SECOND REGULAR SESSION HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 1750

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3297H.03C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 162.091, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to school boards, with a penalty provision.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 162.091, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu 2 thereof, to be known as sections 162.058 and 162.091, to read as follows:

162.058. 1. Before July 1, 2023, each school district and charter school shall, after receiving community input, implement a community engagement policy that provides residents of the school district methods of communicating with the school board or the governing board of a charter school located in the school district and with the administration of the school district or charter school.

6 2. The community engagement policy shall create a process allowing any 7 resident of a school district to have an item placed on the agenda of a school board 8 meeting, or a meeting of the governing board of a charter school located in the school 9 district, if the resident follows the process described in the policy. Such policy shall 10 contain at least the following components:

(1) No item shall be placed on a meeting agenda under this section unless the
item is directly related to the governance or operation of the school district or charter
school;

14 (2) The school district or charter school may require the resident to first meet 15 with the superintendent or the superintendent's designee to attempt a resolution of the 16 issue. The superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall meet with the resident 17 within twenty business days of a written request to meet. After such meeting, or if the 18 superintendent or the superintendent's designee does not meet with the resident within

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

HCS HB 1750

2

twenty business days, the resident may submit a written request to the board secretary to have the issue brought before the school board or the governing board as a meeting agenda item. If the secretary receives the request at least five business days prior to the next regularly scheduled board meeting, the issue shall be placed as an item on the agenda for such meeting. If the secretary receives the request less than five days before the next regularly scheduled board meeting, the issue shall be placed as an item on the agenda for the next subsequent regular board meeting. An agenda item may be moved to a different board meeting with the consent of the resident requesting the agenda item;

(3) The school board or governing board may establish reasonable rules governing agenda items including, but not limited to, time limits for presentation or discussion of the agenda item and limits on the number of speakers to a single individual or to individuals who met with the superintendent or the superintendent's designee before the issue was brought before the board as a meeting agenda item;

32 (4) The school board or governing board shall take action by voting on the 33 agenda item in the meeting in which the item is brought before the board or in one of the 34 two subsequent board meetings. Such board vote on the agenda item includes, but is not 35 limited to, the following:

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(a) Allowing the school administration's decision to stand;

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(b) Reversing, revising, or changing the school administration's decision;

38 (c) Unless the next board meeting is not one of the three meetings at which the 39 agenda item shall be voted on as required in this subdivision, postponing consideration 40 of the issue until the next board meeting; or

(d) Amending, modifying, or making no change to school district policy,
 42 procedures, or operations;

(5) The school board or governing board may refuse to hear or delay hearing an agenda item if the school board or governing board has heard an identical or substantially similar issue in the previous three calendar months or if the resident has previously violated district rules regarding conduct at meetings or on school property; and

(6) The school board or governing board may delay hearing an agenda item if more than three resident-initiated agenda items are scheduled for the same board meeting. If the hearing of a resident's agenda item is delayed, the school board or governing board shall provide the resident with an alternate method of communicating to the school board or governing board regarding the agenda item.

162.091. 1. As used in this section, the term "public official" means any:

2 (1) County clerk[,];

3 (2) County treasurer[,];

HCS HB 1750

4 (3) School board member, officer, or employee[,;]; or

5 (4) Other officer[,].

6 **2.** Any public official who willfully neglects or refuses to perform any duty imposed 7 upon [him] such public official by chapters 160 to 168[5] or chapter 170, 171, 177 [and], or 8 178, or who willfully violates any provision of [these] such chapters, is guilty of a 9 misdemeanor and on conviction shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred 10 dollars or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed one year.

113. Any person aggrieved by the willful neglect or refusal of a public official to12perform any duty imposed upon such public official by chapters 160 to 168 or chapter13170, 171, 177, or 178 shall have a civil claim for damages against such public official for:

- 14 (1) Injunctive relief;
- 15 (2) Compensatory damages;

16 (3) Punitive damages;

17 (4) Costs of litigation including, but not limited to, expert witness fees; and

18 (5) Reasonable attorney's fees for the prosecution of the action.

4. Neither sovereign immunity nor official immunity shall be a defense in anysuch civil action.

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