

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 1100
92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
2004

3718S.04T

AN ACT

To repeal sections 536.015, 536.021, 536.023, and 536.031, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to the publication of administrative rules.

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

Section A. Sections 536.015, 536.021, 536.023, and 536.031, RSMo, are repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 536.015, 536.021, 536.023, and 536.031, to read as follows:

536.015. There is established a publication to be known as the "Missouri Register", which shall be published **in a format and medium as prescribed by the secretary of state and in writing upon request** no less frequently than monthly by the secretary of state.

536.021. 1. No rule shall hereafter be proposed, adopted, amended or rescinded by any state agency unless such agency shall first file with the secretary of state a notice of proposed rulemaking and a subsequent final order of rulemaking, both of which shall be published in the Missouri Register by the secretary of state as soon as practicable after the filing thereof in that office; except that a notice of proposed rulemaking is not required for the establishment of hunting or fishing seasons and limits or for the establishment of state program plans required under federal education acts or regulations. The secretary of state shall not publish any proposed rulemaking or final order of rulemaking that has not fully complied with the provisions of section 536.024 or an executive order, whichever appropriately applies. If the joint committee on administrative rules disapproves any proposed order of rulemaking, final order of rulemaking or portion thereof, the committee

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

shall report its finding to the house of representatives and the senate. No proposed order of rulemaking, final order of rulemaking or portion thereof shall take effect, or be published by the secretary of state, so long as the general assembly shall disapprove such by concurrent resolution pursuant to article IV, section 8 within thirty legislative days occurring during the same regular session of the general assembly. The secretary of state shall not publish any order, or portion thereof, that is the subject of a concurrent resolution until the expiration of time necessary to comply with the provisions of article III, section 32.

2. A notice of proposed rulemaking shall contain:

(1) An explanation of any proposed rule or any change in an existing rule, and the reasons therefor;

(2) The legal authority upon which the proposed rule is based;

(3) The text of the entire proposed rule or the entire text of any affected section or subsection of an existing rule which is proposed to be amended, with all new matter [underlined or] printed in boldface type and with all deleted matter placed in brackets, except that when a proposed rule consists of material so extensive that the publication thereof would be unduly cumbersome or expensive, the secretary of state need publish only a summary and description of the substance of the proposed rule so long as a complete copy of the rule is made immediately available to any interested person upon application to the adopting state agency at a cost not to exceed the actual cost of reproduction. A proposed rule may incorporate by reference only if the material so incorporated is retained at the headquarters of the state agency and made available to any interested person at a cost not to exceed the actual cost of the reproduction of a copy. When a proposed amendment to an existing rule is to correct a typographical or printing error, or merely to make a technical change not affecting substantive matters, the amendment may be described in general terms without reprinting the entire existing rule, section or subsection;

(4) The number and general subject matter of any existing rule proposed to be rescinded;

(5) Notice that anyone may file a statement in support of or in opposition to the proposed rulemaking at a specified place and within a specified time not less than thirty days after publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking in the Missouri Register; and

(6) Notice of the time and place of a hearing on the proposed rulemaking if a hearing is ordered, which hearing shall be not less than thirty days after publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking in the Missouri Register; or a statement that no hearing has been ordered if such is the case.

3. Any state agency issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking may order a hearing thereon, but no such hearing shall be necessary unless otherwise required by law.

4. Any state agency which has issued in the Missouri Register a notice of proposed rulemaking to be made without a hearing, but which thereafter concludes that a hearing is

desirable, shall withdraw the earlier notice and file a new notice of proposed rulemaking which fully complies with the provisions of subdivision (6) of subsection 2 of this section, and the state agency shall not schedule the hearing for a time less than thirty days following the publication of the new notice.

5. Within ninety days after the expiration of the time for filing statements in support of or in opposition to the proposed rulemaking, or within ninety days after the hearing on such proposed rulemaking if a hearing is held thereon, the state agency proposing the rule shall file with the secretary of state a final order of rulemaking either adopting the proposed rule, with or without further changes, or withdrawing the proposed rule, which order of rulemaking shall be published in the Missouri Register. Such ninety days shall be tolled for the time period any rule is held under abeyance pursuant to an executive order. If the state agency fails to file the order of rulemaking as indicated in this subsection, the proposed rule shall lapse and shall be null, void and unenforceable.

6. The final order of rulemaking shall contain:

(1) Reference to the date and page or pages where the notice of proposed rulemaking was published in the Missouri Register;

(2) An explanation of any change between the text of the rule as contained in the notice of proposed rulemaking and the text of the rule as finally adopted, together with the reason for any such change;

(3) The full text of any section or subsection of the rule as adopted which has been changed from that contained in the notice of proposed rulemaking;

(4) A brief summary of the general nature and extent of comments submitted in support of or in opposition to the proposed rule and a concise summary of the testimony presented at the hearing, if any, held in connection with said rulemaking, together with a concise summary of the state agency's findings with respect to the merits of any such testimony or comments which are opposed in whole or in part to the proposed rule; and

(5) The legal authority upon which the order of rulemaking is based.

7. Except as provided in section 536.025, any rule, or amendment or rescission thereof, shall be null, void and unenforceable unless made in accordance with the provisions of this section.

8. Except as provided in subsection 1 of this section[, all orders of rulemaking] **and subsection 4 of section 536.031, after the final order of rulemaking has been published in the Missouri Register, the text of the entire rule** shall be published in full in the Missouri code of state regulations. No rule, except an emergency rule, shall become effective prior to the thirtieth day after the date of publication of the revision to the Missouri code of state regulations. The secretary of state shall distribute revisions of the Missouri code of state regulations to all subscribers of the Missouri code of state regulations on or before the date of publication of such revision. The publication date of each rule shall be

printed below the rule in the Missouri code of state regulations, provided further, that rules pertaining to changes in hunting or fishing seasons and limits that must comply with federal requirements or that are necessary because of documented changes in fish and game populations may become effective no earlier than on the tenth day after the filing of the final order of rulemaking.

9. If it is found in a contested case by an administrative or judicial fact finder that a state agency's action was based upon a statement of general applicability which should have been adopted as a rule, as required by sections 536.010 to 536.050, and that agency was put on notice in writing of such deficiency prior to the administrative or judicial hearing on such matter, then the administrative or judicial fact finder shall award the prevailing nonstate agency party its reasonable attorney's fees incurred prior to the award, not to exceed the amount in controversy in the original action. This award shall constitute a reviewable order. If a state agency in a contested case grants the relief sought by the nonstate party prior to a finding by an administrative or judicial fact finder that the agency's action was based on a statement of general applicability which should have been adopted as a rule, but was not, then the affected party may bring an action in the circuit court of Cole County for the nonstate party's reasonable attorney's fees incurred prior to the relief being granted, not to exceed the amount in controversy in the original action.

10. The actions authorized by subsection 9 of this section shall not apply to the department of revenue if that department implements the authorization hereby granted to the director or the director's duly authorized agents to issue letter rulings which shall bind the director or the director's agents and their successors for a minimum of three years, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in properly published regulations. An unfavorable letter ruling shall not bind the applicant and shall not be appealable to any forum. Subject to appropriations, letter rulings shall be published periodically with information identifying the taxpayer deleted. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "letter ruling" means a written interpretation of law by the director to a specific set of facts provided by a nonstate party.

536.023. 1. The secretary of state shall prescribe in [writing] **a format and medium as prescribed by the secretary of state and in writing upon request** uniform procedures for the numbering, indexing, form and publication of all rules, notices of proposed rulemaking and orders of rulemaking. Copies of the procedures shall be furnished by the secretary of state to each state agency and copies thereof shall be permanently maintained in the office of the secretary of state and shall be available for public inspection at all reasonable times.

2. No rule, notice of proposed rulemaking or final order of rulemaking shall be accepted for filing with the secretary of state unless it conforms to said uniform procedures.

3. Each state agency shall adopt as a rule a description of its organization and

general courses and methods of its operation and the methods and procedures whereby the public may obtain information or make submissions or requests. Substantial changes in any matter covered by the foregoing description shall be made only in accordance with the procedures set forth in this chapter.

536.031. 1. There is established a publication to be known as the "Code of State Regulations", which shall be published **in a format and medium as prescribed and in writing upon request** by the secretary of state as soon as practicable after ninety days following January 1, 1976, and may be republished from time to time thereafter as determined by the secretary of state.

2. The code of state regulations shall contain the full text of all rules of state agencies in force and effect upon the effective date of the first publication thereof, and effective September 1, 1990, it shall be revised no less frequently than monthly thereafter so as to include all rules of state agencies subsequently made, amended or rescinded. The code may also include citations, references, or annotations, prepared by the state agency adopting the rule or by the secretary of state, to any intraagency ruling, attorney general's opinion, determination, decisions, order, or other action of the administrative hearing commission, or any determination, decision, order, or other action of a court interpreting, applying, discussing, distinguishing, or otherwise affecting any rule published in the code.

3. The code of state regulations shall be published in looseleaf form in one or more volumes **upon request** and **a format and medium as prescribed by the secretary of state** with an appropriate index [and cover], and revisions in the text and index may be made by [printing additional pages for insertion in the looseleaf cover] **the secretary of state as necessary and provided in written format upon request.**

4. **An agency may incorporate by reference rules, regulations, standards, and guidelines of an agency of the United States or a nationally or state recognized organization or association without publishing the material in full. The reference in the agency rules shall fully identify the incorporated material by publisher, address, and date in order to specify how a copy of the material may be obtained, and shall state that the referenced rule, regulation, standard, or guideline does not include any later amendments or additions. The agency adopting a rule, regulation, standard, or guideline under this section shall maintain a copy of the referenced rule, regulation, standard, or guideline at the headquarters of the agency and shall make it available to the public for inspection and copying at no more than the actual cost of reproduction.** The secretary of state may omit from the code of state regulations [such rules and] such material incorporated by reference in any rule the publication of which would be unduly cumbersome or expensive[, provided that the full text of such rule or the full text of the material incorporated by reference is made available to any interested person at both the office of the secretary of state and the office of the

adopting state agency, and copies thereof made available to any interested party at a cost not to exceed the actual cost of copy reproduction].

5. The courts of this state shall take judicial notice, without proof, of the contents of the code of state regulations.

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