

HB 2245 -- SCHOOL FUNDING

SPONSOR: Bivins

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 12 to 1.

Currently, the school funding formula is being phased in with a ratio of funds calculated under the new formula and funds calculated under the old formula. This bill extends the 58% new formula/42% old formula step of the phase-in for another year, through the 2010-2011 school year and postpones the two remaining phase-in steps for an additional school year.

The bill contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Effect on General Revenue Fund of an income of \$93,500,000 in FY 2011, an income of \$105,000,000 in FY 2012, and a cost of \$100,000,000 in FY 2013. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill is the simplest solution available to address the shortfall in state revenue for education funding. If the General Assembly needs statutory language to support budget decisions, the bill provides it.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bivins; Edison Schools; K12 Incorporated; and Coalition to Fund Excellent Schools.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that other ways to increase revenues need to be explored before using the option in the bill.

Testifying against the bill was Missouri National Education Association.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the bill is similar in concept to what has already been done in the appropriation bills.

Testifying on the bill was Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.