

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2158

## 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES GRILL (Sponsor), SCHOEMEHL, TALBOY, McCLANAHAN,  
STORCH, SCHIEFFER, YAEGER, HOLSMAN, MEINERS AND SCHNEIDER (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time February 14, 2008 and copies ordered printed.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

4616L.01I

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to early childhood education.

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

Section A. Chapter 161, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 161.815, to read as follows:

3 **161.815. 1. There is hereby established in the department of elementary and**  
4 **secondary education a program to encourage preschool children to read, to be known as**  
5 **the "Missouri Books From Birth Program". The department shall form a partnership**  
6 **with a nonprofit public benefit corporation to develop a comprehensive statewide program**  
7 **for preschool children in this state. One goal of this program shall be to distribute one**  
8 **book per month free of charge to children in this state between birth and age five.**

9 **2. The nonprofit partner shall have its board of directors elected by a process**  
10 **approved annually by the governor or the governor's designee. The nonprofit partner's**  
11 **board may select its own chairperson. The nonprofit partner may receive funds from the**  
12 **general public, and also may receive funds from the state at such times and in such**  
13 **amounts as appropriated by the general assembly.**

14 **3. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Missouri Books From Birth**  
15 **Fund", which shall consist of money collected under this section. The state treasurer shall**  
16 **be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, RSMo, the state**

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 treasurer may approve disbursements. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be  
16 used solely for the administration of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section  
17 33.080, RSMo, to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the  
18 biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer  
19 shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any  
20 interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

21 4. The department of elementary and secondary education may promulgate rules  
22 and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that  
23 term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in  
24 this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the  
25 provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section  
26 and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general  
27 assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to  
28 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of  
29 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2008, shall be  
30 invalid and void.

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