Virtual Education/Course Access is opening doors for Missouri students

New virtual education law is a game changer for students, schools and industry.

For students, the new law opens the door to access online courses and virtual education. This means that students in many smaller and financially strapped districts and charter schools can now take upper-level courses which they previously had no access to, finally putting every student in the state on a level playing field for access to key courses for academic advancement. The new legislation also opens the door for students to access a full-time virtual education at no cost to their families– providing a key alternative for students who struggle, for a variety of reasons ranging from health issues to bullying, in a traditional brickand-mortar school environment.

For schools, the new legislation provides an economical way to provide their students with the courses they need. Virtual education provides schools an a la carte collection of sought after courses at a much lower cost than hiring qualified teachers to teach those courses in each district. And even if a student chooses to take a full-time virtual program, because the law caps tuition at the state adequacy target then district schools will never lose money to students taking virtual programs.

For business and industry, new legislation also opens the door for every Missouri student to access a wide range of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs including agriculture, business management and administration, health sciences, hospitality and tourism, information technology, and manufacturing – a move that will have a far-reaching impact on the state's ability to grow and develop a successful workforce.

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The text based system allows us to notify you when important legislation is being heard and

about key school

choice issues.

gives you a chance to tell your legislators how you feel about the issue with just a few quick clicks on your phone.

Benefits of virtual education

- 1. Virtual schools allow students to learn at their own pace.
- 2. Digital learning provides parents and teachers immediate, real-time data on how well a student is understanding the subject matter, allowing for quick interventions when a student is struggling.
- 3. Learning through a digital platform prepares students for online classes in college and the increasingly Internetbased business world.

