

SENATE BILL NO. 1728

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CARTER.

7409S.011

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 660, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the establishment of a community-based assistance program.

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

Section A. Chapter 660, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 660.365, to read as
3 follows:

**660.365. 1. This section shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "True Charity" act.**

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

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

**11 (2) "Participant", an individual who voluntarily
12 participates in the true charity program;**

**13 (3) "Participating state agency", a state department,
14 division, or agency that takes part in the true charity
15 program at the direction of the governor.**

**16 3. (1) There shall be created within the department
17 of social services the "True Charity" program. The**

18 department, in consultation with the office of the governor,
19 shall:

20 (a) Facilitate coordination and collaboration among
21 participating state agencies to implement the provisions of
22 this section;

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

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

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

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

32 a. Obtain stable employment;

33 b. Increase wages;

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

36 d. Meet basic needs; and

37 e. Find stable housing; and

38 (e) Refer participants requiring assistance with
39 employment or vocational training to appropriate entities to
40 prepare, train, and place the participants in meaningful
41 employment.

42 (2) (a) To participate in the true charity program,
43 an individual shall be:

44 a. A legal resident of this state;

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

48 c. (i) At least eighteen years of age;

49 (ii) If emancipated, at least sixteen years of age; or

50 (iii) If under eighteen years of age and not
51 emancipated, authorized to participate by written consent of
52 his or her parent or guardian.

53 (b) Participation in the true charity program is
54 voluntary.

55 (3) The department shall:

56 (a) Develop and maintain a website for individuals to
57 connect with the true charity program; and

58 (b) Develop and maintain a true charity program case
59 management system that, at a minimum, conducts intake for
60 true charity program inquiries and makes referrals for
61 individuals and families in need of services.

62 4. (1) The Missouri partner network shall work to
63 build a network of partnerships to sustain the effectiveness
64 of the true charity program.

65 (2) (a) State agencies shall participate in the true
66 charity program at the direction of the governor.

67 (b) In order to use government resources more
68 effectively and efficiently, participating state agencies
69 shall use existing resources and personnel, to the extent
70 possible, to operate the true charity program.

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