

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 2575**  
**101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

5228H.03C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

---

**AN ACT**

To amend chapter 162, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to school board meetings.

---

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 162, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 162.005, to read as follows:

**162.005. 1. As used in this section, "school board" means a special  
2 administrative board or any other form of governance appointed under section  
3 162.081; a board of directors established under section 162.471; a board of education  
4 established under section 162.261, 162.571, or 162.855; the governing board of a charter  
5 school established under section 160.400; and any other form of governance over a  
6 school district established under state law.**

**7 2. Before July 1, 2023, each school board shall adopt a school board meeting  
8 speaker policy to ensure that the requirements listed in this subsection are followed at  
9 each school board meeting:**

**10 (1) Each school board shall designate a time for public comment at the beginning  
11 of each regular public meeting of the school board. Such public comment period shall  
12 be available to residents of the district and shall be subject to reasonable rules requiring  
13 decorum and civility in the meeting space;**

**14 (2) A school board may set a time limit on any individual who desires to speak at  
15 a school board meeting. Each such time limit shall designate not less than three minutes  
16 per speaker. The school board may limit the public comment period to one hour of  
17 actual testimony or twenty speakers, whichever is less based on the number of minutes  
18 designated per speaker. If the time designated for the public comment period expires**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

19 and additional speakers were not afforded the time to speak, such additional speakers  
20 shall have the first opportunity to speak at the public comment period of the next  
21 regular public meeting of the school board and the school board shall provide an  
22 alternate method of communicating such additional speakers' concerns to the school  
23 board;

24 (3) Each school board shall determine specific identifying information each  
25 individual desiring to speak shall provide to the school board before speaking;

26 (4) Each school board may determine that particular issues are inappropriate  
27 for individuals to speak about during such public comment period including, but not  
28 limited to, personnel issues and litigation issues. Any guideline prohibiting particular  
29 issues from being addressed during such public comment period shall be made available  
30 to the public in writing before each public comment period begins;

31 (5) No school board shall ban an individual from attending or remove an  
32 individual from participating in a school board meeting unless such individual is banned  
33 or removed because such individual commits the offense of peace disturbance as  
34 provided in section 574.010, has previously been removed from a school board meeting  
35 and issued a summons for the offense of peace disturbance under section 574.010, or is  
36 prohibited from being on school property under state law; and

37 (6) Each school board shall provide a method for an individual who is unable to  
38 attend the public comment period of a school board meeting to submit a written  
39 statement. Any such written statement submitted before the beginning of the school  
40 board meeting shall be provided to the school board and made available to all  
41 individuals attending such meeting and to the public upon request unless such written  
42 statement violates the policies or rules established for the public comment period.

43 3. If multiple speakers desire to speak on the same issue during the public  
44 comment period, the school board may suggest that the speakers select one individual to  
45 present comments on behalf of all such speakers.

46 4. Parents may bring a civil action for injunctive relief against the school district  
47 or public school in which their child is enrolled if such school district or public school  
48 violates this section. Such action shall be brought in the county where the violation  
49 occurred. If a court finds that the school district or public school has knowingly  
50 engaged in multiple or repeated violations of this section, the department of elementary  
51 and secondary education shall withhold all moneys provided by monthly distribution of  
52 state formula funding to such school district or public school until such school district or  
53 public school is in compliance with this section. After the school district or public school  
54 provides evidence that such school district or public school is in compliance with this  
55 section, the department shall restore the distribution of the funding to its original

56 amount before the distribution was withheld. Any moneys that were withheld under  
57 this subsection shall be released to such school district or public school only if such  
58 school district or public school establishes compliance with this section in the same  
59 school year in which the department withheld such moneys.

✓