

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1347
93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Higher Education April 5, 2006 with recommendation that House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1347 Do Pass. Referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 25(26)(f).

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

3402L.03C

AN ACT

To repeal section 170.011, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to course requirements at state institutions of higher education.

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

Section A. Section 170.011, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 170.011, to read as follows:

170.011. 1. Regular courses of instruction in the Constitution of the United States and of the state of Missouri and in American history and institutions shall be given in all public and private schools in the state of Missouri, except privately operated trade schools, and shall begin not later than the seventh grade and continue in high school to an extent determined by the state commissioner of education, and shall continue in college and university courses to an extent determined by the state commissioner of higher education. In the 1990-91 school year and each year thereafter, local school districts maintaining high schools shall comply with the provisions of this section by offering in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve a course of instruction in the institutions, branches and functions of the government of the state of Missouri, including local governments, and of the government of the United States, and in the electoral process. A local school district maintaining such a high school shall require that prior to the completion of the twelfth grade each pupil, who receives a high school diploma or certificate of graduation on or after January 1, 1994, shall satisfactorily complete such a course of study. Such course shall be of at least one semester in length and may be two semesters in length. The department of

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

15 elementary and secondary education may provide assistance in developing such a course if the
16 district requests assistance.

17 2. American history courses at the elementary and secondary levels shall include in their
18 proper time-line sequence specific referrals to the details and events of the racial equality
19 movement that have caused major changes in United States and Missouri laws and attitudes.

20 3. **(1)** No pupil shall receive a certificate of graduation from any public [or private
21 school other than private trade schools] **post-secondary educational institution for an**
22 **associate of arts degree or bachelor's degree** unless [he] **the student** has satisfactorily passed
23 an examination on the provisions and principles of the Constitution of the United States and of
24 the state of Missouri, and in American history and American institutions **or has achieved a**
25 **passing grade in a three-hour course covering the subject matter referred to above.** A
26 student of a college or university, who, after having completed a course of instruction prescribed
27 in this section [and] **or** successfully passed an examination on the United States Constitution,
28 and in American history and American institutions required hereby, transfers to another college
29 or university, is not required to complete another such course or pass another such examination
30 as a condition precedent to [his] **the student's** graduation from the college or university.

31 **(2) Each institution that is covered by subdivision (1) of subsection 3 of this section**
32 **shall report to the coordinating board for higher education no later than September 1,**
33 **2007, on its procedures for ensuring the fulfillment of this requirement. The coordinating**
34 **board shall include the information in its annual report to the general assembly pursuant**
35 **to section 173.040, RSMo.**

36 4. In the 1990-91 school year and each year thereafter, each school district maintaining
37 a high school may annually nominate to the state board of education a student who has
38 demonstrated knowledge of the principles of government and citizenship through academic
39 achievement, participation in extracurricular activities, and service to the community. Annually,
40 the state board of education shall select fifteen students from those nominated by the local school
41 districts and shall recognize and award them for their academic achievement, participation and
42 service.

43 5. The state commissioner of education and the state commissioner of higher education
44 shall make arrangements for carrying out the provisions of this section [and prescribe a list of
45 suitable texts adapted to the needs of the school grades and college courses, respectively].

46 6. The willful neglect of any superintendent, principal or teacher to observe and carry
47 out the requirements of this section is sufficient cause for termination of his contract.

48 7. The provisions of this section shall not apply to students from foreign countries who
49 are enrolled in public or private high schools in Missouri, if such students are foreign exchange

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50 students sponsored by a national organization recognized by the department of elementary and
51 secondary education.

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