

HB 306 -- EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES (Griesheimer)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education

This bill requires school districts and charter schools to establish a state-approved gifted program if 3% or more of the students are determined to be gifted by July 1, 2023. By July 1, 2023, districts and charter schools with average daily attendance of more than 350 students are required to have a teacher certificated to teach gifted education. In districts with an average daily attendance of 350 or less any teacher providing gifted instruction shall not be required to be certified to teach gifted education but must participate in six hours per year of professional development, paid for by the school district, regarding gifted services.

This bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary education to make rules regarding the minimal grade average (GPA) requirement to qualify for the A+ Grant Award that will only consider grade averages that do not have a negative change to a student's GPA from 2019-20 or 2020-21 due to the impact of "Covid-19".

This bill modifies the definition of an "eligible education institution" and changes the Missouri Education Savings Program to the "Missouri Education Program".

Portions of this bill are subject to an emergency clause.

This bill is similar to HB 1317 (2020) and HB 112 (2019).