

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 0762S.03I  
 Bill No.: SJR 6  
 Subject: Children and Minors; Constitutional Amendments; Education, Elementary and Secondary; Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
 Type: Original  
 Date: February 17, 2025

Bill Summary: This joint resolution amends the constitution to assert the right of parents to participate in and direct the education of their children free from government interference.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
General Revenue*	\$0 or (More than \$8,000,000)	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than \$8,000,000)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\*The potential fiscal impact of “(More than \$8,000,000)” would be realized only if a special election were called by the Governor to submit this joint resolution to voters.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>
<b>Local Government**</b>	<b>\$0* or (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 or (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 or (Unknown)</b>

\*The potential fiscal impact to local election authorities (reimbursed by the state) in FY 2026 would be realized only if a special election were called by the Governor to submit this joint resolution to voters. Income and costs net to zero.

\*\*Oversight notes school districts would have to compile lesson plans for each grade and provide this information via their district website.

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials from **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** assume, each year, a number of joint resolutions that would refer to a vote of the people a constitutional amendment and bills that would refer to a vote of the people the statutory issue in the legislation may be considered by the General Assembly.

Unless a special election is called for the purpose, Joint Resolutions proposing a constitutional amendment are submitted to a vote of the people at the next general election. Article XII section 2(b) of the Missouri Constitution authorizes the governor to order a special election for constitutional amendments referred to the people. If a special election is called to submit a Joint Resolution to a vote of the people, section 115.063.2 RSMo requires the state to pay the costs. The cost of the special election has been estimated to be \$8 million based on the cost of the 2022 primary and general election reimbursements.

The Secretary of State's office is required to pay for publishing in local newspapers the full text of each statewide ballot measure as directed by Article XII, Section 2(b) of the Missouri Constitution and Section 116.230-116.290, RSMo. Funding for this item is adjusted each year depending upon the election cycle. A new decision item is requested in odd numbered fiscal years and the amount requested is dependent upon the estimated number of ballot measures that will be approved by the General Assembly and the initiative petitions certified for the ballot. In FY 2014, the General Assembly changed the appropriation so that it was no longer an estimated appropriation.

For the FY26 petitions cycle, the SOS estimates publication costs at \$60,000 per page. This amount is subject to change based on number of petitions received, length of those petitions and rates charged by newspaper publishers.

The Secretary of State's office will continue to assume, for the purposes of this fiscal note, that it should have the full appropriation authority it needs to meet the publishing requirements. Because these requirements are mandatory, the SOS reserves the right to request funding to meet the cost of the publishing requirements if the Governor and the General Assembly again change the amount or continue to not designate it as an estimated appropriation.

**Oversight** has reflected, in this fiscal note, the state potentially reimbursing local political subdivisions the cost of having this joint resolution voted on during a special election in fiscal year 2026. This reflects the decision made by the Joint Committee on Legislative Research that the cost of the elections should be shown in the fiscal note. The next scheduled statewide general election is in November 2026 (FY 2027). It is assumed the subject within this proposal could be on this ballot; however, it could also be on a special election called for by the Governor (a

different date). Therefore, Oversight will reflect a potential election cost reimbursement to local political subdivisions in FY 2026.

Officials from the **SOS** note many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The Secretary of State's office is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to Secretary of State's office for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The Secretary of State's office recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, they also recognize that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what their office can sustain with their core budget. Therefore, they reserve the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

**Oversight** assumes the SOS could absorb the costs of printing and distributing regulations related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require the printing and distribution of regulations at substantial costs, the SOS could require additional resources.

Officials from **Washington School District** assume while there is no financial impact due to this bill, nor does the district participate in any of the mentioned rights that parents want to ensure are absent from the school system, they would note that a bill such as this limits school district local control.

**Oversight** notes the proposal could potentially impact individual school districts depending on their current policies and practices. Oversight is unable to determine how many schools currently provide the lesson plans via their district website but assume some schools will have to gather and upload all lesson plans to their website. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a \$0 to unknown costs to the school districts.

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Missouri Senate, Missouri House of Representatives, Jackson County Election Board, Platte County Board of Elections, St. Louis City Board of Elections, and St. Louis County Board of Elections** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Transfer Out</u> - SOS - reimbursement of local election authority election costs <b>if</b> a special election is called by the Governor	\$0 or (More than \$8,000,000)	\$0	\$0
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$0 or (More than \$8,000,000)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS</b>			
<u>Transfer In</u> - Local Election Authorities - reimbursement of election costs by the State for a special election	\$0 or More than \$8,000,000	\$0	\$0
<u>Costs</u> - Local Election Authorities - cost of a special election <b>if</b> called for by the Governor	\$0 or (More than \$8,000,000)	\$0	\$0
<u>Costs</u> – School Districts – adding lesson plans to websites	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS</b>	<b>\$0 or (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 or (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 or (Unknown)</b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

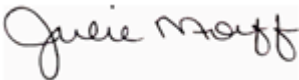
This proposed constitutional amendment, if approved by the voters, provides that the government shall not deny or infringe upon a parent's fundamental right to participate in and direct the education of his or her child, including, but not limited to, the right to home school or otherwise educate a child outside of the public school system free from government regulation, regardless

of whether the parent receives financial assistance from the government for purposes of educating a child; the right to access the curricula and lesson plans of the public school and school district in which a child is enrolled; the right to educate a child in a public school that does not teach students or train teachers on critical race theory or diversity-equity-inclusion; and the right to educate a child in a public school that is not required to conform its curriculum to statewide learning standards, as provided in the amendment.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Office of the Secretary of State  
Missouri Senate  
Missouri House of Representatives  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Jackson County Election Board  
Platte County Board of Elections  
St. Louis City Board of Elections  
St. Louis County Board of Elections  
Washington School District



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February 17, 2025



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