

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 976

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RUPP.

Read 1st time February 22, 2010, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

5184S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 160.254, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to the race to the top program, with an emergency clause.

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

Section A. Section 160.254, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 30.1025 and 160.254, to read as
3 follows:

**30.1025. 1. There is hereby created in the state treasury the
2 "Race to the Top Fund", which, provisions of law to the contrary
3 notwithstanding, shall consist of all moneys awarded to the state as
4 part of the race to the top program created pursuant to the American
5 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as enacted by the 111th United
6 States Congress. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund and
7 may approve disbursements from the fund in accordance with sections
8 30.170 and 30.180. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used
9 solely for the administration of the race to the top program. Any
10 moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall revert
11 to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall
12 invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are
13 invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
14 credited to the fund.**

**15 2. Prior to the distribution of any funds received by the state
16 under this section, the commissioner of education shall appear before
17 the joint committee on education and present the proposed distribution
18 to school districts for any funds received. The joint committee shall
19 review all distributions of funds under this section and shall approve,
20 by majority vote of its members, the distribution of such funds.**

160.254. 1. There is hereby established a joint committee of the general
2 assembly, which shall be known as the "Joint Committee on Education", which
3 shall be composed of seven members of the senate and seven members of the
4 house of representatives. The senate members of the committee shall be
5 appointed by the president pro tem of the senate and the house members by the
6 speaker of the house.

7 2. The committee shall meet at least twice a year. In the event of three
8 consecutive absences on the part of any member, such member may be removed
9 from the committee.

10 3. The committee shall select either a chairman or cochairmen, one of
11 whom shall be a member of the senate and one a member of the house. A
12 majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. Meetings of the committee
13 may be called at such time and place as the chairman or chairmen designate.

14 4. The committee shall:

15 (1) Review and monitor the progress of education in the state's public
16 schools and institutions of higher education;

17 (2) Receive reports from the commissioner of education concerning the
18 public schools and from the commissioner of higher education concerning
19 institutions of higher education;

20 (3) Conduct a study and analysis of the public school system;

21 (4) Make recommendations to the general assembly for legislative action;

22 (5) Conduct an in-depth study concerning all issues relating to the equity
23 and adequacy of the distribution of state school aid, teachers' salaries, funding
24 for school buildings, and overall funding levels for schools and any other
25 education funding-related issues the committee deems relevant;

26 (6) Monitor the establishment of performance measures as required by
27 section 173.1006, RSMo, and report on their establishment to the governor and
28 the general assembly;

29 (7) Conduct studies and analysis regarding:

30 (a) The higher education system, including financing public higher
31 education and the provision of financial aid for higher education; and

32 (b) The feasibility of including students enrolled in proprietary schools,
33 as that term is defined in section 173.600, RSMo, in all state-based financial aid
34 programs;

35 (8) Annually review the collection of information under section 173.093,
36 RSMo, to facilitate a more accurate comparison of the actual costs at public and

37 private higher education institutions;

38 (9) Within three years of August 28, 2007, review a new model for the
39 funding of public higher education institutions upon submission of such model by
40 the coordinating board for higher education;

41 (10) Within three years of August 28, 2007, review the impact of the
42 higher education student funding act established in sections 173.1000 to
43 173.1006;

44 (11) Beginning August 28, 2008, upon review, approve or deny any
45 expenditures made by the commissioner of education pursuant to section 160.530,
46 as provided in subsection 5 of section 160.530;

47 **(12) Upon review, approve or deny the distribution of any funds**
48 **received by the state from the Race to the Top Program created**
49 **pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as**
50 **enacted by the 111th United States Congress.**

51 5. During the legislative interim between the first regular session of the
52 ninety-fifth general assembly through January 29, 2010, of the second regular
53 session of the ninety-fifth general assembly, the joint committee on education
54 shall study the issue of open enrollment for public school students across school
55 district boundary lines in this state. In studying this issue, the joint committee
56 may solicit input and information necessary to fulfill its obligation, including but
57 not limited to soliciting input and information from any state department, state
58 agency, school district, political subdivisions of this state, teachers, and the
59 general public. The joint committee shall prepare a final report, together with
60 its recommendations for any legislative action deemed necessary for submission
61 to the general assembly by December 31, 2009.

62 6. The committee may make reasonable requests for staff assistance from
63 the research and appropriations staffs of the house and senate and the committee
64 on legislative research, as well as the department of elementary and secondary
65 education, the department of higher education, the coordinating board for higher
66 education, the state tax commission, the department of economic development, all
67 school districts and other political subdivisions of this state, teachers and teacher
68 groups, business and other commercial interests and any other interested
69 persons.

70 7. Members of the committee shall receive no compensation but may be
71 reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses associated with the
72 performance of their official duties.

Section B. Because of the need to ensure the proper receipt and
2 accounting of moneys received from the Race to the Top Program, section A of this
3 act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health,
4 welfare, peace and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within
5 the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full force and
6 effect upon its passage and approval.

✓

Unofficial

Bill

Copy