

HB 2404 -- MISSOURI 4 FOR MORE PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Hubbard

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Urban Education Reform by a vote of 6 to 0.

This bill establishes the Missouri 4 For More Program to allow parents, guardians, and stepparents of school children from kindergarten through twelfth grade to receive four hours of paid leave each month to work with their children in their children's school. The school district will provide a written statement that indicates the person has spent four hours in the school working with his or her child or children. The program is optional and will be administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Beginning January 1, 2009, the employer of any person who participates in the program will be eligible for a tax credit of 50% of the hourly wage paid to a participant up to 48 hours per year. The employer cannot claim more than \$50,000 a year, but the credit may be carried over for four years. The cumulative amount of tax credits is limited to \$10 million a year.

The provisions of the bill regarding the tax credit will expire six years from the effective date.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$746,935 in FY 2009, \$836,295 to \$10,836,295 in FY 2010, and \$914,246 to \$10,914,246 in FY 2011. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that children need to interact with their parents at school.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hubbard; and St. Louis Public Schools.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.