

HCS HB 388 -- PARENT AND COMMUNITY SCHOOL INFORMATION ACT (Swan)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education

This substitute establishes the Parent and Community School Information Act and requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to publish a simplified report card for each public school attendance center and each charter school, except for a school that has only grades lower than third grade. The report card is separate from and in addition to the annual report required by Section 160.522, RSMo. The report card is for informational purposes and is not part of the school improvement program. The department must make annual progress reports to the Joint Committee on Education on the establishment of the report card and on simplifying access to its data portal. The department must link to the report card from its homepage. The first report card must be distributed before December 1, 2014. Each school must notify parents and the community about the report's contents and provide directions for accessing information. The principal of a school may provide a short statement giving background information for the report.

The department must establish rules to create the report card so that it is easy for the general public to understand and contains applicable standards for each school, the overall score and corresponding letter grade for the standard, and any components of the standard that fits on one sheet of standard paper. A school that scores below 70% overall must submit an action plan for improvement to the department for its approval.