

HCS HB 631 -- MISSOURI TEACHING FELLOWS PROGRAM AND REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL NURSES (Jones, 89)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on Higher Education

This substitute changes the laws regarding the Missouri Teaching Fellows Program and registered professional school nurses.

MISSOURI TEACHING FELLOWS PROGRAM

Currently, the Missouri Teaching Fellows Program provides scholarships for certain students who have at least a 3.0 on their college grade point average (GPA). The substitute raises the required GPA to 3.25.

The substitute also adds a teacher who first obtains a license after August 28, 2009, who is hired and agrees to teach for five years in a district that is not accredited to those eligible for a scholarship under the program.

The substitute contains provisions to ensure that students who are homeschooled are considered for scholarship purposes under the program by adding references to the general educational development (GED) test where applicable.

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL NURSES

Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, the substitute requires registered professional school nurses to be paid on the same pay scale as teachers in their district with equivalent work history and working hours. The salary requirements will not decrease school funding or decrease registered professional school nurse staff positions. The definition of "salary" does not include supplements for extra duties.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$2,500 in FY 2010, \$52,500 in FY 2011, and \$105,180 in FY 2012. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.