

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 589

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES LOWE (44) (Sponsor) AND MOORE (Co-sponsor).

Read 1st time February 17, 2005 and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

1671L.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 209, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to real-time captioning of certain television programming.

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

Section A. Chapter 209, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 209.350, to read as follows:

- 3 **209.350. 1. To ensure effective communication of the content of all local news,**
4 **weather, and sports broadcasts to deaf and hearing-impaired Missourians, beginning**
5 **January 1, 2006, all television stations located in the state of Missouri with gross revenues**
6 **in excess of three million dollars a year shall provide real-time captioning of all local news,**
7 **weather, and sports programming. Because of its inability to provide maximum**
8 **information, the use of electronic newsroom technology shall not satisfy the requirements**
9 **of this section.**
- 10 **2. To avoid undue burden to television stations, all stations required to provide**
real-time captioning under this section may limit their expenditures for such captioning
to two percent of their annual gross revenues.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.