

HCS HB 304 -- SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

SPONSOR: Wallace (Schad)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 10 to 0.

This substitute specifies the meaning of "significant difference in the time involved in transporting students" for purposes of elections to change school district boundaries as a difference of one hour or more per trip in travel time. "Travel time" will mean the period of time needed to transport a student from his or her residence or other designated pickup point to the student's school. The substitute removes a provision that requires a board of arbitration to grant a boundary change when the area that wants to change is located in an unaccredited district and the receiving district is fully accredited.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that travel time is often an issue in boundary changes, but the law doesn't have a standard to measure by.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Schad; Sid Doerhoff, St. Elizabeth R-IV District; Jacqueline Wankum; Missouri State Teachers Association; and Missouri National Education Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.