

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 218

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HOSKINS.

Pre-filed January 7, 2019, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

0851S.02I

AN ACT

To repeal section 178.530, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to agricultural education programs.

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

Section A. Section 178.530, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 178.530, to read as follows:

178.530. 1. The state board of education shall establish standards and
2 annually inspect, as a basis for approval, all public prevocational, vocational
3 schools, State Technical College of Missouri, departments and classes receiving
4 state or federal moneys for giving training in agriculture, industrial, home
5 economics and commercial subjects and all schools, departments and classes
6 receiving state or federal moneys for the preparation of teachers and supervisors
7 of such subjects. The public prevocational and vocational schools, State Technical
8 College of Missouri, departments, and classes, and the training schools,
9 departments and classes are entitled to the state or federal moneys so long as
10 they are approved by the state board of education, as to site, plant, equipment,
11 qualifications of teachers, admission of pupils, courses of study and methods of
12 instruction. All disbursements of state or federal moneys for the benefit of the
13 approved prevocational and vocational schools, State Technical College of
14 Missouri, departments and classes shall be made semiannually. The school board
15 of each approved school or the governing body of State Technical College of
16 Missouri shall file a report with the state board of education at the times and in
17 the form that the state board requires. Upon receipt of a satisfactory report, the
18 state board of education shall certify to the commissioner of administration for
19 his approval the amount of the state and federal moneys due the school district
20 or State Technical College of Missouri. The amount due the school district shall

21 be certified by the commissioner of administration and proper warrant therefor
22 shall be issued to the district treasurer or State Technical College of Missouri.

23 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 of this section, the state
24 board of education shall establish standards for agricultural education that may
25 be adopted by a private school accredited by an agency recognized by the United
26 States Department of Education as an accreditor of private schools that wishes
27 to provide quality vocational programming outside the requirements of, but
28 consistent with, the federal Vocational Education Act. Such standards shall be
29 sufficient to qualify a private school to apply to the state chapter for approval of
30 a local chapter of a federally chartered national agricultural education association
31 on a form developed for that purpose by the department of elementary and
32 secondary education without eligibility to receive state or federal funding for
33 agricultural vocational education. The provisions of this subsection shall not be
34 construed to create eligibility for a private school to receive state or federal
35 funding for agricultural vocational education, but shall not prohibit a private
36 school from receiving state or federal funds for which such private school would
37 otherwise be eligible for agricultural vocational education. Any such private
38 school shall reimburse the department annually for the cost of oversight and
39 maintenance of the program.

40 **3. (1) The department of elementary and secondary education,**
41 **through its agricultural education section, shall be authorized to**
42 **establish a pilot program, beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, to**
43 **provide for agricultural education in elementary schools in the**
44 **state. The purpose of the pilot program shall be to determine whether**
45 **and how to implement an elementary agricultural education program**
46 **statewide.**

47 **(2) The department, through its employees who work in the**
48 **agricultural education section, is authorized to select a minimum of**
49 **sixteen public elementary schools from sixteen geographic areas across**
50 **the state designated by the department for participation in the pilot**
51 **program. In determining such areas, the department may use the**
52 **Missouri Future Farmers of America Association's sixteen areas. The**
53 **local school board for each elementary school selected to be in the pilot**
54 **program shall agree to implement and fully fund an elementary**
55 **agricultural education program in such school and to continue to**
56 **provide such elementary agricultural education program for a period**

57 no shorter than three years. The local school district may employ an
58 agricultural education teacher to provide such program for the
59 elementary school.

60 (3) The department, through its employees who work in the
61 agricultural education section, and local school districts shall
62 collaborate to establish the curriculum for each elementary
63 agricultural education program. Such curriculum shall be grade-
64 appropriate and include instruction in an organized classroom,
65 collaborative learning experiences through investigation and inquiry,
66 including laboratory and site-based learning activities, and personal,
67 leadership, and career development opportunities.

68 (4) The department, through its agricultural education section,
69 shall provide for a program evaluation regarding the success and
70 impact of the pilot program upon completion of the third year of the
71 pilot program and shall report the results of such evaluation to the
72 relevant house and senate committees on agriculture and education.

73 4. The department shall maintain an adequate number of full-
74 time employees, certified in agricultural education and distributed
75 regionally throughout the state, to provide accountability for program
76 delivery of agricultural education, to continue to develop and maintain
77 pertinent agricultural education curriculum and standards, to assist
78 local school districts on matters related to agricultural education, and
79 to coordinate regional and state-wide activities supporting K-12
80 agricultural education programming.

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