p>This bill defines "local aid" to include all local and county revenue received by the school district and charter schools within the school district, with specific examples and exclusions specified in the bill. The bill requires charter schools and each school district to include an annual independent audit to verify pupil residency.</p> <p>The bill requires school districts to pay for each pupil attending a charter school in that district based on the formula established in the bill which includes all state aid and local aid received by the school district divided by the total weighted average daily attendance of the school district and all charter schools within the school district.</p> <p>School districts must calculate the amount of local aid owed to a charter school monthly and make timely payments to the charter school as outlined in the bill. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall conduct an annual review of payments from school districts with measures for over and underpayment as outlined in the bill.</p> | 12/9/19<br>Prefiled  |
| HB 1671     | Unsicker | <p>The pilot program for trauma-informed schools expired in August 2019. This bill re-implements the pilot program for trauma-informed schools and extends the program to June 30, 2024. This bill modifies the existing pilot locations to five schools in a metropolitan district.</p> <p>The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall submit a report to the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2024.</p>  | 12/11/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1682     | Wood     | This bill prohibits the use of vapor products, as defined in Section 407.925, RSMo, in any indoor area of a public school or school bus. The bill allows a school board to adopt additional policies relating to vapor products.  | 12/11/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1712     | Francis  | This bill requires every public building to display "In God We Trust". The state Board of Public Buildings shall determine the nature of the display.   | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1717     | Morse    | This bill prohibits representatives from requesting, or any legislative employee from drafting, any legislation or joint resolution that expands or creates a new duty, mandate, or requirement, for public schools unless it is accompanied with a provision reducing or eliminating duty, mandate, or requirement for public schools.   | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |

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| HOUSE BILLS |                |  |                      |
|-------------|----------------|--|----------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR        | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS          |
| HB 1729     | Shaul          | Currently the annual registration fee for a school bus is \$25.50. This bill requires that the annual registration fee for any school bus licensed in another state be \$200.  | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1732     | Christofanelli | This bill requires every superintendent and assistant superintendent to enter into a written employment contract with a school district before beginning employment. The requirements of the contract are described within the bill and only apply to contracts executed on or after the effective date of the bill.   | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1733     | Christofanelli | <p>This bill creates the "Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program" and specifies that any taxpayer may claim a tax credit, not to exceed 50% of the taxpayer's state tax liability, for any qualifying contribution to an educational assistance organization for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2021. The cumulative amount of tax credits issued in any one calendar year shall not exceed \$50 million. Each educational assistance organization shall meet certain requirements and provide specified information during an annual audit.</p> <p>The State Treasurer shall provide a standardized format for a receipt to be issued by the educational assistance organization to indicate the value of a contribution received as well as a standardized format for educational assistance organizations to report the information. The State Treasurer or State Auditor may conduct an investigation if he or she possesses evidence of fraud committed by the educational assistance organization. The educational assistance organization may be barred from participating in the program if it is found to have intentionally and substantially failed to comply with certain requirements. In addition, the State Treasurer shall issue a report on the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts program five years after its effective date. Each educational assistance organization shall also annually administer tests to measure learning gains in math and English, and report these results along with graduation rates, college attendance, and a parental survey as specified in the bill. The state treasurer shall provide this data to the public via a state website after the 3rd year of collection.</p> <p>A qualified student may receive a grant to be deposited in the student's Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Account if he or she is an elementary or secondary student, a resident of Missouri, and has attended a public school as specified in the bill, is entering Kindergarten or first grade, or is attending school for the first time. Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts are renewable on an annual basis. Moneys deposited into the account shall be used for specified services and fees. If a qualified student withdraws from the program, is disqualified from the program, or graduates, the student's account shall be closed and remaining funds shall be returned to the educational assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified students.</p> | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |                      |
|-------------|---------|--|----------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS          |
|             |         | <p>Beginning in the 2022-23 school year the bill requires the State Treasurer to conduct or contract for annual audits of empowerment scholarship accounts to ensure compliance.</p> <p>Any person who is found to have knowingly used moneys granted under the provisions of this bill other than the purposes provided, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.</p>  |                      |
| HB 1762     | Knight  | <p>This bill creates the "Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program" and specifies that any taxpayer may claim a tax credit, not to exceed 50% of the taxpayer's state tax liability, for any qualifying contribution to an educational assistance organization for all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2021. The cumulative amount of tax credits issued in any one calendar year shall not exceed \$50 million. Each educational assistance organization shall meet certain requirements and provide specified information during an annual audit.</p> <p>The State Treasurer shall provide a standardized format for a receipt to be issued by the educational assistance organization to indicate the value of a contribution received as well as a standardized format for educational assistance organizations to report the information. The State Treasurer or State Auditor may conduct an investigation if he or she possesses evidence of fraud committed by the educational assistance organization. The educational assistance organization may be barred from participating in the program if it is found to have intentionally and substantially failed to comply with certain requirements. In addition, the State Treasurer shall issue a report on the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts program five years after its effective date. Each educational assistance organization shall also annually administer tests to measure learning gains in math and English, and report these results along with graduation rates, college attendance, and a parental survey as specified in the bill. The state treasurer shall provide this data to the public via a state website after the 3rd year of collection.</p> <p>A qualified student may receive a grant to be deposited in the student's Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Account if he or she is an elementary or secondary student, a resident of Missouri, and has attended a public school as specified in the bill, is entering Kindergarten or first grade, or is attending school for the first time. Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts are renewable on an annual basis. Moneys deposited into the account shall be used for specified services and fees. If a qualified student withdraws from the program, is disqualified from the program, or graduates, the student's account shall be closed and remaining funds shall be returned to the educational assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified students.</p> | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |         |  |                      |
|-------------|---------|--|----------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR | DESCRIPTION  | BILL STATUS          |
|             |         | Beginning in the 2022-23 school year the bill requires the State Treasurer to conduct or contract for annual audits of empowerment scholarship accounts to ensure compliance.<br><br>Any person who is found to have knowingly used moneys granted under the provisions of this bill other than the purposes provided, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor. |                      |
| HB 1769     | Riggs   | This bill designates November 30th of each year as "Mark Twain Day" to commemorate the life and accomplishments of Mark Twain.   | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1803     | Barnes  | The is bill establishes the offenses of harassment of a school or recreation athletic official and entry or remaining on site of a school or recreation athletic contest after being forbidden.  | 12/17/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1808     | Wood    | This bill requires the State Board of Education to amend the existing health or physical education academic performance standards, learning standards, and curriculum frameworks to include instruction on the use and effect of vapor products as defined in Section 407.925 RSMo.  | 12/17/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1817     | Dinkins | This bill excludes certain administrative penalties from the calculation of local effort in Iron County.   | 12/19/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1818     | Dinkins | This bill removes increases in the amount received from fines for school purposes from the calculation of local effort for school districts.   | 12/19/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1820     | Kelley  | This bill enacts requirements relating to suicide prevention education and information.  | 12/19/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1847     | Pollitt | This bill prohibits the use of a hand-held wireless communication device within a school zone.   | 12/19/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1849     | Moon    | This bill creates new provisions related to the display of posters containing representations of the Missouri state flag and other items in public schools.  | 12/19/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1866     | Swan    | This bill allows local educational agencies to create school-community partnerships.   | 12/20/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1867     | Swan    | This bill modifies provisions relating to the powers of superintendents regarding the suspension of students.  | 12/20/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1868     | Swan    | This bill requires the state board of education to develop a statewide plan for minimum requirements for career and technical education (CTE) certificates.  | 12/20/19<br>Prefiled |

| HOUSE BILLS |           |   |                      |
|-------------|-----------|---|----------------------|
| BILL        | SPONSOR   | DESCRIPTION   | BILL STATUS          |
| HB 1897     | Morris    | This bill allows school districts to exceed the limitation on debt for certain capital projects.  | 12/23/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1902     | Shields   | This bill allows students who earned an associate's degree or the equivalent to apply unused A+ scholarship funds toward earning a bachelor's degree.   | 12/23/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1903     | Shields   | This bill allows school districts that share superintendents to receive additional state aid.   | 12/23/19<br>Prefiled |
| HB 1905     | Pike      | This bill changes provisions governing residency of pupils registering for school.  | 12/24/19<br>Prefiled |
| HJR 73      | Morgan    | Upon voter approval, this proposed Constitutional amendment would increase the minimum percentage of state revenue for public school education from 25% to 33% to help ensure adequate and equitable education.   | 12/3/19<br>Prefiled  |
| HJR 77      | Eggleston | Proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Missouri relating to property tax.   | 12/12/19<br>Prefiled |
| HJR 82      | Ross      | Upon voter approval this proposed Constitutional amendment requires that students who participate in sex-separated athletic contests only be allowed to participate in those for the biological sex found on the student's birth certificate.   | 12/17/19<br>Prefiled |
| HJR 86      | Morris    | Upon voter approval this proposed Constitutional amendment would allow the General Assembly to pass statutes modifying the 15% limitation on indebtedness currently in place under the Constitution. Such modifications must be met with approval by the State Board of Education and by voters of the school district. | 12/23/19<br>Prefiled |