SB 642: Vote No!

Bill Summary: Mandates that public institutions of higher education charge international tuition rates to undocumented students

Denying undocumented students access to higher education is out of step with the nation
- Twenty six states offer in-state tuition to undocumented students, including our neighboring states of Kansas, Illinois, Oklahoma, and Arkansas.
- With this policy, Missouri cannot hope to retain talented students with diverse backgrounds.

Pushing undocumented students out of Missouri is bad for the economy
- People who attend college and obtain a professional job will increase their earnings and tax contributions and can help attract employers to the state who are seeking well-educated workers.

Supporting in-state tuition for undocumented students is beneficial for everyone
- States that have adopted tuition equity laws have seen benefits for citizens and immigrants of all statuses, including reductions in high school drop-out rates, increases in the number of graduates who pursue a college degree, and upsurges in student incomes and tax contributions.
- Tuition equity laws often increase school revenues, because the money paid by undocumented students represents income that the institutions would not otherwise receive.

Previous policy was to charge undocumented students international tuition rates through the budget, but SB 642 creates a change in statute that gives more power to the in-state tuition ban.