

HB 2238 -- EQUIVALENCY DEGREE TESTING

SPONSOR: Gannon

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues in Education by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Education by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill requires, subject to appropriations, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to subsidize the examination fee for first-time high school equivalency test takers.

This bill is similar to HB 405 (2015).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill increases the number of potential test takers by making the examination fee more financially achievable. It will help people live a life of dignity. Many jobs and positions will not hire someone without a high school diploma or equivalent. This will make it possible for people to have a second chance at leading a successful life.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Gannon; Missouri Council Of School Administrators; Missouri AFL-CIO; J G Foundation; AFT St. Louis Local 420; Missouri NEA; International Union Of Painters And Allied Trades; and the Missouri Association For Social Welfare.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.