

SB 599 -- GIFTED EDUCATION

SPONSOR: Schaefer (Dieckhaus)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 17 to 0.

This bill requires a school district to include in its annual school accountability report card whether it has a state-approved gifted education program and the number and percentage of students currently being served in the program.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that reminding districts that gifted students need programs by requiring the districts to report that information may help programs survive without the separately designated funding they previously had.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dieckhaus for Senator Schaefer; Carly Greer; Carl Peterson; Missouri State Teachers Association; Missouri School Boards Association; Missouri Association of School Administrators; Missouri National Education Association; American Federation of Teachers Missouri; and Gifted Association of Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.