

Resolution Expressing Opposition to Missouri Constitutional Amendment 5

WHEREAS, the Independence School District is the 13th-largest school district in Missouri and serves more than 14,500 students in grades Pre-K through 12; and

WHEREAS, the District employs approximately 2,400 teachers, support staff, administrators, and other personnel dedicated to serving the educational needs of its students; and

WHEREAS, the District's annual operating budget reflects that approximately 77 percent of expenditures are dedicated to salaries and employee benefits, which directly support student learning and district operations; and

WHEREAS, approximately 12 percent of District expenditures are dedicated to instructional and operational supplies, and approximately 11 percent are dedicated to contracted services necessary for the operation of schools, transportation, nutrition services, technology, maintenance, and student support programs; and

WHEREAS, the District serves more than 272,100 student meals each month and operates transportation routes that travel approximately 8,200 miles each school day; and

WHEREAS, the District maintains and operates approximately 3.2 million square feet of educational facilities for students, staff, and community use; and

WHEREAS, inflation and rising costs continue to increase expenses associated with employee compensation, utilities, transportation, food service, supplies, maintenance, and contracted services; and

WHEREAS, Missouri public schools continue to face financial challenges as state funding has not consistently kept pace with the increasing costs of providing a high-quality public education; and

WHEREAS, actions affecting local revenues, including property tax limitations, assessment freezes, and other reductions in local tax growth, may place additional pressure on the financial resources available to public schools; and

WHEREAS, Missouri currently relies upon the individual income tax as a significant source of state revenue supporting public services, including public education; and

WHEREAS, proposals that reduce or eliminate major state revenue sources may create uncertainty regarding the long-term stability and adequacy of funding available for public education and other essential public services; and

WHEREAS, sales taxes generally constitute a larger share of household spending for retirees, lower-income individuals, and families with limited earnings than income taxes;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

SECTION 1. The Board of Education expresses its opposition to Missouri Constitutional Amendment 5 and its potential impact on the stability and adequacy of state and local revenues that support public education.

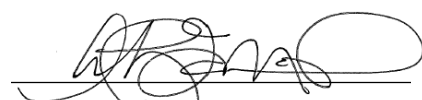
SECTION 2. The Board urges Missouri voters to carefully consider the potential consequences of Amendment 5 on public education funding, local government services, and Missouri taxpayers before casting their votes.

SECTION 3. The Board reaffirms its commitment to advocating for a stable, equitable, and sustainable system of public school funding that enables the District to meet the needs of all students.

SECTION 4. The Board directs that copies of this resolution be provided to members of the Missouri General Assembly, the Governor of Missouri, neighboring school districts, and other interested stakeholders.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the INDEPENDENCE DISTRICT BOARD OF
EDUCATION on the 14th Day of July, 2026.


Board President

ATTEST:


Board Secretary