

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 400

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ONDER.

1480S.03I

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 161.092, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to the accreditation of public schools and school districts.

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

Section A. Section 161.092, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 161.092 and 162.082, to read as follows:

161.092. **1.** The state board of education shall:

(1) Adopt rules governing its own proceedings and formulate policies for the guidance of the commissioner of education and the department of elementary and secondary education;

(2) Carry out the educational policies of the state relating to public schools that are provided by law and supervise instruction in the public schools;

(3) Direct the investment of all moneys received by the state to be applied to the capital of any permanent fund established for the support of public education within the jurisdiction of the department of elementary and secondary education and see that the funds are applied to the branches of educational interest of the state that by grant, gift, devise or law they were originally intended, and if necessary institute suit for and collect the funds and return them to their legitimate channels;

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

18 (4) Cause to be assembled information which will
19 reflect continuously the condition and management of the
20 public schools of the state;

21 (5) Require of county clerks or treasurers, boards of
22 education or other school officers, recorders and treasurers
23 of cities, towns and villages, copies of all records
24 required to be made by them and all other information in
25 relation to the funds and condition of schools and the
26 management thereof that is deemed necessary;

27 (6) Provide blanks suitable for use by officials in
28 reporting the information required by the board;

29 (7) When conditions demand, cause the laws relating to
30 schools to be published in a separate volume, with pertinent
31 notes and comments, for the guidance of those charged with
32 the execution of the laws;

33 (8) Grant, without fee except as provided in section
34 168.021, certificates of qualification and licenses to teach
35 in any of the public schools of the state, establish
36 requirements therefor, formulate regulations governing the
37 issuance thereof, and cause the certificates to be revoked
38 for the reasons and in the manner provided in section
39 168.071;

40 (9) Classify the **[public schools] attendance centers**
41 **and school districts** of the state, subject to limitations
42 provided by law and subdivision (14) of this section,
43 establish requirements for the schools of each class, and
44 formulate rules governing the inspection and accreditation
45 of **[schools] attendance centers and school districts**
46 preparatory to classification, with such requirements taking
47 effect not less than two years from the date of adoption of
48 the proposed rule by the state board of education, provided
49 that this condition shall not apply to any requirement for

50 which a time line for adoption is mandated in either federal
51 or state law. Such rules shall include a process to allow
52 any **attendance center or** district that is accredited without
53 provision that does not meet the state board's promulgated
54 criteria for a classification designation of accredited with
55 distinction to propose alternative criteria, **subject to the**
56 **limitations provided in subdivision (14) of this section,** to
57 the state board to be classified as accredited with
58 distinction;

59 (10) Make an annual report on or before the first
60 Wednesday after the first day of January to the general
61 assembly or, when it is not in session, to the governor for
62 publication and transmission to the general assembly. The
63 report shall be for the last preceding school year, and
64 shall include:

65 (a) A statement of the number of public schools in the
66 state, the number of pupils attending the schools, their
67 sex, and the branches taught;

68 (b) A statement of the number of teachers employed,
69 their sex, their professional training, and their average
70 salary;

71 (c) A statement of the receipts and disbursements of
72 public school funds of every description, their sources, and
73 the purposes for which they were disbursed;

74 (d) Suggestions for the improvement of public schools;
75 and

76 (e) Any other information relative to the educational
77 interests of the state that the law requires or the board
78 deems important;

79 (11) Make an annual report to the general assembly and
80 the governor concerning coordination with other agencies and
81 departments of government that support family literacy

82 programs and other services which influence educational
83 attainment of children of all ages;

84 (12) Require from the chief officer of each division
85 of the department of elementary and secondary education, on
86 or before the thirty-first day of August of each year,
87 reports containing information the board deems important and
88 desires for publication;

89 (13) Cause fifty copies of its annual report to be
90 reserved for the use of each division of the state
91 department of elementary and secondary education, and ten
92 copies for preservation in the state library;

93 (14) Promulgate rules under which the board shall
94 classify the [public schools] **attendance centers and school**
95 **districts** of the state; provided that:

96 (a) **For purposes of accreditation, such**
97 **classifications shall include and be limited to the**
98 **categories of unaccredited, provisionally accredited,**
99 **accredited, and accredited with distinction;**

100 (b) **At least seventy percent of any rubric or scoring**
101 **methodology used to make an accreditation determination**
102 **shall be based on academic achievement as measured by**
103 **performance on state standardized tests and measures of**
104 **student growth derived from such performance;**

105 (c) **Any attendance center or district performing in**
106 **the bottom five percent of state distribution by composite**
107 **proficiency in mathematics and reading shall be classified**
108 **as unaccredited;**

109 (d) **Any attendance center or district performing in**
110 **the bottom ten percent of state distribution by composite**
111 **proficiency in mathematics and reading shall be classified**
112 **as provisionally accredited or unaccredited;**

113 (e) Only attendance centers and districts performing
114 in the top ten percent of both state distribution by
115 composite proficiency in mathematics and reading and in
116 measures of student growth derived from state standardized
117 test performance in mathematics and reading shall be
118 classified as accredited with distinction;

119 (f) Any school district in which fifty percent or more
120 of the district's attendance centers are classified as
121 unaccredited shall be classified as unaccredited;

122 (g) Any school district in which twenty-five percent
123 or more of the district's attendance centers are classified
124 as unaccredited shall be classified as provisionally
125 accredited or unaccredited; and

126 (h) The appropriate scoring guides, instruments, and
127 procedures used in determining the accreditation status of
128 [a] **an attendance center or** district shall be subject to a
129 public meeting upon notice in a newspaper of general
130 circulation in each of the three most populous cities in the
131 state and also a newspaper that is a certified minority
132 business enterprise or woman-owned business enterprise in
133 each of the two most populous cities in the state, and
134 notice to each district board of education, each
135 superintendent of a school district, and to the speaker of
136 the house of representatives, the president pro tem of the
137 senate, and the members of the joint committee on education,
138 at least fourteen days in advance of the meeting, which
139 shall be conducted by the department of elementary and
140 secondary education not less than ninety days prior to their
141 application in accreditation, with all comments received to
142 be reported to the state board of education;

143 (15) Have other powers and duties prescribed by law.

144 2. For purposes of this section, "attendance center"
145 shall mean any individual public elementary or secondary
146 school, including any charter school.

 162.082. Whenever any attendance center is classified
2 or reclassified as provisionally accredited or unaccredited,
3 the school district or charter school shall mail a letter to
4 the parents and guardians of each student in the school
5 informing such parents and guardians that the school is
6 provisionally accredited or unaccredited and of the options
7 available to their children as a result of the
8 classification or reclassification.

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