

HCS SB 1323 -- JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Shields (Purgason)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Education by a vote of 18 to 0.

This substitute allows the Joint Committee on Education, which currently meets every four years, to meet in any year when the President Pro Tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives appoints new members. The number of members increases from five per chamber to seven, and a member who misses three consecutive meetings may be removed. The study of education funding is added to the committee's charge.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the work of the 2003 Joint Interim Committee on School Funding needs to be continued, and the statutory committee can address the issue. Changing the existing statutory committee from a quadrennial schedule to an at-will basis will permit the General Assembly to respond to educational issues more readily.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Shields; Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City; School Administrators Coalition; Missouri School Boards Association; Missouri State Teachers Association; and Missouri National Education Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Becky DeNeve, Senior Legislative Analyst