

SENATE BILL NO. 1160

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ESLINGER.

5700S.01H

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 178, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the imagination library of Missouri program.

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

Section A. Chapter 178, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 178.694, to read as
3 follows:

**178.694. 1. As used in this section, the following
2 terms mean:**

3 (1) "Bureau", the Dolly Parton's imagination library
4 bureau created under this section;

5 (2) "Department", the department of elementary and
6 secondary education;

7 (3) "Eligible child", any child under five years of
8 age who resides in this state;

9 (4) "Program", the imagination library of Missouri
10 program established in this section;

11 (5) "Reading selection", a high-quality, age-
12 appropriate book provided to an eligible child under the
13 program established in this section.

14 2. There is hereby established in the department's
15 office of childhood the "Imagination Library of Missouri
16 Program", which shall be a statewide program for encouraging
17 preschool children to read by providing monthly reading

18 selections to the homes of children from birth to five years
19 of age.

20 3. The office of childhood shall establish a bureau
21 within such office to work in conjunction with school
22 districts in mailing monthly reading selections directly to
23 the homes of eligible children. The bureau shall be known
24 as the "Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Bureau" and shall
25 be the statewide bureau that works in conjunction with Dolly
26 Parton's Imagination Library and school districts to provide
27 reading selections under this section.

28 4. Beginning in school year 2023-24 and continuing in
29 each subsequent school year, each school district shall, in
30 partnership with the bureau, give one reading selection to
31 each eligible child in the school district in each month,
32 beginning as early as the child's birth month through the
33 month in which the child reaches five years of age. Subject
34 to appropriation, the costs of giving such reading
35 selections to eligible children shall be reimbursed to each
36 school district from the imagination library of Missouri
37 fund created in this section.

38 5. The department shall promulgate rules to:

- 39 (1) Manage the daily operations of the program;
- 40 (2) Coordinate with organizations and public schools
41 of this state to advance and strengthen the program and
42 promote enrollment growth;
- 43 (3) Develop, promote, and coordinate a public
44 awareness program to make donors aware of the opportunity to
45 donate to the imagination library of Missouri fund;
- 46 (4) Develop, promote, and coordinate a public
47 awareness program to make the public aware of the
48 opportunity to register children to receive age-appropriate
49 books on a monthly basis; and

50 (5) Allow the department to implement and administer
51 the provisions of this section.

52 Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
53 section 536.010, that is created under the authority
54 delegated in this section shall become effective only if it
55 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of
56 chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This
57 section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the
58 powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter
59 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove
60 and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
61 then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed
62 or adopted after August 28, 2022, shall be invalid and void.

63 6. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury
64 the "Imagination Library of Missouri Program Fund", which
65 shall consist of any gifts, bequests, grants, public or
66 private donations, transfers, or moneys appropriated under
67 this section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the
68 fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the
69 state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall
70 be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in this
71 fund shall be used solely as provided in this section.

72 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080
73 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end
74 of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the
75 general revenue fund.

76 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the
77 fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any
78 interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
79 credited to the fund.

80 7. The general assembly shall appropriate at least
81 five million dollars annually to the imagination library of
82 Missouri program fund. In the department's budget requests
83 for school year 2023-24 and all subsequent school years, the
84 department shall include a plan to distribute sufficient
85 moneys to school districts to allow each school district to
86 give reading selections to all eligible children within the
87 school district under this section.

88 8. To comply with this section, a school district may,
89 in coordination with the department's office of childhood,
90 enter into an agreement, partnership, or similar arrangement
91 with an adjacent school district. If the school district
92 finds that no adjacent school district gives reading
93 selections to eligible children as provided in this section,
94 the school district may request the department's office of
95 childhood and the bureau to assist the school district in
96 complying with this section.

97 9. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:

98 (1) The provisions of the new program authorized under
99 this section shall automatically sunset on December thirty-
100 first six years after the effective date of this section
101 unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

102 (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program
103 authorized under this section shall automatically sunset on
104 December thirty-first twelve years after the effective date
105 of the reauthorization of this section; and

106 (3) This section shall terminate on September first of
107 the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in
108 which the program authorized under this section is sunset.

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