

SENATE BILL NO. 1740

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WASHINGTON.

7339S.011

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 208, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a prepaid mobile device pilot project implemented by the department of social services.

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

Section A. Chapter 208, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 one new section, to be known as section 208.1375, to read as
3 follows:

208.1375. 1. As used in this section, the following
2 terms mean:

3 (1) "Prepaid mobile device", a cellular telephone or
4 other communication device for which the mobile device user
5 purchases a set allotment of wireless communication services;

6 (2) "Shelters for victims of domestic violence", the
7 same meaning as in section 135.550;

8 (3) "Wireless communication services", any mobile
9 service that is provided for profit and makes interconnected
10 service available to the public.

11 2. Subject to appropriation, the department of social
12 services shall implement a pilot project to purchase prepaid
13 mobile devices and distribute those devices through grants
14 to shelters for victims of domestic violence for the
15 purposing of redistributing those devices to victims of
16 domestic violence for personal use. The department shall
17 develop a grant application for shelters to utilize to apply

18 for the devices, including a requirement that the shelters
19 ensure that the devices are distributed to those victims in
20 greatest need of a prepaid mobile device. The department
21 shall distribute the devices in a manner that rural and
22 urban shelters across the state receive an equal allotment
23 based on need.

24 3. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury
25 the "Domestic Violence Shelter Cell Phone Fund", which shall
26 consist of moneys collected under this section and any
27 grants, donations, gifts, and bequests made to it. The
28 state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In
29 accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state
30 treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall be a
31 dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in this fund
32 shall be used solely by the department for the purpose of
33 administering the provisions of this section, including the
34 distribution of prepaid mobile devices to shelters.

35 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080
36 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end
37 of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the
38 general revenue fund.

39 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the
40 fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any
41 interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
42 credited to the fund.

43 4. The department shall promulgate rules to implement
44 and administer the pilot project described in this section.
45 Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
46 section 536.010, that is created under the authority
47 delegated in this section shall become effective only if it
48 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of
49 chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This

50 section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the
51 powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter
52 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove
53 and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
54 then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed
55 or adopted after August 28, 2026, shall be invalid and void.

56 5. Pursuant to section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset
57 act:

58 (1) The program authorized pursuant to this section
59 shall automatically sunset on August 28, 2032, unless
60 reauthorized by an act of the general assembly;

61 (2) This section shall terminate on September first of
62 the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in
63 which the program authorized pursuant to this section is
64 sunset; and

65 (3) The provisions of this subsection shall not be
66 construed to impair or impede the state's fulfillment of any
67 obligations, including the authorization, issuance, or
68 redemption of tax credits, incurred pursuant to this section
69 prior to the date the program authorized pursuant to this
70 section is sunset.

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