

HCS #2 HJR 110 -- PARENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS

SPONSOR: Christofanelli

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 14 to 6. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 3. Re-committed to the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight. Voted "Do Pass with HCS #2" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 4 to 2.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute #2 for HJR 110.

Upon voter approval, this proposed Constitutional amendment would add a new section to Article IX that would enumerate specific rights to parents of Missouri children in regard to education, established as "The Parents' Bill of Rights".

Such rights include but are not limited to the following: the parent's right to participate and direct the education of their child, the right to access and view curricula, academic performance, and financial information; the right to choose educational options under a system of open enrollment across district boundaries created and funded by the General Assembly; and the right to opt a child out of any content that is disagreeable to the parent.

Additional restrictions are placed on schools to prevent employees and students from being compelled to adopt, affirm, adhere to, or profess ideas as specified; including ideas related to race, ethnicity, color, or national origin superiority.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill will benefit the state by providing transparency in public education and by giving parents a clear and concise listing of the educational rights that they have for their student. This amendment will provide accountability for districts

Testifying for the bill were Representative Christofanelli; Beverly A Nokes; David Nokes Jr; Jennell Houts; Katie Becker; Todd Wilson; Cathy Jo Loy; Amy Reed; Crystal Domagalski; Elizabeth Kimball; Jennifer Spencer; Joshua Reed; Kelly Warren; Kristin Eldridge; Maureen Zamenski; Michelle Jolly; Renee Smola; Stacy Turner; Teresa

Thompson; Katherine Rash; Bret Hilbert; Cambria Ernstrom; Carla Valenti; Donna Bone; Eimee Cook; Gina Castro; Jason Moore; Jeremy Arthur Kitchen; Jessica Idleman; Johanna Beaudean; Julie Pfeifer; Julie Turner; Kim Reed; Kimberly Miller; Kristen Wolf-Cook; Laura Feldmann; Lori Richmeyer; Marcia D Kennedy; Margaret R Welker; Maria Ascrizzi; Mark Branstetter; Melinda Branstetter; Sara Barnard; Sidney Estes; Alicia Robinson; Amey McAllister; Brenda Kimberlin; Colette Nicholson; Kristin Levitt; Lindi Williford; Lisa Jones; Rita Lavanchy; Tracy Warren; Missouri Century Foundation; Patrick Ishmael, Show-Me Institute; John Potter; and Timothy Bone.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that many of the provisions of this language are already provided for in statute and the amendment is unnecessary. Giving certain rights to parents may allow parents to abuse these rights when it comes to their students and could allow parents to exclude children from important lessons. Schools and teachers should be allowed to do the job that they are hired to do.

Testifying against the bill were Aimee Robertson; Amanda Michel; Amanda Morris; Amy; Andrew Polzin; Angela Cole; Annie Bernaix; Ashley Laurentius; Cheryl Ranum; Christina Schaefer; Courtney Jilek; Dava-Leigh Brush; Dawn L Banks; Deborah Bland; E; Elisa Neilson; Erin Cramer; Erin Yauch; Heath Borders; Holly Tinker; Janice Beckert; Jarrett Pillsbury; Jodi Main; Julie Francois; Julie Scott; Karen Clark; Kathleen Stroud; Kathryn Sesti; Kelly Edinger; Kimberly Coleman; Kyle Brown; Laura Burkhardt; Linda Hoechst; Lindsay Ellison; Pro Choice Missouri; Marie McDowell; Marissa Polzin; Mary Cosgrove; Mary Kristene Strickler; Megan Von Arb; Nancy Rourke; Nicole Wiethop; Olivia Carter; Penelope Larson; Rebecca Shaw; Rosalie Metro; Ryan J Tinker; Sloan Sheffield Cowell; Susan Gibson; Tom Ferri; Zachlyn Farwig; Bethre Means; Daniel Carney; Jennifer Carney; Sarah Godsey; Shirley Seabaugh; Anthony J Decarli; Julie Short; Karen Zahn; Lynn Nienkemper; Quinn Bond; Erika Whitworth; Geralyn Madigan; Missouri AFL-CIO; Jennifer Pressy; Jessica Risenhoover; Katie Siphon; Kelly Molaskey; Lisa R. Cartee; Merrie Suzanne Luther; Michele Dunaway; Michelle Morgan; Michelle Shepherd; Namita Paranjothi; Phillip Caldwell; Sandra Saunders; Sara Simpson; Missouri Association of School Administrators; Sharon Coward; Susan E Tiffany; Tracy Tegethoff; Travis Seay; Abigail Pankau; Amanda Hurt; Amanda Knittel; Missouri Equity Education Partnership; Amy Dugal; Audra Frick; Becky Patel; Benjamin Williams; Beth Newman; Beverly Price; Brandi Koziatek; Carrie Finnestead; Catherine Holmes; Cathleen Fleck; Cathleen Lagermann; Cheryl Martini; Christina Andrade Melly; Christina Horton; Christina Vazquez; Christine Brown; Claudia Jenkins; Cynthia Guilfooy; Darla Kos; Diana Frazier Miller; Dorothy Roberts Arvizu; Elizabeth Hyde; Greg Campbell; Holly Belle; Jacquelyn Higgins; Jan Schumacher; Jennifer Loza; Jennifer M Ono; Jennifer

Main; Jessica Hunsberger; Joanne H; Julia Deters; Kathryn Legrand; Kelly O'Brien Loretta; Kenneth Derienzo; Kim Maxwell; Laura Gutierrez Perez; Lorri Richardson; Luis Gutierrez; Lynn Derienzo; Maria Ascrizzi; Maria Bayless; Maria Lena Tolliver; Mary Baker; Megan Von Arb; Melissa Holden; Michael Depung; Michelle Ridlen; Nichole Brinkmann; Nicole Cassmeyer; Patricia Bartell; Patty Fisher; Rachel Chkautovich; Rebekah Massmann; Ryan Roe; Sara; Suzanne Shimkus; Suzie Risher; Tara Mueller; Teresa Johnson; Twila Loy; Vicki Bolger; Zach Dowdle; Amanda Perschall; Amy Washburn Rhoades; Ann Shabazz; Carla Suttles; Catherine Peveler; Cynthia Erb; Deborah R. Stratmann; Deborah T Gregg; Debra Yerkes; Jaclyn Jezik; Jamie Davis; Joy Weese Moll; Julia Woodard; June Burks Ewing; Kathleen Hilmer-Kendall; Kristin Rehg; Linda Shade; Lisa L Lennon; Lynne Gronefeld; Margaret Smith; Mary Cook; Megan Frank; Melissa Lohrmann; Molly Stehn; Robin Duntze; Sarah Wright; Shana Thomas; Shea Leordeanu; Otto Fajen, Missouri Nea; Andrea Tukin; Angela L Boyle; Arnie C. Ac Dienoff; Barbara Richter; Carol Reinhard; Carrie Love; Catherine B Marek; Caylee Windmiller; Chris Kramer; Christine Sweeney; Christy Potthast; Cynthia Andry; Diane McCullough; Elisa Tomich; Erin Gray; Harold Lutz; Jessica James; Jessica Rekate; John Kiehne; Julie Allen; Julie Missey; K. Linhares; Lindsay Ellison; Lori King; Marla Stout; Melany Boewer; Pamela Novak; Patrick James; Rainah Pray; Rebecca Watson; Rebecca White; Rhett Oldham; Rozella Ranes; Sarah Mayer; Severin Krautmann; Susan D Hutchison; Suzanne McGinnis; Suzanne Whitman; Tara Scheer; Tracy Novak; Victoria Godfrey-Zeller; Yvonne D Reeves-Chong; Katie Molitor; Amy Rogers; American Federation of Teachers - Missouri; Amber Kempf; Beth Abraham; Lynn Courter; Clair Laughlin; Alan Loretta; Erin Cramer; Jamie Gibison; Nancy A Goth; and Rachel Faulkner.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say this bill already has provisions that exist in law, but the law does not have consequences, this language also appears to limits the individual's rights rather than the state's in several areas.

Testifying on the bill was Mary Byrne.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.