

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1275

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BAKER (123) (Sponsor), ERVIN, CORCORAN, BLACK, MUSCHANY, DIXON, HOBBS, BIVINS, MOORE, FLOOK, NOLTE, MUNZLINGER, FISHER, WETER, BEARDEN, FARES, SANDER, PHILLIPS, SCHAAF, WILSON (119), RUCKER, WHORTON, PAGE, BAKER (25) AND CHAPPELLE-NADAL (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time January 9, 2006 and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

4219L.01I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the establishment of a virtual school.

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 known as section 161.670, to read as follows:

161.670. 1. Notwithstanding any other law, prior to July 1, 2007, the state board of education shall establish a virtual school to serve school-age students residing in the state. The virtual school shall offer instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and/or Internet methods of communication. Any student under the age of twenty-one in grades kindergarten through twelve who resides in this state shall be eligible to enroll in the virtual school regardless of the student's physical location.

2. For purposes of calculation and distribution of state school aid, pupils enrolled in a virtual school shall be included in the pupil enrollment of the school district in which the pupil physically resides. The virtual school shall report to the district of residence the following information about each pupil served by the virtual school: name, address, eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch, limited English proficiency status, special education needs, and the number of courses in which the pupil is enrolled. The virtual school shall promptly notify the resident district when a pupil discontinues enrollment. A

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.

14 "full-time equivalent student" is a student who has successfully completed the instructional
15 equivalent of six credits per regular term. Each virtual course shall count as one class and
16 shall generate that portion of a full-time equivalent that a comparable course offered by
17 the school district would generate. In no case shall more than the full-time equivalency of
18 a regular term of attendance for a single student be used to claim state aid. Full-time
19 equivalent student credit completed shall be reported to the department of elementary and
20 secondary education in the manner prescribed by the department. Nothing in this section
21 shall prohibit students from enrolling in additional courses under a separate agreement
22 that includes terms for paying tuition or course fees.

23 3. When a school district has one or more resident pupils enrolled in a virtual
24 school program authorized by this section, the department of elementary and secondary
25 education shall disburse an amount corresponding to fifteen percent of the state aid under
26 sections 163.031 and 163.043, RSMo, attributable to such pupil to the resident district.
27 Subject to an annual appropriation by the general assembly, the department shall disburse
28 an amount corresponding to eighty-five percent of the state adequacy target attributable
29 to such pupil to the virtual school.

30 4. Except as specified in this section and as may be specified by rule of the state
31 board of education, the virtual school shall comply with all state laws and regulations
32 applicable to school districts, including but not limited to the Missouri school improvement
33 program (MSIP), adequate yearly progress (AYP), annual performance report (APR),
34 teacher certification, and curriculum standards. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term
35 is defined in section 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this
36 section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions
37 of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter
38 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
39 pursuant to chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and
40 annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
41 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2006, shall be invalid and
42 void.

✓