

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 411

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS DOUGHERTY AND SIMS.

Read 1st time February 5, 2001, and 1,000 copies ordered printed.

1590L.011

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 476, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to CASA funding.

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

Section A. Chapter 476, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 476.777, to read as follows:

**476.777. 1. There is hereby established in the state treasury a special fund, to be known as the "Missouri CASA Fund". The state treasurer shall credit to and deposit in the Missouri CASA fund all moneys which may be appropriated to it by the general assembly and also any gifts, contributions, grants, bequests or other aid received from federal, private or other sources. The general assembly may appropriate moneys into the fund to support the court-appointed special advocate (CASA) program throughout the state.**

**2. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the Missouri CASA fund in the same manner as surplus state funds are invested pursuant to section 30.260, RSMo. All earnings resulting from the investment of moneys in the fund shall be credited to the Missouri CASA fund.**

**3. The state courts administrator shall administer and disburse moneys in the Missouri CASA fund based on the following requirements:**

**(1) The office of state courts administrator shall set aside funding for new start-up CASA programs throughout the state;**

**(2) Every recognized CASA program shall receive a base rate allocation, with availability of additional funding based on the number of children with abuse or neglect cases under the jurisdiction of the court; and**

**(3) All CASA programs being considered for funding shall be recognized by and**

**affiliated with the state and national CASA associations.**

**4. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, to the contrary, moneys in the Missouri CASA fund shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund at the end of the biennium.**

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