

LEGISLATIVE GOAL

Missouri is one of the few remaining states that does not prohibit corporal punishment in its public schools. Instead, the state leaves the use of corporal punishment to the discretion of local school districts.

The use of corporal punishment on special-needs students could have particularly damaging psychological effects and severely undermine educational progress for these students.

We seek a limited, statewide ban on corporal punishment for special-needs students. In this context ...

- “Corporal punishment” is defined as spanking.
- “Special-needs students” are defined as those who have a diagnosed neurological or developmental disorder, and as a result of such disorder, an individualized education plan or IEP, as that term is defined by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

This legislation should not prevent school personnel from doing what is necessary to stop special needs students from harming themselves or others.

CONFIRMED SUPPORT

Life Skills

People First

St. Louis Arc

Missouri NEA

The Belle Center

Joshua Center for Neurological Disorders

United Cerebral Palsy Easter Seals Heartland

Down Syndrome Association of Greater St. Louis

Pike County Agency for Developmental Disabilities

Tourette Syndrome Association Greater Missouri Chapter

Community Opportunities for People with Developmental Disabilities

Missouri Association for County Developmental Disabilities Services

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