



For Immediate Release
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Rep. Gina Walsh Secures \$14 Million for Riverview Gardens

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – State Representative Gina Walsh (D-Bellefontaine Neighbors) succeeded in securing \$14 million in state funds for the Riverview Gardens School District.

During debate on the House floor, Rep. Walsh argued the importance of quality public education in North St. Louis County, “I’m weighing the good and bad with this omnibus education bill and, to me, the good far outweighs the bad...it provides critical funding to the Riverview Gardens School district to correct an error. These children should not be forced to pay for the illegal actions of a convicted felon.”

The omnibus education bill, Senate Bill 291, was passed by the Missouri General Assembly after the House/Senate conference committee resolved differences. Sen. Timothy P. Green (D-Spanish Lake) was able to successfully amend Senate Bill 291, adding the requirement that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education recalculate the state funding formula to adequately fund the Riverview Gardens School District to correct an error.

The legislation had previously faced considerable resistance in the House. Rep. Walsh successfully worked with her House colleagues to pass the legislation. “Without Rep. Walsh’s efforts the House may have added amendments which would have jeopardized the bill’s chance of passage,” said Sen. Green. “Because of Rep. Walsh’s hard work in educating House members, and her passionate support for the students and parents of the Riverview Gardens School District, a \$14 million error has been fixed.”

“The students will receive the state funds that were meant for them,” Rep. Walsh said, “Today, the state gave the Riverview Gardens School District the tools to provide quality education for district’s children. Now it’s up to them to deliver on their promises to our community as they work toward re-accreditation.”

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