

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 339

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BOYKINS, CURLS, VILLA, WILSON (42), HOSKINS,
HILGEMANN, SANDERS BROOKS, HUBBARD, JONES (Co-sponsors), DAUS, HAYWOOD,
JOHNSON (61), WALTON, CARNAHAN AND PARKER.

Read 1st time January 30, 2003, and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

0579L.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to urban teaching scholarships.

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 161.416, to read as follows:

**161.416. 1. There is hereby established the "Urban Flight Scholarship Program"
2 to be administered by the department of elementary and secondary education. As used in
3 this section, the term "eligible student" shall mean an individual who is enrolled in a
4 Missouri metropolitan or urban school district with a high "at-risk student population",
5 as shall be defined by the department of elementary and secondary education by rule. Any
6 rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created
7 under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with
8 and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section
9 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the
10 powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to
11 delay the effective date or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held
12 unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted
13 after August 28, 2003, shall be invalid and void.**

**14 2. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary education
15 shall make available to eligible students up to one hundred, four-year urban flight
16 scholarships in an amount that encompasses the total cost of eligible students' tuition and
17 fees at a four-year college or university located in Missouri. Such scholarships shall be**

18 available to eligible students who enter and make a commitment to pursue a teacher
19 education program approved by the department of elementary and secondary education
20 and offered by a four-year college or university located in Missouri, or who after the
21 completion of their baccalaureate degree enter teacher education and make a commitment
22 to teach in a metropolitan or urban school district with a high at-risk student population,
23 as defined by the department of elementary and secondary education. Every student
24 receiving scholarships under the provisions of this section shall teach in an elementary or
25 secondary public school in a metropolitan or urban school district with a high at-risk
26 student population in this state for a period of two years for every one year they received
27 a scholarship or the scholarship shall be treated as a loan to the student and interest at the
28 rate of nine and one-half percent per year shall be charged upon the unpaid balance of the
29 amount received from the date the student ceases to teach until the amount received is paid
30 back to the state. In order to provide for the servicing of such loans, the department of
31 elementary and secondary education may sell such loans to the higher education loan
32 authority of the state of Missouri created under sections 173.350 to 173.445, RSMo. For
33 each year that the student teaches, up to eight years, one-eighth of the amount which was
34 received under this section shall be applied against the total amount received and shall not
35 be subject to the repayment requirement of this section.

36 **3. The department of elementary and secondary education shall have the power to**
37 **and shall defer interest and principal payments under certain circumstances, which shall**
38 **include, but need not be limited to, the enrollment in a graduate program or service in any**
39 **branch of the armed forces of the United States.**

40 **4. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of scholarships or revenues**
41 **available, the department of elementary and secondary education may consider the**
42 **financial needs of the applicant.**

43 **5. The urban flight scholarship shall be funded in the following manner:**

44 **(1) Seventy-five percent of the urban flight scholarship shall be appropriated to the**
45 **department of elementary and secondary education; and**

46 **(2) Twenty-five percent of the urban flight scholarship shall be funded by local**
47 **school districts who participate in said program. Local school districts shall work with the**
48 **department of elementary and secondary education in establishing criteria and guidelines**
49 **for said program.**