

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 195

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR KEAVENY.

Read 1st time January 23, 2013, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0721S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 168.400, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to professional development programs for public schools.

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

Section A. Section 168.400, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 168.400, to read as follows:

168.400. 1. Sections 168.400 to 168.415 shall be known and may be cited
2 as the "Missouri Professional Teacher and Administrator Act". This section shall
3 become effective September 1, 1988, and shall establish programs for the
4 following public school personnel:

- 5 (1) The preservice teacher or student in training;
- 6 (2) The beginning teacher;
- 7 (3) The practicing teacher; and
- 8 (4) The administrator.

9 2. Preservice teacher programs established under this section shall
10 include, but need not be limited to, the following provisions:

11 (1) A program of entry-level testing of all prospective teacher education
12 students shall be established at all colleges and universities offering approved
13 teacher education programs and, with the advice of the advisory council as
14 provided in section 168.015, shall be administered by the commissioner of
15 education, who shall cause the department of elementary and secondary
16 education to develop or select such tests to establish abilities necessary to receive
17 a satisfactory rating, and to establish procedures for the administering of the test;

18 (2) The entry-level tests developed under this subsection shall include, but
19 need not be limited to, an examination of basic oral and written communication
20 skills and of basic mathematics skills, and may include both oral and written

21 examinations;

22 (3) Each prospective teacher education student shall be required to obtain
23 a satisfactory rating prior to admission into the approved teacher education
24 program;

25 (4) The department of elementary and secondary education, with the
26 advice of the advisory council as provided in section 168.015, shall establish and
27 monitor exit requirements from approved teacher education programs which shall
28 be met by all preservice teacher education students seeking certification in
29 Missouri, and specific criteria for a preservice teacher assessment that all
30 candidates for certification shall meet. The preservice teacher assessment
31 established under this subdivision shall include, but need not be limited to,
32 classroom achievement, practice teaching evaluation and observation, successful
33 participation in assessment centers, interviews, tests and other evaluation
34 measures. The department of elementary and secondary education shall
35 promulgate rules to allow all preservice teacher education students who have
36 been employed for at least two years as teacher assistants to utilize their teacher
37 assistant experience to bypass the practice teaching evaluation and observation
38 process. These rules shall allow the certified teacher working with the teacher
39 assistant to observe and evaluate the teacher assistant's practice teaching. No
40 rule or portion of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of this section
41 shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to chapter
42 536. The preservice teacher assessment shall be reviewed by the certifying
43 authority prior to issuance of a certificate. An unsatisfactory assessment shall
44 result in the nonissuance of a certificate. Persons who are aggrieved by the
45 nonissuance of a certificate may appeal such nonissuance in the manner provided
46 in section 168.071. Any costs associated with the entry-level tests or the exit
47 requirements established under this subsection shall be borne by each institution
48 and costs defrayal included in the incidental fees charged to the student.

49 3. Each approved teacher education program shall require the faculty
50 teaching preservice teacher education courses to further their professional
51 development through direct personal involvement in the public schools in grades
52 kindergarten through twelve on a periodic basis. As used in this subsection, the
53 term "faculty" shall include, but need not be limited to, full- and part-time
54 classroom instructors, and supervisors of practice teaching at institutions offering
55 an approved teacher education program.

56 4. Beginning teacher assistance programs established under this section

57 shall include, but need not be limited to, the following provisions:

58 (1) Such programs shall require each school district to provide a plan of
59 professional development for the first two years of teaching for any teacher who
60 does not have prior teaching experience. The professional development plan shall
61 include assistance from a professional development committee, which is hereby
62 established in each school district, which committee shall work with beginning
63 teachers and experienced teachers in identifying instructional concerns and
64 remedies; serve as a confidential consultant upon a teacher's request; assess
65 faculty needs and develop in-service opportunities for school staff; and present to
66 the proper authority faculty suggestions, ideas and recommendations pertaining
67 to classroom instruction within the school district. The members of each
68 professional development committee shall be selected by the teachers employed
69 by the school district in question. The professional development plan may include
70 guidance from a district-designated faculty member employed at a grade level
71 comparable to the instructional grade level of the beginning teacher, and such
72 other forms of assistance which the school district may choose to offer. The
73 professional development committee may apply to the state board of education for
74 a grant, which shall be in addition to any state aid provided to the committee for
75 activities identified in this subdivision. The grant thus awarded shall be used by
76 the committee to provide in-service training to the teachers of the district on
77 teaching children identified as at risk of failing in school as defined in section
78 167.273. The department of elementary and secondary education shall provide
79 resource materials and assist the committee if such assistance is requested;

80 (2) Such programs shall include assistance from the teacher education
81 program which provided the teacher's training if such training was provided in
82 a Missouri college or university. Such assistance from the college or university
83 may include retraining, internships, counseling, and in-service training.

84 5. The practicing teacher assistance programs established under this
85 section shall include, but need not be limited to, programs of professional
86 development and improvement as provided for experienced teachers by the
87 professional development committee established under subsection 4 of this
88 section, and in-service opportunities as provided by the local school district for all
89 practicing teachers.

90 6. (1) The administrator assistance programs established under this
91 section shall include, but shall not be limited to, programs of professional
92 development and improvement for superintendents, principals, assistant

93 principals, and other school district personnel charged with administrative duties.

94 (2) Establishment of programs by local districts and organizations for the
95 training of school board members are encouraged and recommended.

96 **7. As an alternative to the requirements of this section, the board**
97 **of education of each school district may establish and adopt a written**
98 **comprehensive professional development program for its teachers.**

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