

SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE SUBSTITUTE NO. 3 FOR  
**SENATE BILL NO. 1062**  
**103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

5396H.08C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

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**AN ACT**

To repeal section 161.412, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to establishment of public assistance programs.

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

Section A. Section 161.412, RSMo, is repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 34.025, 161.412, 209.247, and 660.365, to read as follows:

**34.025. Prior to awarding any contract in the amount of twenty million dollars or more, the commissioner of administration shall obtain the consent of both the chair of the house budget committee and the chair of the senate appropriations committee.**

161.412. 1. Subject to appropriations, the Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing shall provide grants to:

(1) Organizations that provide services for deaf-blind children and their families. Such services may include providing family support advocates to assist deaf-blind children in participating in their communities and family education specialists to teach parents and siblings skills to support the deaf-blind children in their family;

(2) Organizations that provide services for deaf-blind adults. Such grants shall be used to provide assistance to deaf-blind adults who are working towards establishing and maintaining independence; and

(3) Organizations that train support service providers. Such grants shall be used to provide training that will lead to certification of support service providers in Missouri.

2. The commission shall use a request-for-proposal process to award the grants in this section. Organizations that receive grants under this section may expend the grant for any

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

14 purpose authorized in this section. [~~The total amount of grants provided under this section~~  
15 ~~shall not exceed three hundred thousand dollars annually.~~]

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

2 (1) "Commission", the Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing;  
3 (2) "Communication access services", shall include, but not be limited to, the  
4 following:

- 5 (a) Qualified interpreters, as described in section 209.285;
- 6 (b) Communication access realtime translation services;
- 7 (c) Notetakers, visual or Braille boards, and visual video services;
- 8 (d) Open and closed captioning services;
- 9 (e) Environmental access support for the deaf-blind and those with low vision;

10 and

11 (f) Any other effective method of making aurally delivered and printed  
12 information available to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing;

13 (3) "Communication access service provider", an individual who is trained to  
14 offer a communication access service to communicate aurally delivered and printed  
15 information to individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing.

16 2. The commission shall establish a statewide communication access services  
17 program to improve compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act for  
18 agencies and businesses by coordinating resources, filling service gaps, and assisting  
19 with costs related to accommodations. The commission shall:

20 (1) Develop and maintain a statewide registry of communication access service  
21 providers, organized by region, including rural and urban areas;

22 (2) Create a process for communication access service providers to apply for  
23 placement on the registry;

24 (3) Establish minimum standards for training, equipment, and technology;

25 (4) Maintain an informational website accessible by businesses, agencies, and  
26 individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing regarding resources and  
27 available programming;

28 (5) Provide consultation, training, and technical assistance to aid state and local  
29 agencies to be in compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act;

30 (6) Provide information regarding available resources to assist with compliance  
31 costs and to support potential communication access service providers in underserved  
32 areas;

33 (7) Conduct outreach activities for urban or rural residents and communication  
34 access service providers to expand awareness and capacity in underserved areas;

35           **(8) Subject to appropriation, administer scholarships for professional**  
36 **development, internships, and certification testing;**

37           **(9) Subject to appropriation and pursuant to rules promulgated under this**  
38 **section, administer and finance requests for communication access services between**  
39 **agencies and businesses and individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing;**

40           **(10) Hire a program manager to serve at the pleasure of the director of the**  
41 **commission. The program manager shall have a background and experience in**  
42 **communication access services. The salary for the program manager shall be paid out**  
43 **of the fund established in subsection 3 of this section; and**

44           **(11) Submit an annual report to the governor and the general assembly that**  
45 **includes information on communication access service utilization, registry effectiveness,**  
46 **funding outcomes, and recommendations for improvement.**

47           **3. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Communication Access**  
48 **Services Fund", which shall consist of moneys appropriated to the fund and any gifts,**  
49 **donations, grants, and bequests from individuals, private organizations, foundations, or**  
50 **other sources for the purpose of administering the program established in this section.**  
51 **The state treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections**  
52 **30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall be a**  
53 **dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used by the**  
54 **commission for the salary of the program manager, distribution of financial assistance**  
55 **for communication access services, and distribution of scholarships under this section.**

56           **(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys**  
57 **remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the**  
58 **general revenue fund.**

59           **(3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as**  
60 **other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be**  
61 **credited to the fund.**

62           **4. The commission shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this**  
63 **section, including the process for distributing scholarships under subdivision (8) of**  
64 **subsection 2 of this section and determining eligibility for financial assistance under**  
65 **subdivision (9) of subsection 2 of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term**  
66 **is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section**  
67 **shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of**  
68 **chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are**  
69 **nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to**  
70 **chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are**

71 subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule  
72 proposed or adopted after August 28, 2026, shall be invalid and void.

660.365. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Inspiration  
2 Act".

3 2. For purposes of this section, the following terms mean:

4 (1) "Missouri partner network", a group of entities, including state departments  
5 and agencies, public-private partnerships, and nonprofit, private-sector, and faith-based  
6 organizations, which provides goods or services to directly support the participants'  
7 goals and address identified barriers;

8 (2) "Participant", an individual who voluntarily participates in the inspiration  
9 program;

10 (3) "Participating state agency", a state department, division, or agency that  
11 takes part in the inspiration program at the direction of the governor.

12 3. (1) There shall be created within the department of social services the  
13 "Inspiration" program. The office of the governor, in consultation with the department,  
14 shall:

15 (a) Facilitate coordination and collaboration among participating state agencies  
16 to implement the provisions of this section;

17 (b) Expand the Missouri partner network to meet the needs of participants;

18 (c) Empower and assist participants in need to help identify and achieve  
19 immediate, intermediate, and long-term goals and remove barriers to achievement of  
20 personal goals;

21 (d) Use participating state agencies to serve families holistically in achieving self-  
22 sufficiency, maximizing community integration, and building a prosperous future.

23 Barriers to self-sufficiency may include the inability to:

24 a. Obtain stable employment;

25 b. Increase wages;

26 c. Obtain the necessary skills for greater independence, education, or training;

27 d. Meet basic needs; and

28 e. Find stable housing; and

29 (e) Refer participants requiring assistance with employment or vocational  
30 training to appropriate entities to prepare, train, and place the participants in  
31 meaningful employment.

32 (2) (a) To participate in the inspiration program, an individual shall be:

33 a. A legal resident of this state;

34 b. A citizen of the United States or a permanent resident alien of the United  
35 States, as determined by the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services;

- 36 c. (i) At least eighteen years of age;  
37 (ii) If emancipated, at least sixteen years of age; or  
38 (iii) If under eighteen years of age and not emancipated, authorized to  
39 participate by written consent of his or her parent or guardian.
- 40 (b) Participation in the inspiration program is voluntary.
- 41 (3) The department shall:
- 42 (a) Develop and maintain a website for individuals to connect with the  
43 inspiration program; and
- 44 (b) Develop and maintain an inspiration program case management system that,  
45 at a minimum, conducts intake for inspiration program inquiries and makes referrals  
46 for individuals and families in need of services.
- 47 4. (1) The Missouri partner network shall work to build a network of  
48 partnerships to sustain the effectiveness of the inspiration program.
- 49 (2) (a) State agencies shall participate in the inspiration program at the  
50 direction of the governor.
- 51 (b) In order to use government resources more effectively and efficiently,  
52 participating state agencies shall use existing resources and personnel, to the extent  
53 possible, to operate the inspiration program.
- 54 5. There is hereby established the "Task Force on the Protection of Children and  
55 Families". The task force shall be composed of three members from the house of  
56 representatives, three members from the senate, and three members appointed by the  
57 governor. The senate members of the task force shall be appointed by the president pro  
58 tempore of the senate and the house members by the speaker of the house of  
59 representatives. There shall be at least one member from the minority party of the  
60 senate and at least one member from the minority party of the house of representatives.  
61 The members appointed by the governor shall include one member from the children's  
62 division, one member who is involved in family law, and one member who is a foster  
63 parent.
- 64 6. The task force shall select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson, one of whom  
65 shall be a member of the senate and one a member of the house of representatives. A  
66 majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. The task force shall meet at least  
67 once during each legislative session and at all other times as the chairperson may  
68 designate.
- 69 7. The task force's purpose is to implement the provisions of the inspiration  
70 program, safeguard children by providing rigorous oversight of prevention efforts, and  
71 ensure accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement across all systems  
72 responsible for protecting children from abuse.

73           **8. The task force may make reasonable requests for staff assistance from the**  
74 **research and appropriations staffs of the senate and house of representatives and the**  
75 **joint committee on legislative research. In the performance of its duties, the task force**  
76 **may request assistance or information from all branches of government and state**  
77 **departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and offices.**

78           **9. The task force shall report to the general assembly and the governor no later**  
79 **than December 30, 2027. The report shall include updates on the implementation of the**  
80 **inspiration program and recommendations pertaining to:**

81           **(1) Child removal, including guidelines and timelines thereof;**

82           **(2) The protection or termination of parental rights;**

83           **(3) Proposed visitation progression policies;**

84           **(4) Guidelines for monthly reviews and case assessment;**

85           **(5) The rights of biological parents;**

86           **(6) The rights of foster parents; and**

87           **(7) Reporting requirements for child abuse and neglect.**

88           **10. The task force shall be in effect for one year to assist in the implementation of**  
89 **this section. The task force shall expire on December 31, 2027.**

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