

HCS HB 1712 -- LITERACY INSTRUCTION

SPONSOR: Pfautsch

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 7 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules- Administrative Oversight Committee by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill requires teacher training institutions receiving state aid to require students receiving degrees in elementary education after January 1, 2020, to complete six credit hours of literacy course work that complies with the standards specified in the bill.

PROponents: Supporters say that effective reading and literacy instruction is the foundation of educational success, and teachers should be trained in research-based standards and practices to ensure effective instructional practices.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Pfautsch.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say it is important to train teachers in how to effectively teach reading and literacy, but they don't want these required hours to crowd out other important components of teacher training.

Testifying on the bill were Missouri Association of School Administrators and the Missouri National Education Association.