

HB 847 -- TEACHER TRAINING

SPONSOR: Walker (74)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Urban Issues by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill requires all teacher-training institutions receiving state aid to require students to demonstrate proficiency on the concepts of trauma-informed approach and trauma-specific interventions as defined by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Division within the US Department of Health and Senior Services.

This bill is the same as HB 2575 (2016).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that we need to get our teachers as much information as possible on recognizing the symptoms of trauma. This can help reduce the amount of out-of-school suspensions. It would be great to see school counselors get this training as well.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Walker; Otto Fajen; Scott Kimble; Missouri School Counselor Association; Empower Missouri; Missouri Kids First; and Dr. Anthony Robinson, Jennings School District.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.