***This Week in the Missouri Senate* Script
Education**

This week in the Missouri Senate, we review a new law that relates to education…

**Nat Snd :02 Q: House Bill 349….**

[House Bill 349](https://www.senate.mo.gov/21info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=59470327) establishes the "Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program." This measure made its way to the Missouri Senate on March 11, was given Missouri Senate approval on May 6 and signed into law on July 14.

Senator Andrew Koenig of Manchester is the bill handler in the upper chamber…

 **Koenig 1 :15 Q: and reduced lunch (2x).**

He adds there are other caveats for this new law…

 **Koenig 2 :18 Q: first five years.**

Senator Koenig also says he believes this new law offers options for students…

 **Koenig 3 :16 Q: that child are?**

Senator Jill Schupp of Creve Coeur says years have been spent toward getting this proposal passed…

 **Schupp 1 :18 Q: and parochial schools.**

She adds this new laws makes a number of changes…

 **Schupp 2 :13 Q: their private school.**

Senator Schupp also says she does not believe this new law helps *everyone* in Missouri…

 **Schupp 3 :18 Q: they be needed.**

There are varying start dates for each aspect of House Bill 349 to become law.

In the meantime, lawmakers continue to work toward the next regular legislative session, which will begin in January. Prefiled legislation for the next session will receive official bill numbers for the 2022 legislative session this coming Dec. 1. Among the early priorities for legislators next year will be addressing redistricting.

And, remember, you can follow these and other issues facing the Missouri Senate by visiting our website: [senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov).

Reporting from the State Capitol, I’m Dean Morgan.