

FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 469**  
**99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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Reported from the Committee on Education, April 27, 2017, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

0736S.02C

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**AN ACT**

To repeal sections 161.094 and 161.095, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to high school graduation requirements.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Sections 161.094 and 161.095, RSMo, are repealed and four  
2 new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 161.094, 161.095,  
3 162.722, and 170.018, to read as follows:

161.094. 1. The department of elementary and secondary education shall  
2 provide for examination of such applicants at least twice each year at places  
3 reasonably convenient for the applicants. The examination shall be designed to  
4 test the applicant's knowledge of subject matter usually presented in the courses  
5 required to be successfully completed by those graduating from the public high  
6 schools of the state. The certificate of equivalence may also be issued on the  
7 basis of test scores certified to the state board of education by the United States  
8 Armed Forces Institute, or a similar agency approved by the state board of  
9 education.

10 2. **At each place of examination established by the department**  
11 **of elementary and secondary education in accordance with subsection**  
12 **1 of this section, each applicant shall be given the option of voluntarily**  
13 **submitting his or her contact information for the purposes of**  
14 **evaluating the college and career placement rates of high school**  
15 **equivalency certificate applicants. The department of elementary and**  
16 **secondary education shall not maintain the contact information of any**  
17 **applicant for longer than a period of two years beginning on the date**  
18 **of examination.**

161.095. The state board of education may charge an examination fee of

2 each applicant to cover the cost of administering the program. **Subject to**  
3 **appropriations, the department of elementary and secondary education**  
4 **shall subsidize the examination fee for first-time exam takers.**

162.722. 1. Each school district shall establish a policy, approved  
2 by the board of education of the district, that allows acceleration for  
3 students who demonstrate:

4 (1) Advanced performance or potential for advanced  
5 performance; and

6 (2) The social and emotional readiness for acceleration.

7 2. The policy shall allow, for students described in this section,  
8 at least the following types of acceleration:

9 (1) Subject acceleration; and

10 (2) Whole grade acceleration.

170.018. 1. The department of elementary and secondary  
2 education shall, by July 1, 2018, develop a high school graduation  
3 policy that allows a student to fulfill one unit of academic credit with  
4 a district-approved computer science course for any mathematics or  
5 science unit required for high school graduation.

6 2. The department of elementary and secondary education may  
7 promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule  
8 or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is  
9 created under the authority delegated in this section shall become  
10 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions  
11 of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and  
12 chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the  
13 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the  
14 effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held  
15 unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule  
16 proposed or adopted after August 28, 2017, shall be invalid and void.

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