

State Legislative Update

Leroy Wade

Interim Commissioner of Higher Education

MDHEWD



Session Statistics

The Second Regular Session of the 101st General Assembly

- ✓ Session began: **Wednesday, January 5**
- ✓ Session ended: **Friday, May 13**
- ✓ Number of bills filed: **2,100**
- ✓ Number of bills truly agreed to and finally passed (including budget bills): **44**
- ✓ Number of higher education bills truly agreed to and finally passed: **4**

TAFP and Signed Higher Education Bills

SB 672

- Sponsor: Sen. Lincoln Hough (R-Springfield); Handler: Rep. Travis Fitzwater (R-Holts Summit)
- Revises the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant
 - Removes the promissory note and loan conversion component; new residency requirement
 - Residency exemption for U.S. Armed Forces and family
 - Extends the program's sunset to seven years (2029)
 - Participants in a U.S. Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship reimbursed for education-related expenses
 - Expands eligibility to qualifying students in a training program approved under the Office of Workforce Development's (OWD) Eligible Training Provider System
- Establishes the Targeted Industrial Manufacturing Enhancement Zones Act & Joint Committee on Rural Economic Development

SB 718

- Sponsor: Sen. Barbara Washington (D-Kansas City);
Handler: Rep. Brenda Shields (R-St. Joseph)
- Designates the third week of September in every year as "Historically Black College and University Week" in Missouri (underlying bill)
- Authorizes a tax credit for certain physicians providing preceptorships
- Modifies 2016 Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment Scholarship Act; removes 2019 program

SB 718

- Requires career and technical education assistance process through DHEWD's OWD
- Establishes the Computer Science Education Taskforce and credit for computer science course at public IHEs
- Establishes the Workforce Diploma Program
- Requires process for providing AP examination credit for a score of 3 or higher at public IHEs
- Requires Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, 988 information on student identification cards
- Provides bankruptcy protection for the Missouri Education Savings Program and the Missouri Higher Education Deposit Program
- Modifies Missouri's Name, Image, and Likeness Rights statute

SB 710

- Sponsor: Sen. Doug Beck (D-St. Louis);
Handler: Rep. Ben Baker (R-Neosho)
- Modifies the medical student loan program administered by the Department of Health and Senior Services; includes additional eligible students in particular programs
- Expands definition of “primary care”
- Modifies the amount a recipient under the Nursing Student Loan Program may receive

SB 758

- Sponsor: Sen. Lincoln Hough (R-Springfield);
Handler: Rep. Kurtis Gregory (R-Marshall)
- Modifies various provisions relating to bidding procedures for certain public projects for facilities
- Includes public institutions of higher education in the term "political subdivision" for purposes of current law relating to design-build projects and construction manager-at-risk projects

Notable Bills not TAFP

SB 703 & HB 2171

- Provisions of the Governor's legislation focused on preparing students for post-secondary life and providing support for K-12 schools
- Proposal included the following requirements:
 - Students to prepare an Individual Career and Academic Plan
 - FAFSA completion; provides exemptions

SB 1077 & HB 2602

- Established procedures for determining funding allocations for public IHEs based on the workforce readiness of students
- Required the department to perform calculations to determine a student's workforce readiness; ties that readiness score to funding appropriations to public higher education institutions
- Lawmakers continue to share interest in a public IHE funding formula

SB 752

- Would have repealed provisions that prohibit an individual with a valid concealed carry permit from carrying a concealed weapon in certain areas, including at any higher education institution

Various Other Bills

- Legislation which could have impacted higher education institutions did not pass this session:
 - COVID-19 vaccines
 - Critical Race Theory
 - Women's Sports

Other Legislative News

- Governor Parson has called for a special session to consider:
 - Permanent tax relief for all Missouri taxpayers
 - Extend the sunset on key agricultural tax credits.

Contact Me

Leroy Wade

Leroy.wade@dhewd.mo.gov

573-751-2361