

SENATE BILL NO. 1729

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HENDERSON.

7329S.02I

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 160.572, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to college and career readiness.

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

Section A. Section 160.572, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 160.572 and 173.1360, to read as follows:

160.572. 1. For purposes of this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) **["ACT assessment", the ACT assessment or the ACT Plus Writing assessment;**

(2) **]"High school", a public school, not including a charter school, that provides instruction to students in any combinations of grades nine, ten, eleven, or twelve;**

(2) "WorkKeys", the ACT WorkKeys assessments required for the National Career Readiness Certificate.

2. **[(1) In any school year in which the department of elementary and secondary education directs a state-funded census administration of the ACT assessment to any group of students, any student who would be allowed or required to participate in the census administration shall receive the opportunity, on any date within three months before the census administration, to participate in a state-funded administration of WorkKeys.]**

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

18 (2) Any student who participated in a state-funded
19 administration of WorkKeys as described under subdivision
20 (1) of this subsection shall not participate in any state-
21 funded census administration of the ACT assessment.

22 (3) The department of elementary and secondary
23 education shall not require school districts or charter
24 schools to administer the ACT assessment to any student who
25 participated in a state-funded administration of WorkKeys as
26 described under subdivision (1) of this subsection] **Each**
27 **high school shall administer college and career readiness**
28 **assessments, including a career readiness assessment that**
29 **leads to a nationally recognized work readiness certificate,**
30 **in a manner and frequency prescribed by the state board of**
31 **education to each student before the student graduates from**
32 **high school.**

33 3. [(1) In any school year in which a school district
34 directs the administration of the ACT assessment to any
35 group of its students to be funded by the district, any
36 student who would be allowed or required to participate in
37 the district-funded administration shall receive the
38 opportunity, on any date within three months before the
39 administration, to participate in an administration of
40 WorkKeys funded by the school district.

41 (2) Nothing in this section shall require a school
42 district to fund the administration of the ACT assessment to
43 any student who participated in a district-funded
44 administration of WorkKeys as described under subdivision
45 (1) of this subsection] **A career readiness assessment under**
46 **subsection 2 of this section may include WorkKeys.**

47 4. **A public school district may offer additional**
48 **college and career readiness assessments for students**

49 enrolled in high school, at no cost to the student, by using
50 funds appropriated by the general assembly for such purpose.

51 5. The state board of education shall promulgate rules
52 to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or
53 portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section
54 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in
55 this section shall become effective only if it complies with
56 and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and,
57 if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter
58 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with
59 the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to
60 delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule
61 are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
62 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after
63 August 28, 2026, shall be invalid and void.

173.1360. Each public institution of higher education
2 may adopt and implement a policy to use a Platinum, Gold, or
3 Silver credential earned through the ACT WorkKeys National
4 Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) as transcribable credit
5 toward the attainment of a postsecondary technical degree as
6 recommended by the American Council on Education (ACE)
7 national guide.

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