

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 689

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BAKER (123) (Sponsor), FLOOK,
NOLTE AND MOORE (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time January 31, 2007 and copies ordered printed.

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1426L.01I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to teacher mentoring standards.

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 161.375, to read as follows:

**161.375. 1. The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop
2 standards for high-quality mentoring for beginning teachers and beginning principals no
3 later than June 30, 2008. The standards shall be applicable to all public schools.**

**4 2. Such standards shall be established for both of the required years of mentoring
5 under subsection 3 of section 168.021, RSMo, and shall be based upon, but not be limited
6 to, the following principles:**

**7 (1) Every district shall have a teacher-driven mentor program in collaboration with
8 and support of the administration;**

**9 (2) Guidance and support are required for all beginning teachers, regardless of
10 when they enter the profession;**

**11 (3) Communication between mentors and beginning teachers is open and
12 confidential;**

**13 (4) Quality mentors are necessary to establish beginning teachers' trust and respect
14 for their colleagues and profession; and**

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.

15 (5) All staff members provide informal support for beginning teachers.

16 **3. Quality mentor programs shall include, but not be limited to, the following:**

17 (1) An introduction to the cultural environment of the community and the school
18 district;

19 (2) A systemic and ongoing evaluation by all stakeholders;

20 (3) An individualized plan for beginning teachers that aligns with the district's
21 goals and needs;

22 (4) Appropriate criteria for selecting mentors;

23 (5) Comprehensive mentor training;

24 (6) A complete list of responsibilities for the mentor, beginning teacher, and
25 administrators; and

26 (7) Sufficient time for mentors to observe beginning teachers and for the beginning
27 teachers to observe master teachers.

28 **4. In developing such standards, the department shall involve representatives from**
29 **the state teacher organizations, administration and principal organizations, Missouri**
30 **advisory council for the certification of educators as created by section 168.015, RSMo,**
31 **Missouri staff development council, and from colleges and universities.**

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