

HCS HB 1614 -- CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL FOUNDATIONS

SPONSOR: Swan

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 9 to 1. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Education by a vote of 8 to 1.

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2017, a taxpayer must be allowed to claim a tax credit against the taxpayer's state tax liability in an amount equal to 50% of the taxpayer's contribution to a qualified organization that provides funding for unmet health, hunger, and hygiene needs for children in school. The amount of the tax credit claimed must not exceed the amount of the taxpayer's state tax liability for the taxable year that the credit is claimed, and the taxpayer is not allowed to claim a tax credit in excess of \$50,000 per taxable year. Any tax credit that cannot be claimed in the taxable year that the contribution was made may be carried over to the next four succeeding taxable years until the full credit has been claimed. A taxpayer's minimum contribution or contributions to a qualified organization or organizations must be \$100, except for any excess credit that is being carried over.

A qualified organization too may submit an application, along with other items, on behalf of taxpayers for tax credits.

The Director of the Department of Social Services must determine, at least annually, which organizations in the state may be classified as qualified organizations and may require the organization seeking the classification to provide any information that is reasonably necessary to make the determination.

The Director of the Department of Social Services must provide the information to the Director of the Department of Revenue. The director must be subject to the confidentiality and penalty provisions of Section 32.057, RSMo, relating to the disclosure of tax information.

These provisions must not limit or in any way impair the department's ability to issue tax credits authorized on or before the date the program expires or a taxpayer's ability to redeem the tax credits.

The provisions of the bill will expire on December 31, 2022.

This bill is similar to HB 428 (2015).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say this bill will help to remove the learning obstacles of hunger, health, and hygiene needs through tax credits. Helping to provide these resources helps students and ultimately the state. Undersourced students are four times more likely to miss school because of not having their food, health, or hygiene needs met. Those children are also more likely to be subjected to ridicule.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Swan and Linda Ramey-Greive, Care To Learn.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.