

The Circuit Court of Jackson County ruled today in the case of Blue Springs, Independence, Lee's Summit, North Kansas City and Raytown School Districts vs. the Kansas City, Missouri School District and the State of Missouri. The Court looked at each district on an individual basis. Because of that fact, the judge decided that the State of Missouri did not have a Hancock violation in regards to the Blue Springs School District. The Hancock amendment was passed in 1980 to protect school districts from additional requirements from the state without additional funding to pay for them. The judgment by the court was largely based on the lower per pupil costs in the Blue Springs School District compared to the other suburban school districts involved in the lawsuit. Ironically, trying to be the best stewards of our local taxpayer dollars was found to be a detriment given the Court's rationale in this case.

Undoubtedly the case will be appealed to the Missouri Supreme Court to join a similar case that is ongoing on the St. Louis side of the state.