

House Resolution No. 5497

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MCDANIEL.

5767H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, the new coronavirus named "SARS-CoV-2" has caused an international
2 outbreak of respiratory disease named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated as "COVID-19")
3 that is affecting Missourians; and

4

5 **WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the Director-General of the World Health
6 Organization (WHO) convened the second meeting of the International Health Regulations (IHR)
7 (2005) Emergency Committee "regarding the outbreak of novel coronavirus 2019 in the People's
8 Republic of China, with exportations to other countries"; and

9

10 **WHEREAS**, at the conclusion of the January thirtieth meeting, the Director-General of
11 the WHO declared that the COVID-19 outbreak is a Public Health Emergency of International
12 Concern (PHEIC); and

13

14 **WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health &
15 Human Services declared, retroactive to January 27, 2020, that a nationwide public health
16 emergency exists because of COVID-19; and

17

18 **WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the Director-General of the WHO characterized
19 COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

20

21 **WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump proclaimed that the
22 COVID-19 outbreak is a national emergency, retroactive to March 1, 2020; and

23

24 **WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Governor Mike Parson declared a state of emergency
25 in Missouri because of COVID-19; and

26

27 **WHEREAS**, acting in the best interests of students to protect their health is of primary
28 importance to the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE); and

29

30 **WHEREAS**, school districts should be able to make crucial decisions relating to
31 COVID-19 that reflect the needs of their community without fear of penalties for acting in the
32 best interests of the health and safety of students:

33

34 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the members of the Missouri House
35 of Representatives, One Hundredth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, hereby:

36

37 (1) Encourage DESE to continue to work with districts for emergency waivers for the
38 statewide assessments testing window because of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

39

40 (2) Encourage DESE to continue to work with districts for emergency waivers for any
41 Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) standards that may be affected by the COVID-19
42 outbreak; and

43

44 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives will strive to ensure
45 that funding for school districts will not be reduced if schools do not meet the requirements for
46 minimum hours or school days as required by state law because of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

47

48 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
49 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the state
50 Commissioner of Education.

✓