



Senator Scott T. Rupp

District 2

Press Release

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“Race To The Top” Oversight Bill Passed by Full Senate Senator Rupp’s Bill Ensures Local Control of Education

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Senate today endorsed Sen. Scott T. Rupp’s legislation that keeps any “Race To The Top” education funding under the oversight of the Missouri Legislature. The legislation now goes to the House of Representatives.

The “Race to the Top” fund is a federal grant program from the U.S. Department of Education that is set to distribute nearly \$4 billion to the nation’s schools. If its application is approved, Missouri could receive \$150 million to \$250 million in education funding. While Missouri did not make it past the first round, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is attempting to secure funds in the second round by strengthening the state’s application.

Included in [Senate Bill 976](#) is language that establishes a special fund in the budget that holds any grant dollars the state is awarded. DESE would have to provide the details of the grant, the reforms it would enact, and the consequences of enacting the terms of the grant.

“With the creation of this holding fund, we make sure that Missouri is not bound to strings that are not in line with our vision of education reform. We will maintain the long-term interest and our ability to control the education policy at the local level,” said Sen. Rupp.

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