

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2422

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES FAITH (Sponsor) AND WELLS (Co-sponsor).

5472L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the Missouri GED+ Program.

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 161.750, to read as follows:

161.750. 1. There is hereby established within the department of elementary and secondary education the "GED+ Program" to be administered by the commissioner of education. The program shall consist of Missouri adult education and literacy programs that demonstrate a commitment to ensure that students:

(1) Attain a certification of General Educational Development (GED); and

(2) Proceed from GED attainment to a college or post-secondary vocational or technical school or high-wage job with workplace skill development opportunities.

2. The state board of education shall promulgate rules and regulations for Missouri adult education and literacy programs that:

(1) Establish measurable adult education and literacy program standards to meet the goals outlined in subsection 1 of this section;

(2) Specify the knowledge, skills, and competencies, in measurable terms, that students must demonstrate to successfully complete the program; and

(3) Require rigorous coursework with standards of competency in basic academic subjects for students pursuing vocational and technical education.

3. The board of education shall develop a partnership plan in cooperation and with the advice of local business persons, labor leaders, and representatives of college and post-

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 secondary vocational and technical school representatives. The plan shall specify a
19 mechanism to receive information on an annual basis from those who developed the plan,
20 in addition to community leaders and teachers, to update the plan in order to best meet the
21 goals of the program as provided in subsection 1 of this section. Further, the plan shall
22 detail the procedures used in the adult education and literacy programs to identify students
23 that may need intervention services to remain in GED preparation classes. The plan shall
24 outline transitioning and mentoring services provided to GED recipients who will enter
25 post-secondary education and the workforce.

26 4. For any school year, funding to administer the program shall be authorized by
27 the commissioner of education from the amount appropriated for this program, less those
28 funds necessary to reimburse eligible students under subsection 5 of this section.

29 5. The commissioner of education shall, by rule and regulation of the state board
30 of education and with the advice and consent of the coordinating board for higher
31 education, establish a procedure for the reimbursement of the cost of tuition to any public
32 community college or vocational or technical school for any student who has:

33 (1) Been enrolled in an adult education and literacy program in the state for at least
34 seventy-five hours prior to taking and passing the GED, that meets the requirements of
35 subsection 2 of this section;

36 (2) Made a good faith effort to first secure all available federal sources of funding
37 that could be applied to the reimbursement described in this subsection;

38 (3) Earned a minimum cumulative standard score of 2,700 on his or her GED, with
39 no individual test score less than 410; and

40 (4) Completed at least fifty hours of volunteer tutoring in the student's adult
41 education and literacy program.

42 6. The commissioner of education shall develop a procedure for evaluating the
43 effectiveness of the program established under this section. Such evaluation shall be
44 conducted annually with the results of the evaluation provided to the governor, speaker
45 of the house of representatives, and president pro tem of the senate.

46 7. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is
47 created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it
48 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
49 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers
50 vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
51 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the
52 grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2010,
53 shall be invalid and void.

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