

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]
SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILLS NOS. 49 & 118
103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY
2025

0552S.03T

AN ACT

To amend chapter 160, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to allowing public schools to employ or accept chaplains as volunteers.

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

Section A. Chapter 160, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 160.2505, to read as
3 follows:

160.2505. 1. A school district or charter school may
2 employ a chaplain or accept a chaplain as a screened
3 volunteer, as the term "screened volunteer" is defined in
4 section 168.133, to provide support, services, or programs
5 for students as assigned by the school board of the school
6 district or the governing body of the charter school.

7 2. A chaplain employed by or volunteering for a school
8 district or charter school pursuant to the provisions of
9 this section shall not be employed in any position that
10 requires a teaching certificate unless such chaplain is a
11 certified teacher pursuant to the provisions of section
12 168.021.

13 3. A school chaplain shall be a member of a Department
14 of Defense listed religious-endorsing organization
15 recognized by the Armed Forces Chaplains Board.

16 4. A school district or charter school that employs a
17 chaplain or accepts a chaplain as a screened volunteer shall
18 ensure that a criminal background check is conducted on such
19 chaplain pursuant to the provisions of section 168.133
20 before the chaplain begins employment or volunteer service
21 at the district or school.

22 5. A school district or charter school shall not
23 employ a chaplain or accept a chaplain as a screened
24 volunteer if such chaplain is required to be registered as a
25 sex offender pursuant to the provisions of sections 589.400
26 to 589.425.

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