

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 351

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HOSMER.

Read 1st time January 11, 2001, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

0246L.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 173, RSMo, relating to higher education by adding thereto one new section relating to the same subject.

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

Section A. Chapter 173, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 173.035, to read as follows:

**173.035. 1. Pursuant to the duties for the coordinating board for higher education
2 specified in section 173.005, the coordinating board shall promote and catalogue service
3 learning opportunities available in the state institutions of higher education. As used in
4 this section, "service learning" refers to structured opportunities for community service
5 that are related to academic courses of study, and which are performed by students
6 voluntarily or for some type of academic credit. Service learning may occur through
7 nonprofit, governmental or community-based organizations, or schools, colleges or
8 universities. In general, service learning is designed to provide direct experience with
9 community issues, and has as its primary goal an increase in educational impact of
10 academic knowledge by direct application to community needs, which results in both
11 productive citizens and an increased quality of life for community residents. Service
12 learning may include but is not limited to activities in the areas of tutoring, literacy
13 training, neighborhood improvement, environmental improvements, assisting the elderly
14 or disabled, providing mental health and physical health care, particularly for
15 disadvantaged or low income community residents.**

16 2. The coordinating board shall promote service learning by:

**17 (1) Including information about service learning in workshops, seminars, and other
18 coordinating board-sponsored training activities attended by administrators, faculty and**

19 staff;

20 (2) Sharing information with the state institutions of higher education about the
21 service learning programs at those facilities which have active and ongoing programs;

22 (3) Developing written information about the options available to the colleges and
23 universities in implementing service learning programs, including information on the issues
24 of granting academic credit for service learning participation, how to connect service
25 learning placements and academic learning, how to develop feasible programs that permit
26 the widest possible student involvement, and forming partnerships with private entities
27 and public agencies to help meet the goals of service learning programs; and

28 (4) Encouraging state institutions of higher education to establish, continue or
29 expand service learning programs, through written and verbal communications between
30 the coordinating board and the state institutions of higher education.

31 3. The coordinating board shall catalogue service learning by:

32 (1) Adding information about the existence, scope and structure of service learning
33 programs at state institutions of higher education to the institutional information collected
34 by the coordinating board, as required in subdivision (7) of subsection 2 of section 173.005;

35 (2) Providing summary information about the number, scope and structure of
36 service learning programs at state institutions of higher education to nonprofit and
37 community agencies and schools, upon request; and

38 (3) Providing an annual report to the governor and to the general assembly on the
39 number, scope and structure of service learning programs at state institutions of higher
40 education by September thirtieth of each year, beginning in 2002.