

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 78

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WILSON.

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

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0060S.011

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 160, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the establishment of the Missouri senior cadet program.

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

Section A. Chapter 160, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 160.375, to read as follows:

**160.375. 1. There is hereby established the "Missouri Senior Cadets Program", which shall be administered by the department of elementary and secondary education. The program shall encourage high school seniors to mentor kindergarten through eighth grade students in their respective school districts for a minimum of ten hours per week during the school year.**

**2. In order to be a mentor in the program, a student must:**

**(1) Be a Missouri resident who attends a Missouri high school;**

**(2) Possess a cumulative grade point average of at least three on a four-point scale or equivalent; and**

**(3) Plan to attend college.**

**3. Each public high school in the state shall establish guidelines for the senior cadets program. The mentor shall work with the school principal, classroom teachers, and other applicable school personnel in planning and implementing the mentoring plan. Such mentoring may occur before, during, or after school.**

**4. If a mentor in the program successfully provides mentoring services for an average of at least ten hours per week during a school year, the following shall apply:**

**(1) The mentor shall receive one hour of elective class credit, which may satisfy graduation requirements; and**

22           (2) Should the mentor attend college with the stated intention of  
23 becoming a teacher, the mentor shall be reimbursed, subject to  
24 appropriation, by the department of elementary and secondary  
25 education for the costs of three credit hours per semester for a total of  
26 no more than eight semesters.

27           5. There is hereby established in the state treasury a fund to be  
28 known as the "Missouri Senior Cadets Fund", which shall consist of all  
29 moneys that may be appropriated to it by the general assembly, and in  
30 addition may include any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests  
31 received from federal, state, private, or other sources. The fund shall  
32 be administered by the department of elementary and secondary  
33 education. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, to  
34 the contrary, moneys in the Missouri senior cadets fund shall not be  
35 transferred to the credit of the general revenue fund at the end of the  
36 biennium. Interest and moneys earned on the fund shall be credited to  
37 the fund. Moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the purpose of  
38 tuition reimbursements under the provisions of this section.

39           6. Pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri sunset act:

40           (1) Any new program authorized under this section shall  
41 automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section  
42 unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

43           (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized  
44 under this section shall automatically sunset twelve years after the  
45 effective date of the reauthorization of this section; and

46           (3) This section shall terminate on September first of the  
47 calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which a  
48 program authorized under this section is sunset.

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