

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 2247, Page 27, Section 160.425, Line 48,
2 by inserting after all of said line the following:

3
4 "160.430. 1. For purposes of this section and sections 160.432 and 160.435, "school of
5 innovation" means a program approved by the school board of a school district with a curriculum,
6 delivery method, or instructional model different from the traditional school model. A program
7 qualifies as a school of innovation even if it does not have a building or facility that is separate from
8 other district grade-level school buildings.

9 2. Students may attend a school of innovation and still be considered enrolled in a
10 traditional school building for the purposes of cocurricular activities, extracurricular activities, and
11 general courses available to both students in the school of innovation and students in the traditional
12 public school setting.

13 3. The board of education of a school district may, by a majority vote of the entire board,
14 establish a school of innovation. Before the vote, the board members shall prepare and distribute to
15 all members a written description of the educational mission of the school of innovation, the
16 research that supports that mission, the educational goals for the school of innovation, and the
17 process the district intends to use to determine if the school of innovation is meeting those goals.

18 4. The school day, school hours, and school term of a school of innovation may be different
19 from other schools in the district. Schools of innovation shall be required to meet the minimum
20 school day or school term requirements in sections 160.011, 160.041, 171.031, and 171.033.

21 5. For purposes of calculation and distribution of state school funding, attendance of a
22 student enrolled in a school of innovation shall equal, upon completion of the school year, one
23 hundred five percent of the hours of attendance possible for the same or similar program delivered
24 in the traditional school setting offered in the district. State funding shall be calculated in two
25 increments, fifty percent completion and one hundred percent completion, based on the student's
26 completion of the program, with distribution of state funding to a school district at each increment
27 equal to fifty-two and one-half percent of hours of attendance possible for the same or similar
28 program delivered in the traditional program in the district.

29 6. For the first three years a school of innovation exists, the graduation rates, attendance
30 rates, and scores on the statewide assessments established under section 160.518 of the students
31 enrolled in the school of innovation shall not be considered when determining a district's
32 accreditation status, unless the district chooses for those scores and rates to be considered.

33 7. The board of a school district that has established a school of innovation shall annually
34 review the overall academic performance of the school of innovation and the progress the school of
35 innovation has made toward achieving the educational goals set when the school was established.
36 The board may, by a majority vote of the entire board, alter, amend, extend, or change the goals or

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1 educational mission of the school of innovation. The board may at any time vote to revoke the
2 school's status as a school of innovation.

3 8. A superintendent of a school district with a school of innovation, or his or her designee,
4 may assign specific teachers and district employees to a school of innovation, regardless of existing
5 policies, practices, or collective bargaining agreements.

6 9. (1) The board of a school district that has established a school of innovation may, at its
7 discretion, pay a teacher assigned to and teaching in the school of innovation more than what the
8 teacher would otherwise receive on the teacher salary schedule in order to compensate for the
9 additional training, alternative lesson plans, extended hours, and additional duties associated with
10 the position.

11 (2) Teachers assigned to a school of innovation may earn tenure in the district, but the
12 teachers have no right or entitlement to continue to work in a school of innovation.

13 (3) Teaching contracts for teachers assigned to a school of innovation shall not include a set
14 number of days, months, or working hours. A teacher assigned to a school of innovation shall
15 receive a school calendar outlining general attendance expectations.

16 (4) If a district reassigns a teacher from a school of innovation and then pays the teacher on
17 the teacher salary schedule for the district, the reassignment shall not be considered a demotion
18 under sections 168.102 to 168.130, even if the teacher's compensation is reduced.

19 10. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 169 or any other provision of law, a teacher
20 receiving retirement benefits under chapter 169 may, without losing his or her retirement benefits,
21 teach on a full-time or part-time basis in a school of innovation if the teacher is certificated and has
22 teaching experience in a subject that is essential to the mission of the school of innovation and the
23 district can demonstrate that it has been unsuccessful in employing a teacher with the same
24 certification and relevant experience in the subject area. A retired teacher who is employed to work
25 at a school of innovation under this subsection shall not be eligible to earn tenure.

26 11. A school district that establishes a school of innovation may allow students who are not
27 residents of the district to attend the school of innovation upon payment of tuition by the student,
28 parents, or the student's resident school district or charter school. The school district that
29 establishes the school of innovation shall not be responsible for the transportation of nonresident
30 students. A school district may enter into an agreement with the district that has established the
31 school of innovation to share staff, facilities, or other resources in lieu of or in addition to tuition.

32 12. (1) The board of a school district that has established or that seeks to establish a school
33 of innovation may apply to the state board of education for a waiver of a state statute or regulation
34 that impedes the establishment of a school of innovation or that is otherwise a barrier to the
35 innovative educational mission.

36 (2) The state board of education shall hold a public hearing to determine if a waiver should
37 be granted. The state board of education may, by a majority vote of the entire state board, waive a
38 state statute or regulation for the limited purpose of operating the school of innovation. Such
39 waiver shall last three years and may be extended by the state board of education for three-year
40 terms upon evidence that the waiver has resulted in the desired educational innovation and
41 opportunity.

42 13. The department of elementary and secondary education shall review all existing laws,
43 regulations, and processes and take action to remove any identified barriers to school districts using
44 innovative education models. The department of elementary and secondary education shall report to
45 the governor before December 1, 2018, any state or federal statutes or regulations that could impede
46 the establishment of schools of innovation.

47 14. Subject to appropriation, the governor, or a task force appointed by the governor, shall
48 annually award ten competitive grants to school districts for the establishment, implementation, or

1 expansion of schools of innovation.

2 160.432. A school district may enter into an agreement with one or more other school
3 districts to provide students access to courses or schools, including schools of innovation. School
4 districts may enter into agreements to share staff, facilities, or other resources in lieu of or in
5 addition to tuition paid by a district for its students to access the courses or schools, including
6 schools of innovation. The school district sponsoring the course or school, including the school of
7 innovation, shall retain financial and legal responsibility unless determined otherwise in the
8 agreement.

9 160.435. 1. A school district may enter into an agreement with one or more other school
10 districts to cooperatively provide schools to educate resident students of all participating districts.
11 Such schools shall be known as "cooperative schools". Cooperative school services may be
12 provided in the facilities of any of the cooperating districts or in facilities leased by the cooperating
13 districts or through a third-party vendor. The agreement shall describe the nature of the services to
14 be provided. Services may include full-day instruction, individual courses, a specialized program of
15 studies, or the establishment of a shared school of innovation.

16 2. Districts participating in a cooperative school shall equally share financial and legal
17 responsibility for the school, courses, and employees assigned to such schools and courses, unless
18 otherwise determined in the agreement. Participating districts shall contribute funds, facilities, staff,
19 or other resources to operate the cooperative school as determined in the agreement.

20 3. A cooperative school shall be governed by a committee, with one appointed
21 representative from each participating school district. The committee shall have the legal authority
22 to create and oversee a budget, enter into contracts, employ staff, and pay bills associated with the
23 cooperative school. The financial resources devoted to the cooperative school by the participating
24 districts shall be kept in a separate account, shall be solely devoted to the cooperative school, and
25 shall carry over from year to year to the benefit of the cooperative school.

26 4. If an agreement under this section expires and no new agreement is reached, a
27 cooperative school may be dissolved by a unanimous vote of the representatives on the committee
28 governing the cooperative school or by a vote of the boards of education of all the participating
29 school districts. If dissolved, all resources, debt, or legal liability incurred shall be divided in
30 accordance with the agreement.

31 5. Eligible students from participating districts shall have an equal opportunity to attend the
32 cooperative school, as determined by the agreement. Any student enrolled in a participating district
33 shall be reported by the sending participating district for state aid purposes. The cooperative school
34 shall share information and student records with the school districts in which students are enrolled.

35 6. The committee governing the cooperative school shall employ teachers and other staff
36 necessary to operate the cooperative school. The teaching or administrative contracts shall be with
37 the committee governing the cooperative school rather than with the participating school districts.
38 Teachers teaching at a cooperative school may earn tenure in the cooperative school in accordance
39 with sections 168.102 to 168.130 but shall not earn tenure with any participating district based on
40 employment in the cooperative school.

41 7. Teachers who were employed by a participating school district immediately before their
42 employment with the cooperative school shall not lose years toward tenure in the participating
43 district or lose tenure previously earned in the participating school district. However, the teacher
44 shall not continue to earn years toward tenure in the participating district during his or her
45 employment with the cooperative school.

46 8. If the committee governing the cooperative school determines that the school needs to
47 reduce or rearrange staff due to a decrease in student enrollment, reorganization of the program, or
48 financial conditions, teaching staff shall be placed on leaves of absence from the cooperative school

1 in accordance with section 168.124. If a teacher is placed on leave of absence from the cooperative
 2 school but has previously earned tenure in a participating district immediately before his or her
 3 employment in the cooperative school, the participating district may reemploy the tenured teacher,
 4 and the teacher shall be considered tenured upon reemployment. If a teacher is placed on leave of
 5 absence from the cooperative school but was a probationary teacher in a participating district
 6 immediately before his or her employment with the cooperative school, and the participating district
 7 reemploys the teacher, the teacher shall not have lost years toward tenure previously earned with the
 8 participating district."; and
 9

10 Further amend said bill, Page 29, Section 160.518, Line 83, by inserting after all of said line the
 11 following:
 12

13 "160.545. 1. There is hereby established [~~within the department of elementary and~~
 14 ~~secondary education]~~ the "A+ Schools Program" to be administered by the commissioner of
 15 education. The program shall consist of grant awards made to public secondary schools that
 16 demonstrate a commitment to ensure that:

17 (1) All students be graduated from school;

18 (2) All students complete a selection of high school studies that is challenging and for which
 19 there are identified learning expectations; and

20 (3) All students proceed from high school graduation to a college or postsecondary
 21 vocational or technical school or high-wage job with work place skill development opportunities.

22 2. The state board of education shall promulgate rules and regulations for the approval of
 23 grants made under the program to schools that:

24 (1) Establish measurable districtwide performance standards for the goals of the program
 25 outlined in subsection 1 of this section; and

26 (2) Specify the knowledge, skills and competencies, in measurable terms, that students must
 27 demonstrate to successfully complete any individual course offered by the school, and any course of
 28 studies which will qualify a student for graduation from the school; and

29 (3) [~~Do not offer a general track of courses that, upon completion, can lead to a high school~~
 30 ~~diploma;~~ and

31 ~~———(4)]~~ Require rigorous coursework with standards of competency in basic academic subjects
 32 for students pursuing vocational and technical education as prescribed by rule and regulation of the
 33 state board of education; and

34 [~~(5)]~~ (4) Have a partnership plan developed in cooperation and with the advice of local
 35 business persons, labor leaders, parents, and representatives of college and postsecondary vocational
 36 and technical school representatives, with the plan then approved by the local board of education.
 37 The plan shall specify a mechanism to receive information on an annual basis from those who
 38 developed the plan in addition to senior citizens, community leaders, and teachers to update the plan
 39 in order to best meet the goals of the program as provided in subsection 1 of this section. Further,
 40 the plan shall detail the procedures used in the school to identify students that may drop out of
 41 school and the intervention services to be used to meet the needs of such students. The plan shall
 42 outline counseling and mentoring services provided to students who will enter the work force upon
 43 graduation from high school, address apprenticeship and intern programs, and shall contain
 44 procedures for the recruitment of volunteers from the community of the school to serve in schools
 45 receiving program grants.

46 3. Any nonpublic school in this state may apply to the state board of education for
 47 certification that it meets the requirements of this section subject to the same criteria as public high
 48 schools. Every nonpublic school that applies and has met the requirements of this section shall have

1 its students eligible for reimbursement of postsecondary education under subsection 8 of this section
 2 on an equal basis to students who graduate from public schools that meet the requirements of this
 3 section. Any nonpublic school that applies shall not be eligible for any grants under this section.
 4 Students of certified nonpublic schools shall be eligible for reimbursement of postsecondary
 5 education under subsection 8 of this section so long as they meet the other requirements of such
 6 subsection. For purposes of subdivision ~~[(5)]~~ (4) of subsection 2 of this section, the nonpublic
 7 school shall be included in the partnership plan developed by the public school district in which the
 8 nonpublic school is located. For purposes of subdivision (1) of subsection 2 of this section, the
 9 nonpublic school shall establish measurable performance standards for the goals of the program for
 10 every school and grade level over which the nonpublic school maintains control.

11 4. A school district may participate in the program irrespective of its accreditation
 12 classification by the state board of education, provided it meets all other requirements.

13 5. By rule and regulation, the state board of education may determine a local school district
 14 variable fund match requirement in order for a school or schools in the district to receive a grant
 15 under the program. However, no school in any district shall receive a grant under the program
 16 unless the district designates a salaried employee to serve as the program coordinator, with the
 17 district assuming a minimum of one-half the cost of the salary and other benefits provided to the
 18 coordinator. Further, no school in any district shall receive a grant under the program unless the
 19 district makes available facilities and services for adult literacy training as specified by rule of the
 20 state board of education.

21 6. For any school that meets the requirements for the approval of the grants authorized by
 22 this section and specified in subsection 2 of this section for three successive school years, by August
 23 first following the third such school year, the commissioner of education shall present a plan to the
 24 superintendent of the school district in which such school is located for the waiver of rules and
 25 regulations to promote flexibility in the operations of the school and to enhance and encourage
 26 efficiency in the delivery of instructional services in the school. The provisions of other law to the
 27 contrary notwithstanding, the plan presented to the superintendent shall provide a summary waiver,
 28 with no conditions, for the pupil testing requirements pursuant to section 160.257 in the school.
 29 Further, the provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the plan shall detail a means for
 30 the waiver of requirements otherwise imposed on the school related to the authority of the state
 31 board of education to classify school districts pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 161.092 and
 32 such other rules and regulations as determined by the commissioner of education, except such
 33 waivers shall be confined to the school and not other schools in the school district unless such other
 34 schools meet the requirements of this subsection. However, any waiver provided to any school as
 35 outlined in this subsection shall be void on June thirtieth of any school year in which the school fails
 36 to meet the requirements for the approval of the grants authorized by this section as specified in
 37 subsection 2 of this section.

38 7. For any school year, grants authorized by subsections 1, 2, and 5 of this section shall be
 39 funded with the amount appropriated for this program, less those funds necessary to reimburse
 40 eligible students pursuant to subsection 8 of this section.

41 8. The department of higher education shall, by rule, establish a procedure for the
 42 reimbursement of the cost of tuition, books and fees to any public community college or vocational
 43 or technical school or within the limits established in subsection ~~[10]~~ 11 of this section for any two-
 44 year private vocational or technical school for any student:

45 (1) Who has attended a high school in the state for at least ~~[three]~~ two years ~~[immediately~~
 46 ~~prior to graduation]~~ that meets the requirements of subsection 2 of this section; except that, students
 47 who are active duty military dependents, and students who are ~~[dependants]~~ dependents of retired
 48 military who relocate to Missouri within one year of the date of the parent's retirement from active

1 duty, who ~~[in the school year immediately preceding graduation,]~~ meet all other requirements of
 2 this subsection and are attending a school that meets the requirements of subsection 2 of this section
 3 shall be exempt from the ~~[three-year]~~ two-year attendance requirement of this subdivision; and

4 (2) Who has made a good faith effort to first secure all available federal sources of funding
 5 that could be applied to the reimbursement described in this subsection; and

6 (3) Who has earned a minimal grade average while in high school or through the semester
 7 immediately before taking the course for which he or she seeks reimbursement as determined by
 8 rule of the department of higher education, and other requirements for the reimbursement authorized
 9 by this subsection as determined by rule and regulation of the department; and

10 (4) Who is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.

11 9. A student who meets the requirements established in subsection 8 of this section
 12 immediately before taking the course for which he or she seeks reimbursement shall receive
 13 reimbursement of the cost of tuition, books, and fees for any dual credit or dual enrollment course
 14 offered in a high school in association with a public community college or vocational or technical
 15 school, subject to the requirements of subsection 11 of this section. Eligible students who qualify
 16 for reimbursement under this subsection shall also receive reimbursement for the costs associated
 17 with an advanced placement course or test.

18 10. The commissioner of education shall develop a procedure for evaluating the
 19 effectiveness of the program described in this section. Such evaluation shall be conducted annually
 20 with the results of the evaluation provided to the governor, speaker of the house, and president pro
 21 tempore of the senate.

22 ~~[40.]~~ 11. For a two-year private vocational or technical school to obtain reimbursements
 23 under subsection 8 of this section, the following requirements shall be satisfied:

24 (1) Such two-year private vocational or technical school shall be a member of the North
 25 Central Association and be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission as of July 1, 2008, and
 26 maintain such accreditation;

27 (2) Such two-year private vocational or technical school shall be designated as a 501(c)(3)
 28 nonprofit organization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

29 (3) No two-year private vocational or technical school shall receive tuition reimbursements
 30 in excess of the tuition rate charged by a public community college for course work offered by the
 31 private vocational or technical school within the service area of such college; and

32 (4) The reimbursements provided to any two-year private vocational or technical school
 33 shall not violate the provisions of Article IX, Section 8, or Article I, Section 7, of the Missouri
 34 Constitution or the first amendment of the United States Constitution.

35 162.1250. 1. School districts shall receive state school funding under sections 163.031,
 36 163.043, and 163.087 for resident students who are enrolled in the school district and who are
 37 taking a virtual course or full-time virtual program offered by the school district. The school district
 38 may offer instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and internet methods of
 39 communications that could take place outside of the regular school district facility. The school
 40 district may develop a virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with
 41 the courses available in accordance with district policy to any resident student of the district who is
 42 enrolled in the school district. Nothing in this section shall preclude a private, parochial, or home
 43 school student residing within a school district offering virtual courses or virtual programs from
 44 enrolling in the school district in accordance with the combined enrollment provisions of section
 45 167.031 for the purposes of participating in the virtual courses or virtual programs.

46 2. Charter schools shall receive state school funding under section 160.415 for students
 47 enrolled in the charter school who are completing a virtual course or full-time virtual program
 48 offered by the charter school. Charter schools may offer instruction in a virtual setting using

1 technology, intranet, and internet methods of communications. The charter school may develop a
 2 virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with the courses available
 3 in accordance with school policy and the charter school's charter to any student enrolled in the
 4 charter school.

5 3. For purposes of calculation and distribution of state school funding, attendance of a
 6 student enrolled in a district or charter school virtual class shall equal, upon course completion,
 7 ~~[ninety-four]~~ ninety-five percent of the hours of attendance possible for such class delivered in the
 8 nonvirtual program in the student's resident district or charter school. Course completion shall be
 9 calculated in two increments, fifty percent completion and one hundred percent completion, based
 10 on the student's completion of defined assignments and assessments, with distribution of state
 11 funding to a school district or charter school at each increment equal to forty-seven and one-half
 12 percent of hours of attendance possible for such course delivered in the nonvirtual program in a
 13 student's school district of residence or charter school.

14 4. When courses are purchased from an outside vendor, the district or charter school shall
 15 ensure that they are aligned with the ~~[show-me-curriculum]~~ state learning standards and comply
 16 with state requirements for teacher certification. The state board of education reserves the right to
 17 request information and materials sufficient to evaluate the online course. Online classes should be
 18 considered like any other class offered by the school district or charter school.

19 5. Any school district or charter school that offers instruction in a virtual setting, develops a
 20 virtual course or courses, or develops a virtual program of instruction shall ensure that the following
 21 standards are satisfied:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

47 6. Any special school district shall count any student's completion of a virtual course or
 48 program in the same manner as the district counts completion of any other course or program for

1 credit.

2 7. A school district or charter school may contract with multiple providers of virtual courses
3 or virtual programs, provided they meet the criteria for virtual courses or virtual programs under
4 this section.

5 162.1251. 1. Any individual, organization, company, or charter school that offers a virtual
6 course in Missouri, other than a school district, may request certification of the course by the
7 department of elementary and secondary education. The department shall certify only courses that
8 meet the following requirements as well as other factors determined relevant by the department to
9 verify quality:

10 (1) The course is aligned with the state learning standards;

11 (2) The course is taught by a teacher who is certificated to teach in the state of Missouri;

12 (3) The course and its delivery method meet federal accessibility requirements to
13 accommodate those who are disabled;

14 (4) The course complies with state and federal privacy requirements for student records;

15 (5) The course meets the same requirements imposed on virtual courses under section
16 162.1250;

17 (6) The course provider does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex,
18 national origin, ancestry, disability, English language learner status, or income level; and

19 (7) If the department requires that school districts administer a statewide assessment or end-
20 of-course assessment in relation to the course, the course provider pays for and administers the
21 assessment to students enrolled in the course.

22 2. The department of elementary and secondary education may charge a fee to all virtual
23 course providers to pay for the costs of certification and recertification of virtual courses. The
24 department may at any time request information and materials or interview staff or students to
25 evaluate or reevaluate the virtual course or to verify continuing compliance with the requirements
26 established by the department. The department shall investigate any complaint made against a
27 virtual course provider. The department may revoke certification of a course or refuse to recertify a
28 course if the course does not meet the requirements of this section or other relevant laws, the course
29 provider does not comply with requests for information, or the department has articulable concerns
30 regarding the quality of the course or the instruction provided in the course.

31 3. Each virtual course provider offering a course certified under this section shall annually
32 report to the department of elementary and secondary education and post on the provider's website a
33 report card detailing the number of students who have enrolled in the course and the number of
34 students who have completed the course with a passing grade. If there is a statewide assessment or
35 end-of-course assessment related to the course, the report card shall include the aggregate
36 assessment scores of the students who took the assessment.

37 4. A virtual course provider offering a course certified under this section shall immediately
38 transfer records upon the request of the parent, the student, or the school district or charter school
39 that has paid for part or all of the virtual course for which the records are requested, regardless of
40 whether additional tuition or fees are owed for the course. School districts and charter schools are
41 required to accept transferred credit from any virtual course certified by the department of
42 elementary and secondary education upon receipt of adequate records verifying completion of the
43 course by the student.

44 5. The department of elementary and secondary education may promulgate rules to
45 implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
46 section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective
47 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
48 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested

1 with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to
2 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
3 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2018, shall be invalid and void.

4 162.1252. 1. (1) If a school district or charter school does not offer a particular course a
5 student wishes to take or a course substantially similar to the course a student wishes to take in the
6 school the student attends and the school the student attends gives instruction in a grade or grades
7 not lower than the sixth nor higher than the twelfth grade, the student or his or her parent may
8 submit a written request to the superintendent or his or her designee or the principal of the charter
9 school for the district or charter school to provide the course to the student virtually or otherwise.
10 The written request shall explain why the district or charter school should provide the course to the
11 student. The superintendent or his or her designee or the principal of the charter school shall notify
12 the student or parent of his or her decision with respect to the request within forty-five days of
13 receipt.

14 (2) If the superintendent or his or her designee or the principal of the charter school declines
15 to offer the course virtually or otherwise, the parent or student may submit a written request to the
16 school board or the governing board of the charter school to provide the course to the student. The
17 school board or the governing board of the charter school shall act on the request within forty-five
18 days of receipt. If the request is denied or not acted upon, and there is a certified virtual course
19 offered in accordance with section 162.1251, the district or charter school shall pay the tuition for
20 the student to take the course if the student meets the requirements of subsection 2 of this section;
21 except that, the district or charter school is required to pay for only one virtual course each semester
22 for a student.

23 2. To qualify for payment of a virtual course by the district or charter school, the student
24 shall be currently enrolled in the school district or charter school and shall have been enrolled in and
25 regularly attending the school district or charter school for at least one school year. If the student is
26 receiving special educational services, as defined in section 162.675, the student's individualized
27 education program team shall approve the course as appropriate for the student. The district or
28 charter school is not required to pay the tuition for a student to take a virtual course if the student
29 has dropped out of or failed to complete a virtual course within the past three years.

30 3. No school district or charter school shall pay, for any one course for a student, more than
31 fourteen percent of the state adequacy target, as defined in section 163.011. The virtual course
32 provider shall bill the school district or charter school on a monthly basis. If a student discontinues
33 enrollment in the district or charter school, drops out of the course, or fails to adequately participate
34 in the course, the district or charter school may stop making monthly payments to the virtual course
35 provider.

36 4. If a school district or charter school pays for a virtual course as required in this section,
37 the district or charter school may collect state aid for the course. For purposes of calculation and
38 distribution of state school funding, attendance of a student enrolled in a virtual course shall equal,
39 upon course completion, ninety-five percent of the hours of attendance possible for a similar course
40 delivered in the nonvirtual program in the student's resident district or charter school. Course
41 completion shall be calculated in two increments, fifty percent completion and one hundred percent
42 completion, based on the student's completion of defined assignments and assessments, with
43 distribution of state funding to a school district or charter school at each increment equal to forty-
44 seven and one-half percent of hours of attendance possible for such course delivered in the
45 nonvirtual program in the student's school district of residence or charter school.

46 5. The virtual course provider shall provide the school district or charter school all student
47 records and progress reports regarding the performance and attendance of the district or charter
48 school students taking the course.

1 6. Nothing in this section shall require any school district, any charter school, or the state to
 2 provide computers, equipment, or internet access to any student.

3 7. For purposes of this section, "charter school" shall mean a charter school that has
 4 declared itself a local educational agency.

5 167.231. 1. Within all school districts except metropolitan districts the board of education
 6 shall provide transportation to and from school for all pupils living more than three and one-half
 7 miles from school and may provide transportation for all pupils. State aid for transportation shall be
 8 paid as provided in section 163.161 only on the basis of the cost of pupil transportation for those
 9 pupils living one mile or more from school, including transportation provided to and from publicly
 10 operated university laboratory schools. The board of education may provide transportation for
 11 pupils living less than one mile from school at the expense of the district and may prescribe
 12 reasonable rules and regulations as to eligibility of pupils for transportation, and, notwithstanding
 13 any other provision of law, no such district shall be subject to an administrative penalty when the
 14 district demonstrates pursuant to rule established by the state board of education that such students
 15 are required to cross a state highway or county arterial in the absence of sidewalks, traffic signals, or
 16 a crossing guard and that no existing bus stop location has been changed to permit a district to evade
 17 such penalty. If no increase in the tax levy of the school district is required to provide transportation
 18 for pupils living less than one mile from the school, the board may transport said pupils. If an
 19 increase in the tax levy of the school district is required to provide transportation for pupils living
 20 less than one mile from school, the board shall submit the question at a public election. If a two-
 21 thirds majority of the voters voting on the question at the election are in favor of providing the
 22 transportation, the board shall arrange and provide therefor.

23 2. The proposal and the ballots may be in substantially the following form:

24 Shall the board of education of the _____ school district provide transportation at the
 25 expense of the district for pupils living less than one mile from school and be authorized to levy an
 26 additional tax of _____ cents on the one hundred dollars assessed valuation to provide funds to pay
 27 for such transportation service?

28 YES NO

29 (If you are in favor of the proposition (or question), place an X in the box opposite "YES". If
 30 you are opposed to the proposition (or question), place an X in the box opposite "NO".)

31 3. The board of education of any school district may provide transportation to and from
 32 school for any public school pupil not otherwise eligible for transportation under the provisions of
 33 state law, and may prescribe reasonable rules and regulations as to eligibility for transportation, if
 34 the parents or guardian of the pupil agree in writing to pay the actual cost of transporting the pupil.
 35 The minimum charge would be the actual cost of transporting the pupil for ninety school days,
 36 which actual cost is to be determined by the average per-pupil cost of transporting children in the
 37 school district during the preceding school year. The full actual cost shall be paid by the parent or
 38 guardian of the pupil and shall not be paid out of any state school aid funds or out of any other
 39 revenues of the school district. The cost of transportation may be paid in installments, and the
 40 board of education shall establish the cost of the transportation and the time or times and method of
 41 payment.

42 4. A school district or charter school may arrange to have students transported using
 43 alternative methods such as existing public transportation or vehicles other than a school bus, as
 44 long as the district or charter school pays the cost of the transportation or provides for the
 45 transportation without cost to the student."; and

46
 47 Further amend said bill, Page 30, Section 167.268, Line 20, by inserting after all of said line the
 48 following:

1
2 "168.011. 1. No person shall be employed to teach in any position in a public school until
3 he or she has received a valid certificate of license entitling him or her to teach in that position.

4 2. Teaching in the state of Missouri, performing other related education duties, school
5 administration, and teacher education are hereby declared to be professions with all the appropriate
6 rights, responsibilities and privileges accorded to other recognized professions.

7 3. A district may collect state aid for a student attending a course virtually, through
8 videoconferencing or electronically, even if the supervising employee in the classroom is not a
9 certificated employee as long as the person teaching the course has a valid certificate of license
10 entitling him or her to teach in that position or is employed by a postsecondary institution and is
11 teaching a dual credit, dual enrollment, or advanced placement course.

12 168.021. 1. Certificates of license to teach in the public schools of the state shall be granted
13 as follows:

14 (1) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it:

15 (a) Upon the basis of college credit;

16 (b) Upon the basis of examination;

17 (2) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by the state board with advice
18 from the advisory council established by section 168.015 to any individual who presents to the state
19 board a valid doctoral degree from an accredited institution of higher education accredited by a
20 regional accrediting association such as North Central Association. Such certificate shall be limited
21 to the major area of postgraduate study of the holder, shall be issued only after successful
22 completion of the examination required for graduation pursuant to rules adopted by the state board
23 of education, and shall be restricted to those certificates established pursuant to subdivision (1) of
24 subsection 3 of this section;

25 (3) By the state board, which shall issue the professional certificate classification in both the
26 general and specialized areas most closely aligned with the current areas of certification approved
27 by the state board, commensurate with the years of teaching experience of the applicant, and based
28 upon the following criteria:

29 (a) Recommendation of a state-approved baccalaureate-level teacher preparation program;

30 (b) Successful attainment of the Missouri qualifying score on the exit assessment for
31 teachers or administrators designated by the state board of education. Applicants who have not
32 successfully achieved a qualifying score on the designated examinations will be issued a two-year
33 nonrenewable provisional certificate; and

34 (c) Upon completion of a background check as prescribed in section 168.133 and possession
35 of a valid teaching certificate in the state from which the applicant's teacher preparation program
36 was completed;

37 (4) By the state board, under rules prescribed by it, on the basis of a relevant bachelor's
38 degree, or higher degree, and a passing score for the designated exit examination, for individuals
39 whose academic degree and professional experience are suitable to provide a basis for instruction
40 solely in the subject matter of banking or financial responsibility, at the discretion of the state board.
41 Such certificate shall be limited to the major area of study of the holder and shall be restricted to
42 those certificates established under subdivision (1) of subsection 3 of this section. Holders of
43 certificates granted under this subdivision shall be exempt from the teacher tenure act under sections
44 168.102 to 168.130 and each school district shall have the decision-making authority on whether to
45 hire the holders of such certificates; [øf]

46 (5) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it, on the basis of
47 certification by the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) and
48 verification of ability to work with children as demonstrated by sixty contact hours in any one of the

1 following areas as validated by the school principal: sixty contact hours in the classroom, of which
 2 at least forty-five must be teaching; sixty contact hours as a substitute teacher, with at least thirty
 3 consecutive hours in the same classroom; sixty contact hours of teaching in a private school; or sixty
 4 contact hours of teaching as a paraprofessional, for an initial four-year ABCTE certificate of license
 5 to teach, except that such certificate shall not be granted for the areas of early childhood education,
 6 or special education. For certification in the area of elementary education, ninety contact hours in
 7 the classroom shall be required, of which at least thirty shall be in an elementary classroom. Upon
 8 the completion of the requirements listed in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this subdivision, an
 9 applicant shall be eligible to apply for a career continuous professional certificate under subdivision
 10 (2) of subsection 3 of this section:

11 (a) Completion of thirty contact hours of professional development within four years, which
 12 may include hours spent in class in an appropriate college curriculum;

13 (b) Validated completion of two years of the mentoring program of the American Board for
 14 Certification of Teacher Excellence or a district mentoring program approved by the state board of
 15 education;

16 (c) Attainment of a successful performance-based teacher evaluation; and

17 (d) ~~[Participate]~~ Participation in a beginning teacher assistance program; or

18 (6) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it, on the basis of
 19 specialized knowledge and experience in a discrete subject area for which the certificate is issued.

20 2. All valid teaching certificates issued pursuant to law or state board policies and
 21 regulations prior to September 1, 1988, shall be exempt from the professional development
 22 requirements of this section and shall continue in effect until they expire, are revoked or suspended,
 23 as provided by law. When such certificates are required to be renewed, the state board or its
 24 designee shall grant to each holder of such a certificate the certificate most nearly equivalent to the
 25 one so held. Anyone who holds, as of August 28, 2003, a valid PC-I, PC-II, or continuous
 26 professional certificate shall, upon expiration of his or her current certificate, be issued the
 27 appropriate level of certificate based upon the classification system established pursuant to
 28 subsection 3 of this section.

29 3. Certificates of license to teach in the public schools of the state shall be based upon
 30 minimum requirements prescribed by the state board of education which shall include completion of
 31 a background check as prescribed in section 168.133. The state board shall provide for the
 32 following levels of professional certification: an initial professional certificate and a career
 33 continuous professional certificate.

34 (1) The initial professional certificate shall be issued upon completion of requirements
 35 established by the state board of education and shall be valid based upon verification of actual
 36 teaching within a specified time period established by the state board of education. The state board
 37 shall require holders of the four-year initial professional certificate to:

38 (a) Participate in a mentoring program approved and provided by the district for a minimum
 39 of two years;

40 (b) Complete thirty contact hours of professional development, which may include hours
 41 spent in class in an appropriate college curriculum, or for holders of a certificate under subdivision
 42 (4) of subsection 1 of this section, an amount of professional development in proportion to the
 43 certificate holder's hours in the classroom, if the certificate holder is employed less than full time;
 44 and

45 (c) Participate in a beginning teacher assistance program.

46 (2) (a) The career continuous professional certificate shall be issued upon verification of
 47 completion of four years of teaching under the initial professional certificate and upon verification
 48 of the completion of the requirements articulated in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subdivision (1) of

1 this subsection or paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section.

2 (b) The career continuous professional certificate shall be continuous based upon
 3 verification of actual employment in an educational position as provided for in state board
 4 guidelines and completion of fifteen contact hours of professional development per year which may
 5 include hours spent in class in an appropriate college curriculum. Should the possessor of a valid
 6 career continuous professional certificate fail, in any given year, to meet the fifteen-hour
 7 professional development requirement, the possessor may, within two years, make up the missing
 8 hours. In order to make up for missing hours, the possessor shall first complete the fifteen-hour
 9 requirement for the current year and then may count hours in excess of the current year requirement
 10 as make-up hours. Should the possessor fail to make up the missing hours within two years, the
 11 certificate shall become inactive. In order to reactivate the certificate, the possessor shall complete
 12 twenty-four contact hours of professional development which may include hours spent in the
 13 classroom in an appropriate college curriculum within the six months prior to or after reactivating
 14 his or her certificate. The requirements of this paragraph shall be monitored and verified by the
 15 local school district which employs the holder of the career continuous professional certificate.

16 (c) A holder of a career continuous professional certificate shall be exempt from the
 17 professional development contact hour requirements of paragraph (b) of this subdivision if such
 18 teacher has a local professional development plan in place within such teacher's school district and
 19 meets two of the three following criteria:

20 a. Has ten years of teaching experience as defined by the state board of education;

21 b. Possesses a master's degree; or

22 c. Obtains a rigorous national certification as approved by the state board of education.

23 4. Policies and procedures shall be established by which a teacher who was not retained due
 24 to a reduction in force may retain the current level of certification. There shall also be established
 25 policies and procedures allowing a teacher who has not been employed in an educational position
 26 for three years or more to reactivate his or her last level of certification by completing twenty-four
 27 contact hours of professional development which may include hours spent in the classroom in an
 28 appropriate college curriculum within the six months prior to or after reactivating his or her
 29 certificate.

30 5. The state board shall, upon completion of a background check as prescribed in section
 31 168.133, issue a professional certificate classification in the areas most closely aligned with an
 32 applicant's current areas of certification, commensurate with the years of teaching experience of the
 33 applicant, to any person who is hired to teach in a public school in this state and who possesses a
 34 valid teaching certificate from another state or certification under subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of
 35 this section, provided that the certificate holder shall annually complete the state board's
 36 requirements for such level of certification, and shall establish policies by which residents of states
 37 other than the state of Missouri may be assessed a fee for a certificate of license to teach in the
 38 public schools of Missouri. Such fee shall be in an amount sufficient to recover any or all costs
 39 associated with the issuing of a certificate of license to teach. The board shall promulgate rules to
 40 authorize the issuance of a provisional certificate of license, which shall allow the holder to assume
 41 classroom duties pending the completion of a criminal background check under section 168.133, for
 42 any applicant who:

43 (1) Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces stationed in Missouri;

44 (2) Relocated from another state within one year of the date of application;

45 (3) Underwent a criminal background check in order to be issued a teaching certificate of
 46 license from another state; and

47 (4) Otherwise qualifies under this section.

48 6. The state board may assess to holders of an initial professional certificate a fee, to be

1 deposited into the excellence in education revolving fund established pursuant to section 160.268,
 2 for the issuance of the career continuous professional certificate. However, such fee shall not
 3 exceed the combined costs of issuance and any criminal background check required as a condition
 4 of issuance. Applicants for the initial ABCTE certificate shall be responsible for any fees associated
 5 with the program leading to the issuance of the certificate, but nothing in this section shall prohibit a
 6 district from developing a policy that permits fee reimbursement.

7 7. Any member of the public school retirement system of Missouri who entered covered
 8 employment with ten or more years of educational experience in another state or states and held a
 9 certificate issued by another state and subsequently worked in a school district covered by the public
 10 school retirement system of Missouri for ten or more years who later became certificated in
 11 Missouri shall have that certificate dated back to his or her original date of employment in a
 12 Missouri public school.

13 170.039. 1. (1) School districts and charter schools sponsored by local boards of education
 14 may award an enrolled student credit for a high school course if the student is able to demonstrate
 15 proficiency in the knowledge, skills, and competencies in the subject area to the satisfaction of the
 16 district or charter school sponsored by a local board of education, regardless of whether the student
 17 has enrolled in the course with the district or charter school sponsored by a local board of education
 18 or completed the course.

19 (2) Districts and charter schools sponsored by local boards of education that offer
 20 proficiency-based credit as described in this section shall notify parents and students in the student
 21 handbook or, if a district or charter school sponsored by a local board of education does not provide
 22 a student handbook, through other means determined by the district or charter school sponsored by a
 23 local board of education.

24 (3) A student who chooses to demonstrate competency to earn credit as described in this
 25 section shall take any statewide assessments associated with any course for which the student earns
 26 proficiency-based credit.

27 2. A student who earns proficiency-based credits shall not be required to graduate earlier
 28 than his or her age-related cohorts even if the student earns more credits than necessary to graduate.
 29 However, if a student graduates from high school earlier than his or her age-related cohorts due to
 30 proficiency-based credits earned by the student, the district may continue to collect state aid for the
 31 student until the student's age-related cohorts graduate. The state aid earned in this manner shall be
 32 used to provide services to students who are at risk of not graduating on time or at all or to increase
 33 the number of students attending a career center from the number of students who attended in the
 34 2017-18 school year.

35 3. If a student graduates early due to proficiency-based credits earned by the student, the
 36 district's collection of state aid for the student as described in subsection 2 of this section shall be
 37 determined by counting each course for which the student earned proficiency-based credit as
 38 equaling ninety-five percent of the hours of attendance possible for such course even though the
 39 student never actually attended the course. The district shall count only those courses necessary for
 40 the district to claim full-time status for the student until the student's age-related cohorts graduate.";
 41 and

42
 43 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
 44 accordingly.