



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

There is no call to action at this time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS VISIT

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

RECAP OF LAST WEEK

The three bills sent to the Governor were signed into law this week. Despite input from districts statewide and calls for vetoes from education organizations large and small, Governor Parson signed SB 727 into law on Tuesday, May 7. HB 2287, a virtual education bill amended to “fix” SB 727 and allow that omnibus to go through the House “clean”, was also approved by the Governor the same day. HB 2634 which defunds Planned Parenthood and affiliates, received gubernatorial approval on Thursday, May 9. The effective date of all three bills is August 28, 2024. Patients of Planned Parenthood using Missouri Healthnet coverage can still receive care at this time.

The budget was passed by the Constitutional deadline of Friday, May 10 at 6pm. The Senate finally got around to debating and voting the Budget back to the House on Thursday. Since they made “few” changes to the House version, the House passed the on Friday.. The DESE budget bill (HB 2002) took the longest to get through the Senate because Senator Hoskins of the Freedom Caucus offered amendments seeking to defund DEI statewide. This amendment came up on other budget bills but it was defeated each time. In the House, Democrats highlighted the lack of transparency and inclusion in the process. Many of them voted Present on the bills.

SJR 74 (Coleman), the bill seeking to make the Initiative Petition process harder and inequitable, was brought up after the budget by a motion from the bill sponsor to accept the bill as the House returned it, but that motion was withdrawn to avoid a Democratic filibuster, and the Senate adjourned. The House restored the misleading “ballot candy” that the Senate removed. The Democratic senators fought for a straightforward resolution to be brought to the people and are committed to holding that line.

The Senate Committee on Local Government and Elections heard HJR 86 (Black) which is the House version of the IP legislation with the misleading ballot candy. It was voted out of committee on Wednesday, May 8, immediately after the hearing. It has been reported to the Senate and can be brought up as well.

The Senate Committee on Progress and Development heard and voted out of committee HB 1900 (Proudie) on Wednesday, May 8. This bill would end discrimination based on hair texture and style. The

vote was 2 YES and 1 PRESENT (Carter). It is now on the Senate calendar and could be taken up, though this is unlikely with the GOP commitment to passing the IP bill. This as far as this bill has gotten in the process.

Actions This Week

COMMITTEES

There are no bills we are monitoring on any committee agendas as of publication. **Committees may still post hearings/agenda.** *Please stay tuned.*

FLOOR ACTION AND DEBATE

Predicting Floor Debate in either chamber is difficult. The Senate met for a technical session on Friday and will reconvene on Monday, May 13. Since the Federal Reimbursement Allowance has been sent to the House for action, the initiative petition process will likely be the topic of debate in the Senate this week. SJR 74 and HJR 86 are both vehicles to pass the changes sought by the majority. The Senate Democrats are just as steadfastly opposed, especially if the “ballot candy” remains intact; it appears in both bills. The House will need to address SB 748, the FRA.

Calendars are found here:

[House](#)

[Senate](#)

This is the last week of the session. As we learned last year, anything can happen. While we did not succeed in stopping all the legislation we had hoped, we still moved the needle. We have bent the arc a little more towards justice and equity. We have definitely made our voices heard. Please join us after session ends for our End of Session Report. Stay tuned for the date and time.

Thank you all for every piece of testimony you submitted, for every call you made, every email you sent, every step you took on Lobby Day, for every zoom you attended.

Thank you for helping grow MoEEP and MoEEP Action.