

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 76

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WILSON.

Pre-filed December 1, 2008, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0061S.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the volunteer and parents incentive program.

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

Section A. Chapter 161, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 161.800, to read as follows:

161.800. 1. This section establishes a program for public elementary and secondary schools to increase volunteer and parental involvement. The program shall be known and may be cited as the "Volunteer and Parents Incentive Program". The department of elementary and secondary education shall implement and administer the program.

2. For purposes of this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "At risk student":

(a) A student who is still of school age but whose continued education is in jeopardy because the student is experiencing academic deficits, including but not limited to:

a. Being one or more years behind their age or grade level in mathematics or reading skills through eighth grade or three or more credits behind in the number of credits toward graduation from the ninth grade through twelfth grade;

b. Having low scores on tests of academic achievement and scholastic aptitude;

c. Having low grades and academic deficiencies;

d. Having a history of failure and being held back in school;

e. Having language problems or being from a non-English speaking home; or

22 f. Not having access to appropriate educational programs.

23 (b) A student may also be considered "at risk" if the student has
24 any of the following:

25 a. A parent or sibling who dropped out of school;

26 b. Experienced numerous family relocations;

27 c. Poor social adjustment, or deviant social behavior;

28 d. Employment of more than twenty hours per week while school
29 is in session;

30 e. Been the victim of racial or ethnic prejudice;

31 f. Low self-esteem and expectations of teachers, parents, and the
32 community;

33 g. A poorly educated mother or father;

34 h. Children of their own;

35 i. A deprived environment that slows economic and social
36 development;

37 j. A fatherless home;

38 k. Been the victim of personal or family abuse, including
39 substance abuse, emotional abuse, and sexual abuse;

40 (2) "Department", the department of elementary and secondary
41 education;

42 (3) "Institution of higher education", a four year college or
43 university located in the state of Missouri;

44 (4) "Program", the volunteer and parents incentive program;

45 (5) "Qualifying public school", a school located in Missouri that:

46 (a) Is located in a school district that has been classified by the
47 state board of education as unaccredited or provisionally accredited;
48 or

49 (b) That has a student population of more than fifty percent at-
50 risk students.

51 3. The department shall provide a reimbursement to parents or
52 volunteers who donate time at a qualifying public school. For every
53 one hundred hours that a parent or volunteer donates to a qualifying
54 public school, the department shall provide a reimbursement of up to
55 five hundred dollars towards the cost of three credit hours of education
56 from a public institution of higher education located in Missouri. The
57 reimbursement shall occur after completion of the three credit hours
58 of education. The reimbursement amount shall not exceed five hundred

59 dollars every two years.

60 4. A school district that participates in the program shall verify
61 to the department the time donated by a parent or volunteer.

62 5. If a school district that participates in the program becomes
63 classified as accredited by the state board of education, the school
64 district may continue to participate in the program for an additional
65 two years.

66 6. The department of elementary and secondary education shall
67 promulgate rules and regulations to implement this section. Any rule
68 or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo,
69 that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall
70 become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the
71 provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028,
72 RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any
73 of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter
74 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and
75 annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
76 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August
77 28, 2009, shall be invalid and void.

78 7. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Volunteer
79 and Parents Incentive Program Fund", which shall consist of general
80 revenue appropriated to the program, funds received from the federal
81 government, and voluntary contributions to support or match program
82 activities. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund and may
83 approve disbursements from the fund in accordance with sections
84 30.170 and 30.180, RSMo. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall
85 be used solely for the administration of the volunteer and parents
86 incentive program. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080,
87 RSMo, to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of
88 the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue
89 fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same
90 manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned
91 on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

92 8. Pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri sunset act:

93 (1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this
94 section shall automatically sunset six years after the effective date of
95 this section unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

96 **(2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized**
97 **under this section shall automatically sunset twelve years after the**
98 **effective date of the reauthorization of this section; and**

99 **(3) This section shall terminate on September first of the**
100 **calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the**
101 **program authorized under this section is sunset.**

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Bill

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