

HB 151 -- SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS

SPONSOR: Shields

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 20 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 0.

Beginning July, 1 2022, this bill allows a school district that enters into an agreement with another district to share a superintendent to receive an additional \$30,000 per year in state aid for up to five years. The bill directs districts to spend the additional compensation and half of the savings from sharing a superintendent on teacher salaries or counseling services.

This bill is similar to HB 1903 (2020).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this will incentivize school districts to share educational costs and that this is not a novel idea as there are several states that already have similar plans. This is a voluntary opportunity not a mandate and it is important to note that any money will be reinvested back into the district.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Shields; the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; and Dr. Jerry Hobbs.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that this bill is innovative, but that it does not go far enough, and expanding the language to include other administrative duties would be the better option.

Testifying against the bill were the Missouri Association of School Administrators.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.