FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 249

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR KOENIG.

Read 1st time January 14, 2019, and ordered printed.

0923S.02I

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 162, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to alternative services for disabilities.

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

Section A. Chapter 162, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new 2 section, to be known as section 162.707, to read as follows:

- 162.707. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Alternative Disability Services Act".
- 3 2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:
- 4 (1) "Alternative disability services act agreement" or "agreement",
- 5 an agreement negotiated between the parents or guardians of children
- 6 with disabilities, or a student ages eighteen through twenty-one and a
- 7 public school to allow special education services to be provided by an
- 8 alternative provider, either solely or in conjunction with the services
- 9 provided by the staff of the public school;
- 10 (2) "Children with disabilities", the same meaning as used in section 162.675;
- 12 (3) "Department", the department of elementary and secondary 13 education;
- 14 (4) "IEP" or "individualized education program", the same 15 meaning as used in section 162.1130;
- 16 (5) "ISP" or "individualized services plan", the special education 17 services agreement administered by the public school for parentally
- 18 placed private school students and homeschool students;
- 19 (6) "Public school", the same meaning used in section 160.011;
- 20 (7) "Special education services", the same meaning as used in 21 section 162.675.

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22 3. A parent, guardian, or a student ages eighteen through twenty-23 one may initiate the negotiation of an agreement for an alternative 24 provider of special education services. The public school shall neither discourage nor prohibit a parent, guardian, or a student ages eighteen 25 through twenty-one to negotiate or consent to such an agreement. The 26 public school shall negotiate agreements for the educational costs of students with disabilities in good faith. Such agreements shall be 28 legally binding contracts. The agreements may include provisions for:

- (1) Partial or full enrollment of the child in the public school;
- (2) Services and supplementary aids the public school shall provide.

The term of an agreement negotiated between a public school and the parent or guardian of a student with disabilities, or a student ages eighteen through twenty-one may exist until the end of the child's annual IEP or ISP cycle. It may be extended or modified with the agreement of the public school and the parent or guardian.

- 38 4. A parent, guardian, or a student ages eighteen through twentyone may initiate the negotiation of an agreement when:
 - (1) The annual IEP or ISP goals are not being met;
 - (2) The IEP or ISP accommodations or modifications are not being provided; or
 - (3) Special education services are not available from certified personnel through the public school.
 - 5. The education of children with disabilities shall, to the maximum extent appropriate, be with children who do not have disabilities and shall attend regular class, except that in the case of a disability resulting in violent behavior which causes substantial likelihood of injury to the students or others, the school district shall initiate procedures consistent with state and federal law to remove the child to a more appropriate placement. Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment shall occur only when the nature and severity of the disability of a child is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily as described in section 162.680.
- 57 6. The public school shall provide the following to parents, guardians, or students ages eighteen through twenty-one, upon a 58

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59 request for an agreement:

- 60 (1) Where alternative services and supplementary aids may be 61 obtained;
- 62 (2) The public school's criteria applicable for these services and 63 supplementary aids; and
 - (3) The public school's criteria under which the alternative services and supplementary aids are obtained, including the location and qualifications of the providers, which shall be the same as the public school uses with its personnel. The public school may not impose conditions or timelines related to obtaining the alternative services or supplementary aids.
 - 7. The public school shall reimburse alternative providers for services or supplementary aids pursuant to the agreement.
 - 8. The department shall promulgate rules necessary for the administration of this section, including the form of the alternative services for disabilities or supplementary aids agreements. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010 that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2019, shall be invalid and void.

