

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

SENATE SUBSTITUTE NO. 3 FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 1062

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CARTER.

5396S.07P

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapters 34, 209, and 660, RSMo, by adding thereto three new sections relating to the establishment of public assistance programs.

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

Section A. Chapters 34, 209, and 660, RSMo, are amended
2 by adding thereto three new sections, to be known as sections
3 34.025, 209.247, and 660.365, to read as follows:

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

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

3 (1) "Commission", the Missouri commission for the deaf
4 and hard of hearing;

5 (2) "Communication access services", shall include,
6 but not be limited to, the following:

7 (a) Qualified interpreters, as described in section
8 209.285;

9 (b) Communication access realtime translation services;

10 (c) Notetakers, visual or Braille boards, and visual
11 video services;

12 (d) Open and closed captioning services;

13 (e) Environmental access support for the deaf-blind
14 and those with low vision; and

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

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

23 2. The commission shall establish a statewide
24 communication access services program to improve compliance
25 with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act for
26 agencies and businesses by coordinating resources, filling
27 service gaps, and assisting with costs related to
28 accommodations. The commission shall:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

49 (8) Subject to appropriation, administer scholarships
50 for professional development, internships, and certification
51 testing;

52 (9) Subject to appropriation and pursuant to rules
53 promulgated under this section, administer and finance
54 requests for communication access services between agencies
55 and businesses and individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or
56 hard of hearing;

57 (10) Hire a program manager to serve at the pleasure
58 of the director of the commission. The program manager
59 shall have a background and experience in communication
60 access services. The salary for the program manager shall
61 be paid out of the fund established in subsection 3 of this
62 section; and

63 (11) Submit an annual report to the governor and the
64 general assembly that includes information on communication
65 access service utilization, registry effectiveness, funding
66 outcomes, and recommendations for improvement.

67 3. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury
68 the "Communication Access Services Fund", which shall
69 consist of moneys appropriated to the fund and any gifts,
70 donations, grants, and bequests from individuals, private
71 organizations, foundations, or other sources for the purpose

72 of administering the program established in this section.
73 The state treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund. In
74 accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state
75 treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall be a
76 dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund
77 shall be used by the commission for the salary of the
78 program manager, distribution of financial assistance for
79 communication access services, and distribution of
80 scholarships under this section.

81 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080
82 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end
83 of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the
84 general revenue fund.

85 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the
86 fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any
87 interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
88 credited to the fund.

89 4. The commission shall promulgate rules to implement
90 the provisions of this section, including the process for
91 distributing scholarships under subdivision (8) of
92 subsection 2 of this section and determining eligibility for
93 financial assistance under subdivision (9) of subsection 2
94 of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that
95 term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under
96 the authority delegated in this section shall become
97 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of
98 the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section
99 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and
100 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
101 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
102 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
103 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking

104 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,
105 2026, shall be invalid and void.

660.365. 1. This section shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "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 charity program;

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

16 3. (1) There shall be created within the department
17 of social services the "Charity" program. The department,
18 in consultation with the office of the governor, shall:

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

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

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

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

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

31 a. Obtain stable employment;
32 b. Increase wages;
33 c. Obtain the necessary skills for greater
34 independence, education, or training;
35 d. Meet basic needs; and
36 e. Find stable housing; and
37 (e) Refer participants requiring assistance with
38 employment or vocational training to appropriate entities to
39 prepare, train, and place the participants in meaningful
40 employment.

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

43 a. A legal resident of this state;
44 b. A citizen of the United States or a permanent
45 resident alien of the United States, as determined by the
46 U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services;
47 c. (i) At least eighteen years of age;
48 (ii) If emancipated, at least sixteen years of age; or
49 (iii) If under eighteen years of age and not
50 emancipated, authorized to participate by written consent of
51 his or her parent or guardian.

52 (b) Participation in the charity program is voluntary.

53 (3) The department shall:

54 (a) Develop and maintain a website for individuals to
55 connect with the charity program; and

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

60 4. (1) The Missouri partner network shall work to
61 build a network of partnerships to sustain the effectiveness
62 of the charity program.

63 (2) (a) State agencies shall participate in the
64 charity program at the direction of the governor.

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

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