

HCS HB 715 -- EDUCATIONAL COSTS FOR CHILDREN IN STATE CUSTODY  
(Kelly (141))

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Children and Families

This bill provides educational funding for children admitted to a residential care facility licensed under Sections 210.481 to 210.536, RSMo. The bill outlines payment amounts for both resident and non-resident pupils.

The payment amount for a pupil receiving all of such pupil's education in a residential care facility shall be equal to 95% of the average daily attendance share of local and state funding attributable to a student in a resident district or in the non-resident district for any non-resident student. For any resident students that receive less than all of their education at a facility the payment amount shall be attributable to the time such education is received.

Residential care facilities may also reach a financial agreement with a school district that deviates from the provisions of this section.

The bill adds admittance under a physician's order due to a determination of medical necessity for a diagnosed mental illness to the current reasons for which a school district must provide educational services. This provision applies to both resident and non-resident children and includes the current determination of medical necessity required for an authorization from Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to make payments in lieu of local tax efforts for such children.

Currently, domiciliary school districts must pay costs for educational services rendered by a resident district for any child temporarily in a children's hospital licensed under Chapter 197, RSMo. This bill expands the requirement to include children that are in a psychiatric residential treatment facility.