

HB 457 -- EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SPONSOR: Swan

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 5 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill allows children who attend early childhood education programs that are under contract with districts or charter schools to be included in the average daily attendance of the district or charter school.

This bill is effective July 1, 2017.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that pre-K partnerships between public schools and quality community-based programs are an important piece of a strong early childhood system. This bill would allow school districts to leverage existing assets and enhance offerings to parents to help meet the comprehensive needs of children.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Swan; Missouri Children's Leadership Council; Alliance For Childhood Education; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Zachary Brunnert; Keri Young, Youth in Need; and Katie Rahn, Southside Early Childhood Council.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.