

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1823

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BERRY.

5983L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 162.1250, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to virtual schools.

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

Section A. Section 162.1250, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 162.1250, to read as follows:

162.1250. 1. School districts shall receive state school funding under sections 163.031, 163.043, and 163.087 for resident students who are enrolled in the school district and who are taking a virtual course or full-time virtual program offered by the school district. The school district may offer instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and internet methods of communications that could take place outside of the regular school district facility. The school district may develop a virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with the courses available in accordance with district policy to any resident student of the district who is enrolled in the school district. Nothing in this section shall preclude a private, parochial, or home school student residing within a school district offering virtual courses or virtual programs from enrolling in the school district in accordance with the combined enrollment provisions of section 167.031 for the purposes of participating in the virtual courses or virtual programs.

2. Charter schools shall receive state school funding under section 160.415 for students enrolled in the charter school who are completing a virtual course or full-time virtual program offered by the charter school. Charter schools may offer instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and internet methods of communications. The charter school may develop a virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with the courses

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 available in accordance with school policy and the charter school's charter to any student enrolled
19 in the charter school.

20 3. For purposes of calculation and distribution of state school funding, attendance of a
21 student enrolled in a district or charter school virtual class shall equal, upon course completion,
22 ninety-four percent of the hours of attendance possible for such class delivered in the nonvirtual
23 program in the student's resident district or charter school. Course completion shall be calculated
24 in two increments, fifty percent completion and one hundred percent completion, based on the
25 student's completion of defined assignments and assessments, with distribution of state funding
26 to a school district or charter school at each increment equal to forty-seven percent of hours of
27 attendance possible for such course delivered in the nonvirtual program in a student's school
28 district of residence or charter school.

29 4. **Any student who is a resident of this state may enroll in a school district other
30 than his or her school district of residence or in a charter school for the purpose of
31 attending virtual courses or programs. For purposes of this subsection, "virtual
32 nonresident students" shall mean nonresident students who enroll in a school district or
33 charter school for the purpose of attending virtual courses or programs. School districts
34 or charter schools may enroll any virtual nonresident student. School districts and charter
35 schools shall admit students under this subsection based on the time of submission of an
36 application for enrollment until full capacity is reached. No student shall be admitted if
37 admission of the student would cause the amount paid by the district of residence to exceed
38 the aggregate amount paid to the district as provided in this subsection. A school district
39 or charter school shall give a preference to a sibling of a student already enrolled. A
40 student who enrolls in another school district or charter school under this subsection may
41 remain enrolled in the virtual school until he or she has completed all grade levels offered
42 or he or she withdraws from the school. For purposes of calculation and distribution of
43 state school funding for virtual nonresident students, the virtual nonresident student shall
44 be included in the average daily attendance of his or her school district of residence. The
45 virtual nonresident student's district of residence shall pay the school district or charter
46 school providing such virtual education an amount equal to seventy-two and one half
47 percent of the previous year's statewide average current expenditure per average daily
48 attendance, provided that the amount paid by any district shall not exceed the total amount
49 due to the district under subsections 1 and 2 of section 163.031 and sections 163.043 and
50 163.087. Under no circumstances shall school districts or charter schools enroll or admit
51 virtual nonresident students in excess of one and seventy-five hundredths percent of the
52 total number of public and charter school students enrolled in this state as determined by
53 the department of elementary and secondary education.**

54 **5. In addition to those entities which may sponsor charter schools under section**
55 **160.400, any institution of higher education with its primary campus located in Missouri**
56 **with an approved teacher education program may sponsor virtual charter schools. Virtual**
57 **charter schools are charter schools and subject to all of the applicable provisions of**
58 **sections 160.400 to 160.425 and this section. Virtual charter schools may only offer**
59 **instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and internet methods of**
60 **communication.**

61 6. When courses are purchased from an outside vendor, the district or charter school
62 shall ensure that they are aligned with the show-me curriculum standards and comply with state
63 requirements for teacher certification. The state board of education reserves the right to request
64 information and materials sufficient to evaluate the online course. Online classes should be
65 considered like any other class offered by the school district or charter school.

66 [5.] 7. Any school district or charter school that offers instruction in a virtual setting,
67 develops a virtual course or courses, or develops a virtual program of instruction shall ensure that
68 the following standards are satisfied:

69 (1) The virtual course or virtual program utilizes appropriate content-specific tools and
70 software;

71 (2) Orientation training is available for teachers, instructors, and students as needed;

72 (3) Privacy policies are stated and made available to teachers, instructors, and students;

73 (4) Academic integrity and internet etiquette expectations regarding lesson activities,
74 discussions, electronic communications, and plagiarism are stated to teachers, instructors, and
75 students prior to the beginning of the virtual course or virtual program;

76 (5) Computer system requirements, including hardware, web browser, and software, are
77 specified to participants;

78 (6) The virtual course or virtual program architecture, software, and hardware permit the
79 online teacher or instructor to add content, activities, and assessments to extend learning
80 opportunities;

81 (7) The virtual course or virtual program makes resources available by alternative means,
82 including but not limited to, video and podcasts;

83 (8) Resources and notes are available for teachers and instructors in addition to
84 assessment and assignment answers and explanations;

85 (9) Technical support and course management are available to the virtual course or
86 virtual program teacher and school coordinator;

87 (10) The virtual course or virtual program includes assignments, projects, and
88 assessments that are aligned with students' different visual, auditory, and hands-on learning
89 styles;

90 (11) The virtual course or virtual program demonstrates the ability to effectively use and
91 incorporate subject-specific and developmentally appropriate software in an online learning
92 module; and

93 (12) The virtual course or virtual program arranges media and content to help transfer
94 knowledge most effectively in the online environment.

95 [6.] **8.** Any special school district shall count any student's completion of a virtual course
96 or program in the same manner as the district counts completion of any other course or program
97 for credit.

98 [7.] **9.** A school district or charter school may contract with multiple providers of virtual
99 courses or virtual programs, provided they meet the criteria for virtual courses or virtual
100 programs under this section.

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