



MRTA

Missouri Retired Teachers' Association
& Public School Personnel

Dear MRTA Legislative Leaders and MRTA Unit Presidents:

The Latest on HB 628 and HB 409

Below is a report on HB 628. HB 628 did not have the votes to get out of committee. There are several Retired Educators on the committee. Good job MNEA, MSTA and AFT of Missouri. This idea of eliminating Tenure, etc. will return sometime before May 13 (the end of session) in some form to be certain. HB 409 is still stuck in committee as of today. Please stay tuned. Many THANKS to all MRTA members. **GOOD JOB!**

Jim Kreider

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By Otto Fajen
MNEA Legislative Director

TENURE REPEAL ACTION STALLS

The House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee did not vote on the latest proposed HCS for HB 628 (Scott Dieckhaus) on March 16. The strong lobbying effort of Missouri NEA members played a key role in discouraging many committee members from supporting the current version of the bill.

Rep. Dieckhaus is expected to draft a new tenure repeal proposal in the coming weeks and offer it later this session either in committee or on the House floor when the House considers an education bill passed by the Senate. Stay tuned to the Missouri NEA Daily Legislative Update for information and action alerts when the tenure repeal proposal resurfaces later this session.

The most recent draft HCS would still eliminate teacher tenure and place all currently tenured teachers on three year contracts and all other teachers on one to three year contracts at the district's discretion.

Teachers would still have a right to a hearing before the board if the district seeks to terminate the contract early, but teachers would have no expectation or right to renewal once the one to three year contract has expired.

The Association strongly opposes the latest HCS version of the bill. Teacher tenure is not a guarantee of a job, just a process to address issues of concern and ensure teachers are not fired arbitrarily. Where districts face challenges with under-performing teachers, the real issue to address is establishing a quality evaluation system that provides teachers with feedback and support in improving performance and addressing concerns.

THANK YOU for being counted as a member of MRTA. Your membership will make a difference in the lives of many.

MRTA is the Association of Retired Education Professionals and Missouri's Public Pension Experts!

Sincerely,

Jim Kreider
MRTA Executive Director

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