

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 823

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WASHINGTON.

2924S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

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

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Section A. Section 178.530, RSMo, is repealed and one new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

178.530. 1. The state board of education shall
2 establish standards and annually inspect, as a basis for
3 approval, all public prevocational, vocational schools,
4 State Technical College of Missouri, departments and classes
5 receiving state or federal moneys for giving training in
6 agriculture, industrial, home economics and commercial
7 subjects and all schools, departments and classes receiving
8 state or federal moneys for the preparation of teachers and
9 supervisors of such subjects. The public prevocational and
10 vocational schools, State Technical College of Missouri,
11 departments, and classes, and the training schools,
12 departments and classes are entitled to the state or federal
13 moneys so long as they are approved by the state board of
14 education, as to site, plant, equipment, qualifications of
15 teachers, admission of pupils, courses of study and methods
16 of instruction. All disbursements of state or federal
17 moneys for the benefit of the approved prevocational and
18 vocational schools, State Technical College of Missouri,

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

19 departments and classes shall be made semiannually. The
20 school board of each approved school or the governing body
21 of State Technical College of Missouri shall file a report
22 with the state board of education at the times and in the
23 form that the state board requires. Upon receipt of a
24 satisfactory report, the state board of education shall
25 certify to the commissioner of administration for his
26 approval the amount of the state and federal moneys due the
27 school district or State Technical College of Missouri. The
28 amount due the school district shall be certified by the
29 commissioner of administration and proper warrant therefor
30 shall be issued to the district treasurer or State Technical
31 College of Missouri.

32 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 of
33 this section, the state board of education shall establish
34 standards for agricultural education that may be adopted by
35 a private school accredited by an agency recognized by the
36 United States Department of Education as an accreditor of
37 private schools that wishes to provide quality vocational
38 programming outside the requirements of, but consistent
39 with, the federal Vocational Education Act. Such standards
40 shall be sufficient to qualify a private school to apply to
41 the state chapter for approval of a local chapter of a
42 federally chartered national agricultural education
43 association on a form developed for that purpose by the
44 department of elementary and secondary education without
45 eligibility to receive state or federal funding for
46 agricultural vocational education. The provisions of this
47 subsection shall not be construed to create eligibility for
48 a private school to receive state or federal funding for
49 agricultural vocational education, but shall not prohibit a
50 private school from receiving state or federal funds for

51 which such private school would otherwise be eligible for
52 agricultural vocational education. Any such private school
53 shall reimburse the department annually for the cost of
54 oversight and maintenance of the program.

55 3. (1) The department of elementary and secondary
56 education, through its agricultural education section, shall
57 be authorized to establish a pilot program, beginning in the
58 2020-21 school year **and ending on June thirtieth of the 2025-**
59 **26 school year**, to provide for agricultural education in
60 elementary schools in the state. [The purpose of the pilot
61 program shall be to determine whether and how to implement
62 an elementary agricultural education program statewide] **For**
63 **the 2026-27 school year and all subsequent school years, the**
64 **pilot program established in this subsection shall become a**
65 **program implemented in all elementary schools in the state.**

66 (2) [The department, through its employees who work in
67 the agricultural education section, is authorized to select
68 from among applications submitted by the public elementary
69 schools a minimum of sixteen public elementary schools for
70 participation in the pilot program. The department shall
71 develop an application process for public elementary schools
72 to apply to participate in the pilot program. The local
73 school board for each elementary school selected to be in
74 the pilot program shall agree to implement and fully fund an
75 elementary agricultural education program in such school and
76 to continue to provide such elementary agricultural
77 education program for a period no shorter than three years.
78 The local school district may employ an agricultural
79 education teacher to provide such program for the elementary
80 school.

81 (3) The department, through its employees who work in
82 the agricultural education section, and local school

83 districts shall collaborate to establish the instructional
84 model for each elementary agricultural education program.
85 Such instructional model shall be grade-appropriate and
86 include instruction in an organized classroom, collaborative
87 learning experiences through investigation and inquiry,
88 including laboratory and site-based learning activities, and
89 personal, leadership, and career development opportunities.

90 (4) The department, through its agricultural education
91 section, shall provide for a program evaluation regarding
92 the success and impact of the pilot program upon completion
93 of the third year of the pilot program and shall report the
94 results of such evaluation to the relevant house and senate
95 committees on agriculture and education.

96 4.] The department shall maintain an adequate number
97 of full-time employees, certified in agricultural education
98 and distributed regionally throughout the state, to provide
99 accountability for program delivery of agricultural
100 education, to continue to develop and maintain pertinent
101 agricultural education instructional models and standards,
102 to assist local school districts on matters related to
103 agricultural education, and to coordinate regional and
104 statewide activities supporting K-12 agricultural education
105 programming.

106 [5. Nothing in this section shall be construed to
107 require public elementary schools to participate in the
108 pilot program.]

109 (3) **The requirements of section 160.514 shall not**
110 **apply to this subsection.**

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