

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 502

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CUNNINGHAM.

Read 1st time February 25, 2009, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

2154S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 171.171, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to school credit.

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

Section A. Section 171.171, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 171.171, to read as follows:

171.171. 1. Work completed in schools accredited by the state board of
2 education shall be given full credit in requirements for entrance to and
3 classification in any **government-sponsored or public higher or post-**
4 **secondary** educational institution supported in whole or in part by state
5 appropriation.

6 2. When a student transfers into a public or government-
7 sponsored school from any educational setting, including but not
8 limited to an unaccredited public school or any nonpublic school, or
9 from a home school, the district shall provide the student and parent
10 or guardian with a written explanation of the enrollment, credit
11 issuance, grade level placement, and appeal process along with the
12 board policy on these topics if the parent disagrees with the school's
13 evaluation of the student's credits or placement. The district shall
14 review the student's course work, achievement test scores, transcript,
15 and any other performance data from his or her previous school,
16 including any records kept pursuant to section 167.031, RSMo, to
17 determine the issuing of course credits and grade level placement. If
18 the district is unable to determine the credits earned or grade level
19 placement based on the documentation provided, the district may
20 administer some other proficiency assessment as set by school board

21 policy. If the assessment selected by the district is not a recognized
22 national or state assessment, course curricular objectives and
23 competencies shall be provided to the student and parent or guardian
24 prior to the test. Course credit shall be awarded based on a passing
25 grade determined by what is considered passing to regularly enrolled
26 students in the district. The district shall provide a determination of
27 the course credits and grade level placement to the student and his or
28 her parent or guardian within thirty calendar days of the request for
29 enrollment and provision of course documentation by the student and
30 parent or guardian or within thirty calendar days of the student's
31 completion of the proficiency assessment.

32 3. Board of education policies for determining the issuance of
33 credits and grade level placement of transfer students shall be
34 reasonable and nondiscriminatory. Elective credit shall be awarded for
35 course work not recognized as fulfilling the district curricular
36 objectives but which meet the documentation requirements of this
37 section or section 167.031, RSMo, as applicable. The district shall work
38 with the student and the student's parents or guardian to determine the
39 best grade level placement based on the credits earned and the
40 student's age, and devise a program of studies that, if completed, will
41 earn a high school diploma.

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