

SENATE AMENDMENT NO. _____

Offered by _____ of _____

Amend _____ Bill No. _____, Page _____, Section _____, Line _____

2 by inserting immediately after said line the following:

3 "[161.216. 1. No public institution of higher
 4 education, political subdivision, governmental entity,
 5 or quasi-governmental entity receiving state funds
 6 shall operate, establish, or maintain, offer incentives
 7 to participate in, or mandate participation in a
 8 quality rating system for early childhood education, a
 9 training quality assurance system, any successor
 10 system, or any substantially similar system for early
 11 childhood education, unless the authority to operate,
 12 establish, or maintain such a system is enacted into
 13 law through:

14 (1) A bill as prescribed by article III of the
 15 Missouri Constitution;

16 (2) An initiative petition as prescribed by
 17 section 50 of article III of the Missouri Constitution;
 18 or

19 (3) A referendum as prescribed by section 52(a)
 20 of article III of the Missouri Constitution.

21 2. No public institution of higher education,
 22 political subdivision, governmental entity or
 23 quasi-governmental entity receiving state funds shall
 24 promulgate any rule or establish any program, policy,
 25 guideline, or plan or change any rule, program, policy,
 26 guideline, or plan to operate, establish, or maintain a
 27 quality rating system for early childhood education, a
 28 training quality assurance system, any successor
 29 system, or any substantially similar system for early
 30 childhood education unless such public institution of
 31 higher education, political subdivision, governmental
 32 entity or quasi-governmental entity receiving state
 33 funds has received statutory authority to do so in a
 34 manner consistent with subsection 1 of this section.

35 3. Any taxpayer of this state or any member of
 36 the general assembly shall have standing to bring suit
 37 against any public institution of higher education,

1 political subdivision, governmental entity or
2 quasi-governmental entity which is in violation of this
3 section in any court with jurisdiction to enforce the
4 provisions of this section.

5 4. This section shall not be construed to limit
6 the content of early childhood education courses,
7 research, or training carried out by any public
8 institution of higher education. A course on quality
9 rating systems or training quality assurance systems
10 shall not be a requirement for certification by the
11 state as an individual child care provider or any
12 licensing requirement that may be established for an
13 individual child care provider.

14 5. For purposes of this section:

15 (1) "Early childhood education" shall mean
16 education programs that are both centered and
17 home-based and providing services for children from
18 birth to kindergarten;

19 (2) "Quality rating system" or "training quality
20 assurance system" shall include the model from the
21 Missouri quality rating system pilots developed by the
22 University of Missouri center for family policy and
23 research, any successor model, or substantially similar
24 model. "Quality rating system" or "training quality
25 assurance system" shall also include but not be limited
26 to a tiered rating system that provides a number of
27 tiers or levels to set benchmarks for quality that
28 build upon each other, leading to a top tier that
29 includes program accreditation. "Quality rating
30 system" or "training quality assurance system" may also
31 include a tiered reimbursement system that may be tied
32 to a tiered rating system;

33 (3) "Tiered reimbursement system" or "training
34 quality assurance system" shall include but not be
35 limited to a system that links funding to a quality
36 rating system, a system to award higher child care
37 subsidy payments to programs that attain higher quality
38 levels, or a system that offers other incentives
39 through tax policy or professional development
40 opportunities for child care providers.]; and

41 Further amend the title and enacting clause accordingly.

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