

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 508

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES JOHNSON (61), GAMBARO, CARNAHAN,
JOHNSON (90), SHELTON AND COLEMAN (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time January 24, 2001, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

1049L.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the business dropout abatement program.

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

Section A. Chapter 161, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 161.706, to read as follows:

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

2 **(1) "Approved program", a business dropout abatement program established**
3 **pursuant to this section and approved by the department of elementary and secondary**
4 **education;**

5 **(2) "Eligible student", a resident pupil or dropout of a school district who is**
6 **determined by the local school board to be eligible to participate in an approved program**
7 **pursuant to this section and who participates in such program for no less than eight**
8 **calendar months in the tax year for which a return is filed claiming a credit authorized in**
9 **this section;**

10 **(3) "Net expenditures", only those amounts paid or incurred for the participation**
11 **of an eligible student participating in an approved program less any amounts received by**
12 **the qualified taxpayer from any source for the provision of an approved program for an**
13 **eligible student;**

14 **(4) "Qualified taxpayer", an employer who makes expenditures pursuant to this**
15 **section.**

16 **2. For taxable years commencing on or after January 1, 2002, a qualified taxpayer**
17 **shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed by chapter 143, RSMo, exclusive of the**
18 **provisions relating to the withholding of tax as provided in sections 143.191 to 143.265,**

19 RSMo, in an amount equal to the lesser of five thousand dollars times the number of
20 eligible students for which the qualified taxpayer is allowed a credit pursuant to this
21 section or the net expenditures made directly or through a fund during a taxable year by
22 the qualified taxpayer for the participation of an eligible student in an approved program
23 established pursuant to this section. No credit shall be allowed for any amounts for which
24 any other credit is claimed or allowed under any other provision of state law for the same
25 net expenditures.

26 3. The tax credit allowed by this section shall be claimed by the qualified taxpayer
27 at the time such taxpayer files a return and shall be applied against the income tax liability
28 imposed by chapter 143, RSMo, after all other credits provided by law have been applied.
29 Where the amount of the credit exceeds the tax liability, the difference between the credit
30 and the tax liability shall not be refundable but may be carried forward to any of the
31 taxpayer's four subsequent taxable years.

32 4. The department of elementary and secondary education shall establish, by rule,
33 guidelines and criteria for approval of business dropout abatement programs established
34 by school districts and businesses and for determining the eligibility of students for
35 participation in approved programs established pursuant to this section. Such
36 determinations for eligibility of students shall be based upon a definition of an at-risk
37 student as established by the department by rule. Businesses shall receive a fifty percent
38 tax credit up to two thousand dollars for up to four years for paying college tuition for
39 students who successfully complete the dropout abatement program, graduate from high
40 school and enter college.

41 5. A local school board may establish an approved program and apply to the
42 department of elementary and secondary education for approval of such program. A tax
43 credit may only be received pursuant to this section for expenditures for business dropout
44 abatement programs approved by the department. The school board of each district which
45 has an approved program shall annually certify to the department of elementary and
46 secondary education the number of eligible students participating in the program. The
47 principal of any school in a district which has an approved program may recommend to
48 the local school board those students who do not meet the definition of "at-risk" students
49 established pursuant to this section, and the school board may submit the names of such
50 students and the circumstances which justify the student's participation in an approved
51 program to the department of elementary and secondary education for approval of such
52 student's participation. If approved by the department, such students shall be considered
53 eligible students for participation in an approved program.

54 6. The department of elementary and secondary education shall provide written

55 notification to the department of revenue of each eligible student participating in an
56 approved program pursuant to this section, the student's school district, the name of the
57 qualified taxpayer approved to receive a tax credit on the basis of such eligible student's
58 participation in an approved program pursuant to this section and the amount of such
59 credit as determined in subsection 2 of this section.

60 7. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of this section
61 shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of chapter
62 536, RSMo.