



Missouri Equity Education Partnership-Action mobilizes those who support diversity, equity, and inclusion for ALL! Please see the calls to action outlined below and join us in bending the arc towards equity ensuring Missouri schools are a safe, welcoming space where folks can learn all things.

CALL TO ACTION

HB 1518 (Hudson) would allow college organizations to discriminate against marginalized groups in membership and leadership. This bill has moved from House to Senate already and will probably continue to move. Lived experiences of real people make a difference. Help us provide stories to lawmakers so they can share them on the Senate floor! No names will be shared with them, just the stories.

[PLEASE use this link to share your story](#) about involvement in/with college organizations. Consider one or more of these questions:

- Why are student clubs and student activities meaningful to you?
- How have clubs and activities helped you develop leadership skills?
- Can you describe the safety you feel accessing student activities without the fear of discrimination?
- What is a specific example of what it is like to be a higher education student in Missouri right now?

After you've shared YOUR story, PLEASE share the link with at least ONE other person who would be willing to share their experience!

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING NEXT THURSDAY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS VISIT

<https://www.missouriequityaction.com/>

Recap from Last Week

The Senate Select Committee on Empowering Parents and Children (EMPAC) heard **SB 1203 (Coleman)** on Wed 3/13. This would require DEI materials to be posted for parents. In addition to a potential chilling effect on instruction, the AG would have not only enforcement powers but also review powers. *We oppose this bill.*

The House Elections/Elected Officials Committee heard **SJR 74 (Coleman)** on Wed 3/13 and met overwhelming opposition changing the Initiative Petition process; only around 3% of the over 800 submissions in person and/or online were in support. In addition, the bill sponsor called on the House to restore the ballot candy including an already existing citizenship requirement and precluding foreign intervention. She also expended some of her political capital by suggesting she would a procedural move, calling the previous

question, to pass the bill. This action is considered a last resort option in the Senate and led to an early adjournment following filibuster on Wednesday afternoon. *We oppose this bill.*

The House Administrative Oversight Committee returned HBs 1851 (P. Brown) and 2184 (Haffner) back to the House Elementary and Secondary Committee. As of publication, HB 2184 is the only one on the agenda. This is little used action is employed to have the committee amend a bill. In this case, it is likely hoped that the bills will be combined. *We support HB 1851.*

The Senate Third read and passed SB 727 (Koenig). This bill will move to the House after Spring Break. It started as a tax credit voucher bill that included charter expansion, but a Senate substitute was offered, amended and passed that has turned it into a 167 page education omnibus. It includes

- Teacher pay
- Virtual schools
- Suicide prevention
- Length of school week
- Elementary literacy
- School board vacancies
- PSRS
- Homeschool activities
- Recovery high schools
- Online certification
- *Voucher tax credits*
- *Charter Expansion to Boone County*

We oppose this bill.

The House assigned two bills to the Special Committee on Educational Reform. The committee will hear [HBs 2937](#) and [2938](#) (Davidson) on Mon, Mar 25 at 4:30pm. These bills are scheduled for Monday, Mar 25 at 4:30 pm. They will be covered in more detail in the update next week, but click the links above to read the bills if you would like a headstart on [submitting testimony](#).

Have a wonderful week and be ready when the Legislature reconvenes on Monday, March 25. We will REALLY need everyone ready to go!