

HCS SB 1080 -- EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY

ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION

By June 30, 2006, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education must align performance standards on the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests to levels that meet but do not exceed those used in the National Assessment of Educational Progress and to make other changes necessary to satisfy federal requirements. Grade level expectations must be considered in implementing performance standards. By July 1, 2006, the department must revise its accreditation standards to permit process and resource standard waivers consistent with academic performance profiles.

PRIORITY SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIC DEFICIENCY

The bill repeals the statute on academic deficiency; and the section on priority and performance schools is thoroughly revised, eliminating performance schools. The department will identify as a priority school any school that fails to meet the standards of student achievement established by the State Board of Education based upon certain factors specified in the bill, such as test performance, graduation rates, and attendance rates. Any district containing a priority school will submit a comprehensive school improvement plan, using the procedures and timeline established by the bill, that:

- (1) Identifies areas of academic deficiency on the MAP test by disaggregating scores, as specified; and
- (2) Implements research-based strategies, aligns the school's curriculum, and reallocates resources to address the areas of academic deficiency.

Priority schools will be listed in the district's annual school accountability report. The state board may appoint a team to conduct an educational audit to determine the factors that have contributed to the lack of student achievement. State aid may be withheld until the district submits an improvement plan.

OTHER PROVISIONS

The bill clarifies the counties from which five of the seven voting members of the Missouri Southern State University-Joplin board of governors will be selected for those appointed after August 28, 2004.