

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 2247, Page 1, Section 160.400, Line 2, by
2 deleting all of said line and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

3
4 "2. Except as further provided in subsection 4 of this section, charter schools may be"; and

5
6 Further amend said bill and section, Pages 1 through 2, Lines 9 through 44, by deleting all of said
7 lines and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

8
9 "(4) In a school district that has been classified as provisionally accredited by the state board
10 of education and has received scores on its annual performance report consistent with a
11 classification of provisionally accredited or unaccredited for three consecutive school years
12 beginning with the 2012-13 accreditation year under the following conditions:

13 (a) The eligibility for charter schools of any school district whose provisional accreditation
14 is based in whole or in part on financial stress as defined in sections 161.520 to 161.529, or on
15 financial hardship as defined by rule of the state board of education, shall be decided by a vote of
16 the state board of education during the third consecutive school year after the designation of
17 provisional accreditation; and

18 (b) The sponsor is limited to the local school board or a sponsor who has met the standards
19 of accountability and performance as determined by the department based on sections 160.400 to
20 160.425 and section 167.349 and properly promulgated rules of the department; or"; and

21
22 Further amend said bill and section, Pages 2 through 3, Lines 46 through 53, by deleting all of said
23 lines and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

24
25 "the local school board; provided that no board with a current year enrollment of one thousand five
26 hundred fifty students or greater shall permit more than thirty-five percent of its student enrollment
27 to enroll in charter schools sponsored by the local board under the authority of this subdivision,
28 except that this restriction shall not apply to any school district that subsequently becomes eligible
29 under subdivision (3) or (4) of this subsection or to any district accredited without provisions that
30 sponsors charter schools prior to having a current year student enrollment of one thousand five
31 hundred fifty students or greater.

32 3. Except as further provided in subsection 4 of this section, the following entities are"; and

33
34 Further amend said bill and section, Pages 3 through 4, Lines 73 through 98, by deleting all of said
35 lines and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

36
Action Taken _____ Date _____

1 "(6) The Missouri charter public school commission created in section 160.425.

2 4. Changes in a school district's accreditation status that affect charter schools shall be
3 addressed as follows, except for the districts described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection 2 of
4 this section:

5 (1) As a district transitions from unaccredited to provisionally accredited, the district shall
6 continue to fall under the requirements for an unaccredited district until it achieves three
7 consecutive full school years of provisional accreditation;

8 (2) As a district transitions from provisionally accredited to full accreditation, the district
9 shall continue to fall under the requirements for a provisionally accredited district until it achieves
10 three consecutive full school years of full accreditation;

11 (3) In any school district classified as unaccredited or provisionally accredited where a
12 charter school is operating and is sponsored by an entity other than the local school board, when the
13 school district becomes classified as accredited without provisions, a charter school may continue to
14 be sponsored by the entity sponsoring it prior to the classification of accredited without provisions
15 and shall not be limited to the local school board as a sponsor.

16
17 A charter school operating in a school district identified in subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection 2 of
18 this section may be sponsored by any of the entities identified in subsection 3 of this section,
19 irrespective of the accreditation classification of the district in which it is located. A charter school
20 in a district described in this subsection whose charter provides for the addition of grade levels in
21 subsequent years may continue to add levels until the planned expansion is complete to the extent of
22 grade levels in comparable schools of the district in which the charter school is operated.

23 5. The mayor of a city not within a county may request a sponsor under subdivision (2);"
24 and

25
26 Further amend said bill and section, Page 5, Lines 147 through 149, by deleting all of said lines and
27 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

28
29 "12. Sponsors receiving funds under subsection 11 of this section shall be required to submit
30 annual reports to the joint committee on education demonstrating they are in compliance with
31 subsection [47] 19 of this section."; and

32
33 Further amend said bill and section, Page 6, Line 159, by deleting all of said line and inserting in
34 lieu thereof the following:

35
36 "15. (1) No member of the governing board of a charter school shall hold any office"; and

37
38 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Lines 166 through 170, by deleting all of said lines and
39 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

40
41 "105.487, and 105.489.

42 (2) A member of a governing board of a charter school shall meet the same legal
43 requirements to be an elected member of the school board in the school district in which the charter
44 school is located before being appointed to the governing board of the charter school and during the
45 appointment. Members appointed to the governing board of a charter school shall receive sixteen
46 hours of training within one year of appointment by a provider approved by the state board of
47 education in accordance with section 162.203.

48 16. Charter schools shall be accredited by the state board of education using the same

1 standards applicable to school districts. A charter school that is designated as provisionally
 2 accredited shall receive the same oversight from the state board of education that is provided or
 3 mandated for school districts that are provisionally accredited. An unaccredited charter school shall
 4 not have its charter renewed and may have its charter revoked by the state board of education.

5 17. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the state board of education shall approve
 6 new charter schools on or after January 1, 2020, only if they are solely sponsored by the elected
 7 school board of the school district in which the charter school will be located. Notwithstanding any
 8 other provision of law, all charter schools that receive renewal of their charters by the state board of
 9 education after January 1, 2020, shall be sponsored by the elected school board of the district in
 10 which the charter school is located.

11 18. A sponsor shall develop the policies and procedures for:"; and
 12

13 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Lines 178 through 180, by deleting all of said lines and
 14 inserting in lieu thereof the following:
 15

16 "charter schools. Charter schools shall meet current state academic performance standards as well
 17 as other standards agreed upon by the sponsor and the charter school in the"; and
 18

19 Further amend said bill and section, Pages 7 through 8, Lines 225 through 237, by deleting all of
 20 said lines; and
 21

22 Further amend said bill and section by renumbering the section accordingly; and
 23

24 Further amend said bill, Page 8, Section 160.404, Lines 1 through 18, by deleting all of said section;
 25 and
 26

27 Further amend said bill, Page 9, Section 160.405, Lines 29 through 35, by deleting all of said lines
 28 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
 29

30 "(8) A description of the charter school's educational program and curriculum;
 31 (9) The term of the charter, which shall be five years and may be renewed;"; and
 32

33 Further amend said bill and section, Page 10, Line 52, by deleting the numeral "15" and inserting in
 34 lieu thereof the numeral "18"; and
 35

36 Further amend said bill and section, Pages 10 through 11, Lines 81 through 83, by deleting all of
 37 said lines and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
 38

39 "(3) If the charter is denied, the proposed sponsor shall notify the applicant in writing as";
 40 and
 41

42 Further amend said bill and section, Page 12, Lines 147 through 148, by deleting all of said lines
 43 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
 44

45 "federal audit requirements for charters with local educational agency status. For purposes of an
 46 audit by"; and
 47

48 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Line 153, by deleting all of said line and inserting in lieu

1 thereof the following:

2
3 "a repayment plan in its financial plan. The state auditor shall annually complete an audit of at least
4 one charter school in the state;"; and

5
6 Further amend said bill and section, Page 13, Line 184, by deleting the numerals "~~(5)~~ (6)" and
7 inserting in lieu thereof the numeral "(5)"; and

8
9 Further amend said bill and section, Page 14, Line 191, by deleting all of said line and inserting in
10 lieu thereof the following:

11
12 "(8) Comply with all applicable federal and state laws regarding the education of students
13 who are English language learners; and

14 (9) Provide along with any request for review by the state board of education the"; and
15

16 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Lines 197 through 203, by deleting all of said lines and
17 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

18
19 "addressing the requirements of sections 160.400 to 160.425 and 167.349."; and

20
21 Further amend said bill and section, Page 15, Line 251, by deleting the words "[~~underperformanee~~]
22 low performance" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "underperformance"; and

23
24 Further amend said bill and section, Pages 15 through 16, Lines 258 through 265, by deleting all of
25 said lines and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

26
27 "or more provisions of its charter or on any of the following grounds: failure to meet the
28 performance contract as set forth in its charter, failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal
29 management, failure to provide information necessary to confirm compliance with all provisions of
30 the charter and sections 160.400 to 160.425 and 167.349 within forty-five days following receipt of
31 written notice requesting such information, or violation of law."; and

32
33 Further amend said bill and section, Page 17, Lines 296 through 298, by deleting all of said lines
34 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

35
36 "(b) The charter school is organizationally and fiscally viable determining at a minimum";
37 and

38
39 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Line 308, by deleting the letters "~~(b)~~ (c)" and inserting
40 in lieu thereof the letter "(b)"; and

41
42 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Lines 318 through 320, by deleting all of said lines and
43 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

44
45 "state board of education for review."; and

46
47 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Lines 327 through 330, by deleting all of said lines; and
48

1 Further amend said bill and section by renumbering the section accordingly; and

2
3 Further amend said bill, Pages 18 through 19, Section 160.408, Lines 1 through 30, by removing all
4 of said section from the bill; and

5
6 Further amend said bill, Page 19, Section 160.410, Lines 8 through 10, by deleting all of said lines
7 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

8
9 "(4) In the case of a charter school whose mission includes student drop-out prevention";
10 and

11
12 Further amend said bill and section, Page 20, Lines 32 through 40, by deleting all of said lines and
13 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

14
15 "of such school; and

16 (3) Charter alternative and special purpose schools may also give a preference for admission
17 to high-risk students, as defined in subdivision (5) of subsection 2 of section 160.405, when the
18 school targets these students through its proposed mission, curriculum, teaching methods, and
19 services."; and

20
21 Further amend said bill and section, Page 21, Lines 49 through 51, by deleting all of said lines and
22 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

23
24 "test without transferring out of the school and re-enrolling."; and

25
26 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Line 52, by inserting immediately after the word "public
27 inspection," the words "post on its website"; and

28
29 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Line 76, by inserting after all of said line the following:

30
31 "8. The department of elementary and secondary education shall annually review the
32 enrollment in all charter schools in the state in comparison with the enrollment in the school
33 districts in which the charter schools are located. If the demographics of the students enrolled in
34 any charter school vary significantly from the demographics of the students enrolled in the school
35 district in which the charter school is located, the department of elementary and secondary
36 education shall notify the state auditor's office. Upon notification, the state auditor's office shall
37 audit the charter school's enrollment and attendance records to ensure that the charter school is
38 adequately advertising and enrolling all eligible students and not discouraging students of particular
39 demographic groups from enrolling in the charter school or remaining in the charter school. The
40 review of demographics under this subsection shall be a review of the percentage of students from
41 each major racial and ethnic group, the percentage of students from each gender, the percentage of
42 students who are economically disadvantaged in comparison to those who are not so disadvantaged,
43 the percentage of students with disabilities in comparison to those without disabilities, the
44 percentage of students who are English language learners in comparison to those who are not
45 English language learners, and the percentage of students who are migrants in comparison to those
46 who are not migrants."; and

47
48 Further amend said bill and section by renumbering the section accordingly; and

1
2 Further amend said bill, Page 22, Section 160.415, Lines 31 through 36, by deleting all of said lines;
3 and

4
5 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Line 41, by deleting all of said line and inserting in lieu
6 thereof the following:

7
8 "4. A charter school that has declared itself as a local educational agency shall receive"; and

9
10 Further amend said bill and section, Page 23, Line 49, by deleting the words "[subsection]
11 subdivision" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "subsection"; and

12
13 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Lines 51 through 64, by deleting all of said lines; and

14
15 Further amend said bill and section, Page 24, Line 83, by adding at the end of said line the
16 following:

17
18 "Bidding and selection of service providers shall be done in accordance with state and federal laws
19 applicable to school districts."; and

20
21 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Line 108, by deleting all of said line and inserting in lieu
22 thereof the following:

23
24 "9. A charter school shall provide transportation to and from school for all students living
25 more than three and one-half miles from school and may provide transportation for all students. A
26 charter school shall be eligible for transportation state aid pursuant to section"; and

27
28 Further amend said bill and section, Page 25, Lines 120 through 124, by deleting all of said lines
29 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

30
31 "prohibited from charging or imposing, except that a charter school may receive tuition
32 payments from districts in the same or an adjoining county for nonresident students who transfer to
33 an approved charter school, as defined in section 167.131, from an unaccredited district."; and

34
35 Further amend said bill, page, and section, Lines 145 through 150, by deleting all of said lines and
36 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

37
38 "160.420. 1. Any school district in which charter schools may be established under sections
39 160.400 to 160.425 shall establish a uniform policy which provides that if a charter school offers to
40 retain the services of an employee of a school district, and the employee accepts a position at the
41 charter school, an employee at the employee's option may remain an employee of the district and the
42 charter school shall pay to the district the district's full costs of salary and benefits provided to the
43 employee. The district's policy shall provide that any teacher who accepts a position at a charter
44 school and opts to remain an employee of the district retains such teacher's permanent teacher status
45 and retains such teacher's seniority rights in the district for three years. The school district shall not
46 be liable for any such employee's acts while an employee of the charter school.

47 2. ~~[A charter school may employ noncertificated instructional personnel; provided that no~~
48 ~~more than twenty percent of the full-time equivalent instructional staff positions at the school are~~

1 filled by noncertificated personnel. All noncertificated instructional personnel shall be supervised by
 2 certificated instructional personnel. A charter school that has a foreign language immersion
 3 experience as its chief educational mission, as stated in its charter, shall not be subject to the twenty-
 4 percent requirement of this subsection but shall ensure that any teachers whose duties include
 5 instruction given in a foreign language have current valid credentials in the country in which such
 6 teacher received his or her training and shall remain subject to the remaining requirements of this
 7 subsection.] The charter school shall ensure that all instructional employees of the charter school
 8 have experience, training and skills appropriate to the instructional duties of the employee, and the
 9 charter school shall ensure that a criminal background check and family care safety registry check
 10 are conducted for each employee of the charter school prior to the hiring of the employee under the
 11 requirements of section 168.133. The charter school may not employ instructional personnel whose
 12 certificate of license to teach has been revoked or is currently suspended by the state board of
 13 education. [Appropriate experience, training and skills of noncertificated instructional personnel
 14 shall be determined considering:

- 15 ——— (1) Teaching certificates issued by another state or states;
- 16 ——— (2) Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards;
- 17 ——— (3) College degrees in the appropriate field;
- 18 ——— (4) Evidence of technical training and competence when such is appropriate; and
- 19 ——— (5) The level of supervision and coordination with certificated instructional staff.]

20 3. Personnel employed by the charter school shall participate in the retirement system of the
 21 school district in which the charter school is located, subject to the same terms, conditions,
 22 requirements and other provisions applicable to personnel employed by the school district. For
 23 purposes of participating in the retirement system, the charter school shall be considered to be a
 24 public school within the school district, and personnel employed by the charter school shall be
 25 public school employees. In the event of a lapse of the school district's corporate organization as
 26 described in subsections 1 and 4 of section 162.081, personnel employed by the charter school shall
 27 continue to participate in the retirement system and shall do so on the same terms, conditions,
 28 requirements and other provisions as they participated prior to the lapse."; and

29
 30 Further amend said bill, Pages 26 through 27, Section 160.425, Lines 1 through 48, by removing all
 31 of said section from the bill and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

32
 33 "160.430. 1. For purposes of this section and sections 160.432 and 160.435, "school of
 34 innovation" means a program approved by the school board of a school district with a curriculum,
 35 delivery method, or instructional model different from the traditional school model. A program
 36 qualifies as a school of innovation even if it does not have a building or facility that is separate from
 37 other district grade-level school buildings.

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

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

47 4. The school day, school hours, and school term of a school of innovation may be different
 48 from other schools in the district. Schools of innovation shall be required to meet the minimum

1 school day or school term requirements in sections 160.011, 160.041, 171.031, and 171.033.

2 5. For purposes of calculation and distribution of state school funding, attendance of a
3 student enrolled in a school of innovation shall equal, upon completion of the school year, one
4 hundred five percent of the hours of attendance possible for the same or similar program delivered
5 in the traditional school setting offered in the district. State funding shall be calculated in two
6 increments, fifty percent completion and one hundred percent completion, based on the student's
7 completion of the program, with distribution of state funding to a school district at each increment
8 equal to fifty-two and one-half percent of hours of attendance possible for the same or similar
9 program delivered in the traditional program in the district.

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

14 7. The board of a school district that has established a school of innovation shall annually
15 review the overall academic performance of the school of innovation and the progress the school of
16 innovation has made toward achieving the educational goals set when the school was established.
17 The board may, by a majority vote of the entire board, alter, amend, extend, or change the goals or
18 educational mission of the school of innovation. The board may at any time vote to revoke the
19 school's status as a school of innovation.

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

23 9. (1) The board of a school district that has established a school of innovation may, at its
24 discretion, pay a teacher assigned to and teaching in the school of innovation more than what the
25 teacher would otherwise receive on the teacher salary schedule in order to compensate for the
26 additional training, alternative lesson plans, extended hours, and additional duties associated with
27 the position.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 14. Subject to appropriation, the governor, or a task force appointed by the governor, shall
17 annually award ten competitive grants to school districts for the establishment, implementation, or
18 expansion of schools of innovation.

19 160.432. A school district may enter into an agreement with one or more other school
20 districts to provide students access to courses or schools, including schools of innovation. School
21 districts may enter into agreements to share staff, facilities, or other resources in lieu of or in
22 addition to tuition paid by a district for its students to access the courses or schools, including
23 schools of innovation. The school district sponsoring the course or school, including the school of
24 innovation, shall retain financial and legal responsibility unless determined otherwise in the
25 agreement.

26 160.435. 1. A school district may enter into an agreement with one or more other school
27 districts to cooperatively provide schools to educate resident students of all participating districts.
28 Such schools shall be known as "cooperative schools". Cooperative school services may be
29 provided in the facilities of any of the cooperating districts or in facilities leased by the cooperating
30 districts or through a third-party vendor. The agreement shall describe the nature of the services to
31 be provided. Services may include full-day instruction, individual courses, a specialized program of
32 studies, or the establishment of a shared school of innovation.

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

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

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

48 5. Eligible students from participating districts shall have an equal opportunity to attend the

1 cooperative school, as determined by the agreement. Any student enrolled in a participating district
 2 shall be reported by the sending participating district for state aid purposes. The cooperative school
 3 shall share information and student records with the school districts in which students are enrolled.

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

10 7. Teachers who were employed by a participating school district immediately before their
 11 employment with the cooperative school shall not lose years toward tenure in the participating
 12 district or lose tenure previously earned in the participating school district. However, the teacher
 13 shall not continue to earn years toward tenure in the participating district during his or her
 14 employment with the cooperative school.

15 8. If the committee governing the cooperative school determines that the school needs to
 16 reduce or rearrange staff due to a decrease in student enrollment, reorganization of the program, or
 17 financial conditions, teaching staff shall be placed on leaves of absence from the cooperative school
 18 in accordance with section 168.124. If a teacher is placed on leave of absence from the cooperative
 19 school but has previously earned tenure in a participating district immediately before his or her
 20 employment in the cooperative school, the participating district may reemploy the tenured teacher,
 21 and the teacher shall be considered tenured upon reemployment. If a teacher is placed on leave of
 22 absence from the cooperative school but was a probationary teacher in a participating district
 23 immediately before his or her employment with the cooperative school, and the participating district
 24 reemploys the teacher, the teacher shall not have lost years toward tenure previously earned with the
 25 participating district."; and

26
 27 Further amend said bill, Page 29, Section 160.518, Line 83, by inserting after all of said line the
 28 following:

29
 30 "160.545. 1. There is hereby established [~~within the department of elementary and~~
 31 ~~secondary education]~~ the "A+ Schools Program" to be administered by the commissioner of
 32 education. The program shall consist of grant awards made to public secondary schools that
 33 demonstrate a commitment to ensure that:

34 (1) All students be graduated from school;

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

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

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

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

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

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

48 ~~————(4)] Require rigorous coursework with standards of competency in basic academic subjects~~

1 for students pursuing vocational and technical education as prescribed by rule and regulation of the
2 state board of education; and

3 ~~[(5)]~~ (4) Have a partnership plan developed in cooperation and with the advice of local
4 business persons, labor leaders, parents, and representatives of college and postsecondary vocational
5 and technical school representatives, with the plan then approved by the local board of education.
6 The plan shall specify a mechanism to receive information on an annual basis from those who
7 developed the plan in addition to senior citizens, community leaders, and teachers to update the plan
8 in order to best meet the goals of the program as provided in subsection 1 of this section. Further,
9 the plan shall detail the procedures used in the school to identify students that may drop out of
10 school and the intervention services to be used to meet the needs of such students. The plan shall
11 outline counseling and mentoring services provided to students who will enter the work force upon
12 graduation from high school, address apprenticeship and intern programs, and shall contain
13 procedures for the recruitment of volunteers from the community of the school to serve in schools
14 receiving program grants.

15 3. Any nonpublic school in this state may apply to the state board of education for
16 certification that it meets the requirements of this section subject to the same criteria as public high
17 schools. Every nonpublic school that applies and has met the requirements of this section shall have
18 its students eligible for reimbursement of postsecondary education under subsection 8 of this section
19 on an equal basis to students who graduate from public schools that meet the requirements of this
20 section. Any nonpublic school that applies shall not be eligible for any grants under this section.
21 Students of certified nonpublic schools shall be eligible for reimbursement of postsecondary
22 education under subsection 8 of this section so long as they meet the other requirements of such
23 subsection. For purposes of subdivision ~~[(5)]~~ (4) of subsection 2 of this section, the nonpublic
24 school shall be included in the partnership plan developed by the public school district in which the
25 nonpublic school is located. For purposes of subdivision (1) of subsection 2 of this section, the
26 nonpublic school shall establish measurable performance standards for the goals of the program for
27 every school and grade level over which the nonpublic school maintains control.

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

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

38 6. For any school that meets the requirements for the approval of the grants authorized by
39 this section and specified in subsection 2 of this section for three successive school years, by August
40 first following the third such school year, the commissioner of education shall present a plan to the
41 superintendent of the school district in which such school is located for the waiver of rules and
42 regulations to promote flexibility in the operations of the school and to enhance and encourage
43 efficiency in the delivery of instructional services in the school. The provisions of other law to the
44 contrary notwithstanding, the plan presented to the superintendent shall provide a summary waiver,
45 with no conditions, for the pupil testing requirements pursuant to section 160.257 in the school.
46 Further, the provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the plan shall detail a means for
47 the waiver of requirements otherwise imposed on the school related to the authority of the state
48 board of education to classify school districts pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 161.092 and

1 such other rules and regulations as determined by the commissioner of education, except such
 2 waivers shall be confined to the school and not other schools in the school district unless such other
 3 schools meet the requirements of this subsection. However, any waiver provided to any school as
 4 outlined in this subsection shall be void on June thirtieth of any school year in which the school fails
 5 to meet the requirements for the approval of the grants authorized by this section as specified in
 6 subsection 2 of this section.

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

10 8. The department of higher education shall, by rule, establish a procedure for the
 11 reimbursement of the cost of tuition, books and fees to any public community college or vocational
 12 or technical school or within the limits established in subsection ~~[40]~~ 11 of this section for any two-
 13 year private vocational or technical school for any student:

14 (1) Who has attended a high school in the state for at least ~~[three]~~ two years ~~[immediately~~
 15 ~~prior to graduation]~~ that meets the requirements of subsection 2 of this section; except that, students
 16 who are active duty military dependents, and students who are ~~[dependants]~~ dependents of retired
 17 military who relocate to Missouri within one year of the date of the parent's retirement from active
 18 duty, who ~~[in the school year immediately preceding graduation,]~~ meet all other requirements of
 19 this subsection and are attending a school that meets the requirements of subsection 2 of this section
 20 shall be exempt from the ~~[three-year]~~ two-year attendance requirement of this subdivision; and

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

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

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

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

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

39 ~~[40:]~~ 11. For a two-year private vocational or technical school to obtain reimbursements
 40 under subsection 8 of this section, the following requirements shall be satisfied:

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

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

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

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

4 162.1250. 1. School districts shall receive state school funding under sections 163.031,
5 163.043, and 163.087 for resident students who are enrolled in the school district and who are
6 taking a virtual course or full-time virtual program offered by the school district. The school district
7 may offer instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and internet methods of
8 communications that could take place outside of the regular school district facility. The school
9 district may develop a virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with
10 the courses available in accordance with district policy to any resident student of the district who is
11 enrolled in the school district. Nothing in this section shall preclude a private, parochial, or home
12 school student residing within a school district offering virtual courses or virtual programs from
13 enrolling in the school district in accordance with the combined enrollment provisions of section
14 167.031 for the purposes of participating in the virtual courses or virtual programs.

15 2. Charter schools shall receive state school funding under section 160.415 for students
16 enrolled in the charter school who are completing a virtual course or full-time virtual program
17 offered by the charter school. Charter schools may offer instruction in a virtual setting using
18 technology, intranet, and internet methods of communications. The charter school may develop a
19 virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with the courses available
20 in accordance with school policy and the charter school's charter to any student enrolled in the
21 charter school.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

48 (6) The virtual course or virtual program architecture, software, and hardware permit the

1 online teacher or instructor to add content, activities, and assessments to extend learning
2 opportunities;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 162.1251. 1. Any individual, organization, company, or charter school that offers a virtual
23 course in Missouri, other than a school district, may request certification of the course by the
24 department of elementary and secondary education. The department shall certify only courses that
25 meet the following requirements as well as other factors determined relevant by the department to
26 verify quality:

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

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

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

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

32 (5) The course meets the same requirements imposed on virtual courses under section
33 162.1250;

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

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

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

48 3. Each virtual course provider offering a course certified under this section shall annually

1 report to the department of elementary and secondary education and post on the provider's website a
2 report card detailing the number of students who have enrolled in the course and the number of
3 students who have completed the course with a passing grade. If there is a statewide assessment or
4 end-of-course assessment related to the course, the report card shall include the aggregate
5 assessment scores of the students who took the assessment.

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

13 5. The department of elementary and secondary education may promulgate rules to
14 implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
15 section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective
16 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
17 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested
18 with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to
19 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
20 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2018, shall be invalid and void.

21 162.1252. 1. (1) If a school district or charter school does not offer a particular course a
22 student wishes to take or a course substantially similar to the course a student wishes to take in the
23 school the student attends and the school the student attends gives instruction in a grade or grades
24 not lower than the sixth nor higher than the twelfth grade, the student or his or her parent may
25 submit a written request to the superintendent or his or her designee or the principal of the charter
26 school for the district or charter school to provide the course to the student virtually or otherwise.
27 The written request shall explain why the district or charter school should provide the course to the
28 student. The superintendent or his or her designee or the principal of the charter school shall notify
29 the student or parent of his or her decision with respect to the request within forty-five days of
30 receipt.

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

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

47 3. No school district or charter school shall pay, for any one course for a student, more than
48 fourteen percent of the state adequacy target, as defined in section 163.011. The virtual course

1 provider shall bill the school district or charter school on a monthly basis. If a student discontinues
 2 enrollment in the district or charter school, drops out of the course, or fails to adequately participate
 3 in the course, the district or charter school may stop making monthly payments to the virtual course
 4 provider.

5 4. If a school district or charter school pays for a virtual course as required in this section,
 6 the district or charter school may collect state aid for the course. For purposes of calculation and
 7 distribution of state school funding, attendance of a student enrolled in a virtual course shall equal,
 8 upon course completion, ninety-five percent of the hours of attendance possible for a similar course
 9 delivered in the nonvirtual program in the student's resident district or charter school. Course
 10 completion shall be calculated in two increments, fifty percent completion and one hundred percent
 11 completion, based on the student's completion of defined assignments and assessments, with
 12 distribution of state funding to a school district or charter school at each increment equal to forty-
 13 seven and one-half percent of hours of attendance possible for such course delivered in the
 14 nonvirtual program in the student's school district of residence or charter school.

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

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

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

22 167.231. 1. Within all school districts except metropolitan districts the board of education
 23 shall provide transportation to and from school for all pupils living more than three and one-half
 24 miles from school and may provide transportation for all pupils. State aid for transportation shall be
 25 paid as provided in section 163.161 only on the basis of the cost of pupil transportation for those
 26 pupils living one mile or more from school, including transportation provided to and from publicly
 27 operated university laboratory schools. The board of education may provide transportation for
 28 pupils living less than one mile from school at the expense of the district and may prescribe
 29 reasonable rules and regulations as to eligibility of pupils for transportation, and, notwithstanding
 30 any other provision of law, no such district shall be subject to an administrative penalty when the
 31 district demonstrates pursuant to rule established by the state board of education that such students
 32 are required to cross a state highway or county arterial in the absence of sidewalks, traffic signals, or
 33 a crossing guard and that no existing bus stop location has been changed to permit a district to evade
 34 such penalty. If no increase in the tax levy of the school district is required to provide transportation
 35 for pupils living less than one mile from the school, the board may transport said pupils. If an
 36 increase in the tax levy of the school district is required to provide transportation for pupils living
 37 less than one mile from school, the board shall submit the question at a public election. If a two-
 38 thirds majority of the voters voting on the question at the election are in favor of providing the
 39 transportation, the board shall arrange and provide therefor.

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

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

45 YES NO

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

48 3. The board of education of any school district may provide transportation to and from

1 school for any public school pupil not otherwise eligible for transportation under the provisions of
 2 state law, and may prescribe reasonable rules and regulations as to eligibility for transportation, if
 3 the parents or guardian of the pupil agree in writing to pay the actual cost of transporting the pupil.
 4 The minimum charge would be the actual cost of transporting the pupil for ninety school days,
 5 which actual cost is to be determined by the average per-pupil cost of transporting children in the
 6 school district during the preceding school year. The full actual cost shall be paid by the parent or
 7 guardian of the pupil and shall not be paid out of any state school aid funds or out of any other
 8 revenues of the school district. The cost of transportation may be paid in installments, and the
 9 board of education shall establish the cost of the transportation and the time or times and method of
 10 payment.

11 4. A school district or charter school may arrange to have students transported using
 12 alternative methods such as existing public transportation or vehicles other than a school bus, as
 13 long as the district or charter school pays the cost of the transportation or provides for the
 14 transportation without cost to the student."; and
 15

16 Further amend said bill, Page 30, Section 167.268, Line 20, by inserting after all of said line the
 17 following:
 18

19 "168.011. 1. No person shall be employed to teach in any position in a public school until
 20 he or she has received a valid certificate of license entitling him or her to teach in that position.

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

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

29 168.021. 1. Certificates of license to teach in the public schools of the state shall be granted
 30 as follows:

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

32 (a) Upon the basis of college credit;

33 (b) Upon the basis of examination;

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

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

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

47 (b) Successful attainment of the Missouri qualifying score on the exit assessment for
 48 teachers or administrators designated by the state board of education. Applicants who have not

1 successfully achieved a qualifying score on the designated examinations will be issued a two-year
2 nonrenewable provisional certificate; and

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

6 (4) By the state board, under rules prescribed by it, on the basis of a relevant bachelor's
7 degree, or higher degree, and a passing score for the designated exit examination, for individuals
8 whose academic degree and professional experience are suitable to provide a basis for instruction
9 solely in the subject matter of banking or financial responsibility, at the discretion of the state board.
10 Such certificate shall be limited to the major area of study of the holder and shall be restricted to
11 those certificates established under subdivision (1) of subsection 3 of this section. Holders of
12 certificates granted under this subdivision shall be exempt from the teacher tenure act under sections
13 168.102 to 168.130 and each school district shall have the decision-making authority on whether to
14 hire the holders of such certificates; [ø]

15 (5) By the state board, under rules and regulations prescribed by it, on the basis of
16 certification by the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE) and
17 verification of ability to work with children as demonstrated by sixty contact hours in any one of the
18 following areas as validated by the school principal: sixty contact hours in the classroom, of which
19 at least forty-five must be teaching; sixty contact hours as a substitute teacher, with at least thirty
20 consecutive hours in the same classroom; sixty contact hours of teaching in a private school; or sixty
21 contact hours of teaching as a paraprofessional, for an initial four-year ABCTE certificate of license
22 to teach, except that such certificate shall not be granted for the areas of early childhood education,
23 or special education. For certification in the area of elementary education, ninety contact hours in
24 the classroom shall be required, of which at least thirty shall be in an elementary classroom. Upon
25 the completion of the requirements listed in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this subdivision, an
26 applicant shall be eligible to apply for a career continuous professional certificate under subdivision
27 (2) of subsection 3 of this section:

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

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

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

34 (d) ~~Participate~~ Participation in a beginning teacher assistance program; or

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

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

46 3. Certificates of license to teach in the public schools of the state shall be based upon
47 minimum requirements prescribed by the state board of education which shall include completion of
48 a background check as prescribed in section 168.133. The state board shall provide for the

1 following levels of professional certification: an initial professional certificate and a career
2 continuous professional certificate.

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

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

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

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

15 (2) (a) The career continuous professional certificate shall be issued upon verification of
16 completion of four years of teaching under the initial professional certificate and upon verification
17 of the completion of the requirements articulated in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subdivision (1) of
18 this subsection or paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of subdivision (5) of subsection 1 of this section.

19 (b) The career continuous professional certificate shall be continuous based upon
20 verification of actual employment in an educational position as provided for in state board
21 guidelines and completion of fifteen contact hours of professional development per year which may
22 include hours spent in class in an appropriate college curriculum. Should the possessor of a valid
23 career continuous professional certificate fail, in any given year, to meet the fifteen-hour
24 professional development requirement, the possessor may, within two years, make up the missing
25 hours. In order to make up for missing hours, the possessor shall first complete the fifteen-hour
26 requirement for the current year and then may count hours in excess of the current year requirement
27 as make-up hours. Should the possessor fail to make up the missing hours within two years, the
28 certificate shall become inactive. In order to reactivate the certificate, the possessor shall complete
29 twenty-four contact hours of professional development which may include hours spent in the
30 classroom in an appropriate college curriculum within the six months prior to or after reactivating
31 his or her certificate. The requirements of this paragraph shall be monitored and verified by the
32 local school district which employs the holder of the career continuous professional certificate.

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

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

38 b. Possesses a master's degree; or

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

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

47 5. The state board shall, upon completion of a background check as prescribed in section
48 168.133, issue a professional certificate classification in the areas most closely aligned with an

1 applicant's current areas of certification, commensurate with the years of teaching experience of the
 2 applicant, to any person who is hired to teach in a public school in this state and who possesses a
 3 valid teaching certificate from another state or certification under subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of
 4 this section, provided that the certificate holder shall annually complete the state board's
 5 requirements for such level of certification, and shall establish policies by which residents of states
 6 other than the state of Missouri may be assessed a fee for a certificate of license to teach in the
 7 public schools of Missouri. Such fee shall be in an amount sufficient to recover any or all costs
 8 associated with the issuing of a certificate of license to teach. The board shall promulgate rules to
 9 authorize the issuance of a provisional certificate of license, which shall allow the holder to assume
 10 classroom duties pending the completion of a criminal background check under section 168.133, for
 11 any applicant who:

- 12 (1) Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces stationed in Missouri;
- 13 (2) Relocated from another state within one year of the date of application;
- 14 (3) Underwent a criminal background check in order to be issued a teaching certificate of
 15 license from another state; and
- 16 (4) Otherwise qualifies under this section.

17 6. The state board may assess to holders of an initial professional certificate a fee, to be
 18 deposited into the excellence in education revolving fund established pursuant to section 160.268,
 19 for the issuance of the career continuous professional certificate. However, such fee shall not
 20 exceed the combined costs of issuance and any criminal background check required as a condition
 21 of issuance. Applicants for the initial ABCTE certificate shall be responsible for any fees associated
 22 with the program leading to the issuance of the certificate, but nothing in this section shall prohibit a
 23 district from developing a policy that permits fee reimbursement.

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

30 170.039. 1. (1) School districts and charter schools sponsored by local boards of education
 31 may award an enrolled student credit for a high school course if the student is able to demonstrate
 32 proficiency in the knowledge, skills, and competencies in the subject area to the satisfaction of the
 33 district or charter school sponsored by a local board of education, regardless of whether the student
 34 has enrolled in the course with the district or charter school sponsored by a local board of education
 35 or completed the course.

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

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

44 2. A student who earns proficiency-based credits shall not be required to graduate earlier
 45 than his or her age-related cohorts even if the student earns more credits than necessary to graduate.
 46 However, if a student graduates from high school earlier than his or her age-related cohorts due to
 47 proficiency-based credits earned by the student, the district may continue to collect state aid for the
 48 student until the student's age-related cohorts graduate. The state aid earned in this manner shall be

1 used to provide services to students who are at risk of not graduating on time or at all or to increase
2 the number of students attending a career center from the number of students who attended in the
3 2017-18 school year.

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

11
12 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
13 accordingly.