

SENATE AMENDMENT NO. _____

Offered by _____ Of _____

Amend SS/SCS/Senate Bill No. 603, 576 & 898, Page 1, Section Title, Line 4,

2 by striking the word "course access in" and inserting in lieu
3 thereof the following: "virtual"; and

4 Further amend said bill, page 12, section 167.121, line 5,
5 by inserting after all of said line the following:

6 "173.1101. The financial assistance program established
7 under sections 173.1101 to 173.1107 shall be hereafter known as
8 the "Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program". The
9 coordinating board and all approved private [and], public, and
10 virtual institutions in this state shall refer to the financial
11 assistance program established under sections 173.1101 to
12 173.1107 as the access Missouri student financial assistance
13 program in their scholarship literature, provided that no
14 institution shall be required to revise or amend any such
15 literature to comply with this section prior to the date such
16 literature would otherwise be revised, amended, reprinted or
17 replaced in the ordinary course of such institution's business.

18 173.1102. 1. As used in sections 173.1101 to 173.1107,
19 unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms mean:

20 (1) "Academic year", the period from July first of any year
21 through June thirtieth of the following year;

1 (2) "Approved private institution", a nonprofit
2 institution, dedicated to educational purposes, located in
3 Missouri which:

4 (a) Is operated privately under the control of an
5 independent board and not directly controlled or administered by
6 any public agency or political subdivision;

7 (b) Provides a postsecondary course of instruction at least
8 six months in length leading to or directly creditable toward a
9 certificate or degree;

10 (c) Meets the standards for accreditation as determined by
11 either the Higher Learning Commission or by other accrediting
12 bodies recognized by the United States Department of Education or
13 by utilizing accreditation standards applicable to
14 nondegree-granting institutions as established by the
15 coordinating board for higher education;

16 (d) Does not discriminate in the hiring of administrators,
17 faculty and staff or in the admission of students on the basis of
18 race, color, religion, sex, or national origin and is in
19 compliance with the Federal Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968
20 and executive orders issued pursuant thereto. Sex discrimination
21 as used herein shall not apply to admission practices of
22 institutions offering the enrollment limited to one sex;

23 (e) Permits faculty members to select textbooks without
24 influence or pressure by any religious or sectarian source;

25 (3) "Approved public institution", an educational
26 institution located in Missouri which:

27 (a) Is directly controlled or administered by a public
28 agency or political subdivision;

29 (b) Receives appropriations directly or indirectly from the

1 general assembly for operating expenses;

2 (c) Provides a postsecondary course of instruction at least
3 six months in length leading to or directly creditable toward a
4 degree or certificate;

5 (d) Meets the standards for accreditation as determined by
6 either the Higher Learning Commission, or if a public community
7 college created under the provisions of sections 178.370 to
8 178.400 meets the standards established by the coordinating board
9 for higher education for such public community colleges, or by
10 other accrediting bodies recognized by the United States
11 Department of Education or by utilizing accreditation standards
12 applicable to the institution as established by the coordinating
13 board for higher education;

14 (e) Does not discriminate in the hiring of administrators,
15 faculty and staff or in the admission of students on the basis of
16 race, color, religion, sex, or national origin and is otherwise
17 in compliance with the Federal Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968
18 and executive orders issued pursuant thereto;

19 (f) Permits faculty members to select textbooks without
20 influence or pressure by any religious or sectarian source;

21 (4) "Approved virtual institution", an educational
22 institution that meets all of the following requirements:

23 (a) Is recognized as a qualifying institution by
24 gubernatorial executive order, unless such order is rescinded;

25 (b) Is recognized as a qualifying institution through a
26 memorandum of understanding between the state of Missouri and the
27 approved virtual institution;

28 (c) Is accredited by a regional accrediting agency

1 recognized by the United States Department of Education;

2 (d) Has established and continuously maintains a physical
3 campus or location of operation within the state of Missouri;

4 (e) Maintains at least twenty-five full-time Missouri
5 employees, at least one-half of which shall be faculty or
6 administrators engaged in operations;

7 (f) Enrolls at least one thousand Missouri residents as
8 degree or certificate seeking students;

9 (g) Maintains a governing body or advisory board based in
10 Missouri with oversight of Missouri operations;

11 (h) Is organized as a nonprofit institution; and

12 (i) Utilizes an exclusively competency-based education
13 model;

14 (5) "Coordinating board", the coordinating board for higher
15 education;

16 **[(5)]** (6) "Expected family contribution", the amount of
17 money a student and family should pay toward the cost of
18 postsecondary education as calculated by the United States
19 Department of Education and reported on the student aid report or
20 the institutional student information record;

21 **[(6)]** (7) "Financial assistance", an amount of money paid
22 by the state of Missouri to a qualified applicant under sections
23 173.1101 to 173.1107;

24 **[(7)]** (8) "Full-time student", an individual who is
25 enrolled in and is carrying a sufficient number of credit hours
26 or their equivalent at an approved private [or], public, or
27 virtual institution to secure the degree or certificate toward

1 which he or she is working in no more than the number of
2 semesters or their equivalent normally required by that
3 institution in the program in which the individual is enrolled.
4 This definition shall be construed as the successor to
5 subdivision (7) of section 173.205 for purposes of eligibility
6 requirements of other financial assistance programs that refer to
7 section 173.205.

8 2. The failure of an approved virtual institution to
9 continuously maintain all of the requirements in paragraphs (a)
10 to (i) of subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of this section shall
11 preclude such institution's students or applicants from being
12 eligible for assistance under sections 173.1104 and 173.1105.

13 173.1104. 1. An applicant shall be eligible for initial or
14 renewed financial assistance only if, at the time of application
15 and throughout the period during which the applicant is receiving
16 such assistance, the applicant:

17 (1) Is a citizen or a permanent resident of the United
18 States;

19 (2) Is a resident of the state of Missouri, as determined
20 by reference to standards promulgated by the coordinating board;

21 (3) Is enrolled, or has been accepted for enrollment, as a
22 full-time undergraduate student in an approved private [or],
23 public, or virtual institution; and

24 (4) Is not enrolled or does not intend to use the award to
25 enroll in a course of study leading to a degree in theology or
26 divinity.

27 2. If an applicant is found guilty of or pleads guilty to
28 any criminal offense during the period of time in which the

1 applicant is receiving financial assistance, such applicant shall
2 not be eligible for renewal of such assistance, provided such
3 offense would disqualify the applicant from receiving federal
4 student aid under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965,
5 as amended.

6 3. Financial assistance shall be allotted for one academic
7 year, but a recipient shall be eligible for renewed assistance
8 until he or she has obtained a baccalaureate degree, provided
9 such financial assistance shall not exceed a total of ten
10 semesters or fifteen quarters or their equivalent. Standards of
11 eligibility for renewed assistance shall be the same as for an
12 initial award of financial assistance, except that for renewal,
13 an applicant shall demonstrate a grade-point average of two and
14 five-tenths on a four-point scale, or the equivalent on another
15 scale. This subsection shall be construed as the successor to
16 section 173.215 for purposes of eligibility requirements of other
17 financial assistance programs that refer to section 173.215.

18 173.1105. 1. An applicant who is an undergraduate
19 postsecondary student at an approved private [or], public, or
20 virtual institution and who meets the other eligibility criteria
21 shall be eligible for financial assistance, with a minimum and
22 maximum award amount as follows:

23 (1) For academic years 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, and
24 2013-14:

25 (a) One thousand dollars maximum and three hundred dollars
26 minimum for students attending institutions classified as part of
27 the public two-year sector;

28 (b) Two thousand one hundred fifty dollars maximum and one
29 thousand dollars minimum for students attending institutions

1 classified as part of the public four-year sector, including
2 State Technical College of Missouri; and

3 (c) Four thousand six hundred dollars maximum and two
4 thousand dollars minimum for students attending approved private
5 institutions;

6 (2) For the 2014-15 academic year and subsequent years:

7 (a) One thousand three hundred dollars maximum and three
8 hundred dollars minimum for students attending institutions
9 classified as part of the public two-year sector; and

10 (b) Two thousand eight hundred fifty dollars maximum and
11 one thousand five hundred dollars minimum for students attending
12 institutions classified as part of the public four-year sector,
13 including State Technical College of Missouri, [or] approved
14 private institutions, or approved virtual institutions.

15 2. All students with an expected family contribution of
16 twelve thousand dollars or less shall receive at least the
17 minimum award amount for his or her institution. Maximum award
18 amounts for an eligible student with an expected family
19 contribution above seven thousand dollars shall be reduced by ten
20 percent of the maximum expected family contribution for his or
21 her increment group. Any award amount shall be reduced by the
22 amount of a student's payment from the A+ schools program or any
23 successor program to it. For purposes of this subsection, the
24 term "increment group" shall mean a group organized by expected
25 family contribution in five hundred dollar increments into which
26 all eligible students shall be placed.

27 3. If appropriated funds are insufficient to fund the
28 program as described, the maximum award shall be reduced across
29 all sectors by the percentage of the shortfall. If appropriated

1 funds exceed the amount necessary to fund the program, the
2 additional funds shall be used to increase the number of
3 recipients by raising the cutoff for the expected family
4 contribution rather than by increasing the size of the award.

5 4. Every three years, beginning with academic year 2009-10,
6 the award amount may be adjusted to increase no more than the
7 Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), 1982-1984 =
8 100, not seasonally adjusted, as defined and officially recorded
9 by the United States Department of Labor, or its successor
10 agency, for the previous academic year. The coordinating board
11 shall prepare a report prior to the legislative session for use
12 of the general assembly and the governor in determining budget
13 requests which shall include the amount of funds necessary to
14 maintain full funding of the program based on the baseline
15 established for the program upon the effective date of sections
16 173.1101 to 173.1107. Any increase in the award amount shall not
17 become effective unless an increase in the amount of money
18 appropriated to the program necessary to cover the increase in
19 award amount is passed by the general assembly.

20 173.1107. A recipient of financial assistance may transfer
21 from one approved public [or], private, or virtual institution to
22 another without losing eligibility for assistance under sections
23 173.1101 to 173.1107, but the coordinating board shall make any
24 necessary adjustments in the amount of the award. If a recipient
25 of financial assistance at any time is entitled to a refund of
26 any tuition, fees, or other charges under the rules and
27 regulations of the institution in which he or she is enrolled,
28 the institution shall pay the portion of the refund which may be
29 attributed to the state grant to the coordinating board. The

1 coordinating board will use these refunds to make additional
2 awards under the provisions of sections 173.1101 to 173.1107.";
3 and

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5 Further amend the title and enacting clause accordingly.