

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 559

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE GRISAMORE.

0618L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 170.132, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to electronic texts.

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

Section A. Section 170.132, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 170.132, to read as follows:

170.132. **1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:**

(1) **"Accessible electronic text", digital text that can be read with text-to-speech systems; modified with regard to font size; navigated by chapter, section, and page number; that includes alternative text and long descriptions for images when appropriate; and has content order, levels, and headings determined by publisher tagging;**

(2) **"Missouri assistive technology advisory council", the body which directs the Missouri assistive technology program under sections 191.850 to 191.867;**

(3) **"Print instructional materials", printed textbooks and related printed core materials that are written and published primarily for use in elementary, secondary, or post-secondary instruction and are required by the purchasing school for use by students in the classroom;**

(4) **"Specialized formats", Braille, large print, digital audio, and accessible electronic text when used by students with disabilities who are unable to use standard print;**

(5) **"Undue burden", significant difficulty or expense.**

2. All public elementary[,] and secondary [and postsecondary] schools shall [preferentially] procure [educational] print instructional materials[, including textbooks and

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 collateral materials,] from vendors who make the materials available [in either Braille format or
19 electronic format which is computer-readable in a form approved by the department of
20 elementary and secondary education, or both, at no greater cost than for regular materials] **for**
21 **purchase in accessible electronic text when the materials meet curricular needs and an**
22 **undue burden is not imposed.**

23 **3. All public elementary, secondary, and post-secondary schools have the right to**
24 **transcribe, render, reproduce, and distribute print instructional materials in specialized**
25 **formats solely for use by students with disabilities who are entitled to such formats under**
26 **the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of**
27 **1973 (20 U.S.C. 794).**

28 **4. The Missouri assistive technology council shall no less than annually:**

29 **(1) Identify and approve currently available accessible electronic text formats;**

30 **(2) Identify vendors who make print instructional materials available for purchase**
31 **in accessible electronic format and other specialized formats; and**

32 **(3) Disseminate information about such vendors to public elementary and**
33 **secondary schools to support purchasing decisions.**

34 **5. Nothing in this section relieves a school of any applicable requirement of the**
35 **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act with regard to access to or purchase of print**
36 **instructional materials.**