

HB 2186 with HCA 1 -- CONSTITUTION PROJECT

SPONSOR: Ross

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments by Consent" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues in Education by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Select Committee on Rules by a vote of 6 to 0.

This bill allows a school district to develop a policy allowing student participation in the Constitution Project of the Missouri Supreme Court to be recognized through credit for a portion of, or in collaboration with, the community service or citizenship requirements of the A+ Tuition Reimbursement Program, the Missouri and United States Constitution course, or any relevant course or instructional unit in American government or a similar subject or through district or school-level awards.

This bill is the same as HB 658 (2015).

HCA #1: This amendment allows completion of the constitution project to be recognized by the inclusion of good citizenship within a student's record, a requirement of A+.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the constitution project allows students to learn and experience the constitution in a hands-on way that goes beyond just reading about it. The project has had a positive impact on the lives of students who participated in the pilot program. The pilot program was expanded to 16 schools this year and could possibly be expanded to 100. Expansion would be easier with the blessing of the General Assembly.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ross and Doug Gaston.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.