

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 980

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR NASHEED.

Read 1st time February 10, 2020, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

5312S.01I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 217, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to individualized programming for inmates at facilities operated by the department of corrections.

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

Section A. Chapter 217, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 217.154, to read as follows:

217.154. 1. The department of corrections shall operate the "Prison-Based Education Initiative" which shall, subject to appropriations, provide portable electronic devices that allow inmates to access individualized programming through electronic technology in a closed jail system environment. Such programming shall support the department's utilization of an incentive-based approach to programs and education, providing rewards for program and educational progress and, additionally, generating individualized re-entry plans for all participating inmates that provide training for housing, job placement, and financial management.

2. (1) Individualized programming provided on the portable electronic devices shall have the capability to generate individual profiles for each user suitable for the department to report on inmate compliance with vocation, education, and rehabilitative requirements. The reports shall include, but shall not be limited to, reports of usage in the following categories:

- (a) Log-in history;**
- (b) Number of minutes engaged;**
- (c) Course statuses;**
- (d) Certificates;**

21 (e) Number of student completions; and

22 (f) Number of student participants.

23 (2) The individualized programming provided on the portable
24 electronic devices shall comply with all provisions of the federal
25 Americans with Disabilities Act, including, but not limited to high
26 contrast and voice assist functionality in designated tablets upon
27 request.

28 (3) The individualized programming shall include software with:

29 (a) Bilingual functionality, including, but not limited to Spanish;

30 (b) No fee for any tablet functionality; and

31 (c) The ability to be expanded as additional products and
32 services become available.

33 (4) The individualized programming shall include hardware with:

34 (a) Wireless capabilities allowing connection to a wireless access
35 point that is secure to the department's network with no external
36 communication or access to the internet;

37 (b) Outer-casing protection that is custom to fit to the tablet and
38 capable of preventing shattering and damage; and

39 (c) At least a seven inch touchscreen display.

40 (5) Any third-party contractor of the individualized
41 programming pursuant to this section shall:

42 (a) Create a secure, separate network for the individualized
43 programming electronic devices to wirelessly connect;

44 (b) Provide access to services every calendar day of the year
45 within business hours, unless otherwise specified;

46 (c) Provide on-site training for the department employees and
47 staff immediately following contract award and through the contract
48 term; and

49 (d) Conduct proactive tablet reviews to flag any user activity
50 outside of the department's approved content and user guidelines.

51 (6) The curriculum provided with the individualized
52 programming shall include:

53 (a) Basic education and literacy lessons;

54 (b) High school equivalency credits;

55 (c) Substance use, criminal thinking, and violence reduction
56 lessons;

57 (d) Vocational skills and training;

- 58 (e) Behavioral and mental health lessons; and
- 59 (f) Life skills.

60 3. The department, pursuant to the provisions of this section,
61 shall track and provide the general assembly with an annual report on
62 inmate participation in all individualized programming by December
63 thirty-first of each year. The report shall include, but shall not be
64 limited to:

- 65 (1) Inmate hours spent on the program per day and week;
- 66 (2) Unique inmate log-ins per day and week; and
- 67 (3) Indicators of academic progress. Academic progress shall be
68 defined by the number of inmates who accomplish at least one of the
69 following:

- 70 (a) Earn at least a zero point twenty-five high school credit;
- 71 (b) Earn at least one college credit;
- 72 (c) Receive a college certificate after completion of a college
73 program requiring at least forty hours of instruction;
- 74 (d) Receive an industry recognized certificate of completion of
75 training or licensing received after completion of a program requiring
76 at least forty hours of instruction;
- 77 (e) Pass one or more tests or benchmarks that would satisfy the
78 high school graduation requirements of the state board of education;
- 79 (f) Pass one or more high school equivalency certificate
80 measures, which may be claimed once per enrolled student, or other
81 state assessment;
- 82 (g) Successfully complete a grade level curriculum in a core
83 academic subject;
- 84 (h) Successfully complete college readiness course work with
85 documentation of competency;
- 86 (i) Successfully complete job search and job retention course
87 work with documentation of competency;
- 88 (j) Enroll in a college level class for the first time, which may be
89 claimed once per enrolled student;
- 90 (k) Successfully complete an English as a second language (ESL)
91 class;
- 92 (l) Successfully complete an adult basic education (ABE) class;
- 93 or
- 94 (m) Successfully complete a series of short-term industry

95 **recognized certificates equaling at least forty hours.**

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