

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 764

## 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES GRILL (Sponsor), PACE AND ATKINS (Co-sponsors).

1417L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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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 known as section 161.815, to read as follows:

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

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

**3. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Missouri Books From Birth Fund", which shall consist of money collected under this section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, RSMo, the state treasurer may approve disbursements. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the**

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.

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, 2009, shall be**  
30 **invalid and void.**

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