

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 515, Page 1, Section A, Line 2, by
2 inserting after all of the said section and line the following:
3

4 "9.138. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the first week of
5 March as [~~Math, Engineering, Technology and Science (METS) Week~~] "Science, Technology,
6 Engineering, and Math (STEM) Week", and recommending to the people of the state that the week
7 be appropriately observed through activities that will result in an increased awareness of the
8 importance of advancing community interest in [~~math, engineering, technology, and science~~]
9 science, technology, engineering, and math programs, and promote [~~METS~~] STEM careers
10 statewide in order to advance Missouri's workforce. The proclamation shall also recommend that
11 the week be observed with appropriate activities in public schools. Public and private involvement
12 in [~~METS~~] STEM week demonstrates that fostering and encouraging interest in the sciences is a
13 major factor in determining growth and success in school and will help students develop a focus on
14 technology-based careers after graduation.

15 161.264. 1. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary education
16 shall establish a statewide program to be known as the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Program"
17 to increase STEM career awareness among students in grades nine through twelve. For the purposes
18 of this section, "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

19 2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall promote the statewide
20 program beginning in the 2024-25 school year. The program shall introduce students in grades nine
21 through twelve to a wide variety of STEM careers and technology through an activity program that
22 involves participating in STEM-related activities at state, national, or international competitions.

23 3. (1) By January 1, 2024, the department of elementary and secondary education shall
24 solicit proposals to provide the activity program. By March 1, 2024, the department of elementary
25 and secondary education shall select a provider for the program.

26 (2) The department shall select a provider that presents quantitative or qualitative data
27 demonstrating the effectiveness of the program in any of the following areas:

28 (a) Helping teachers improve their instruction in STEM- related subjects;

29 (b) Increasing the likelihood that students will go on to study a STEM-related subject at a
30 four-year college upon graduation from high school; or

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1 (c) Increasing the likelihood that students will enter the STEM workforce upon graduation
2 from high school or college.

3 (3) The department shall select a provider that delivers a program that meets the following
4 criteria:

5 (a) Provides an activity program that is led by teachers who are fully certified to teach in
6 STEM-related subjects in grades nine through twelve under the laws governing the certification of
7 teachers in Missouri; and

8 (b) Facilitates a cohort of students in grades nine through twelve to participate in STEM-
9 related activities at state, national, or international competitions.

10 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections 2 and 3 of this section to the contrary, the
11 department of elementary and secondary education may choose a third-party nonprofit entity to
12 implement the statewide program, solicit proposals, and select a provider as described under
13 subsection 3 of this section.

14 5. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "STEM Career Awareness Activity
15 Fund". The fund shall consist of any appropriations, gifts, bequests, or public or private donations
16 to such fund. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170
17 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements of public moneys in accordance with
18 distribution requirements and procedures developed by the department of elementary and secondary
19 education. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be
20 used solely for the administration of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080
21 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the
22 credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same
23 manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
24 credited to the fund.

25 6. The department of elementary and secondary education may promulgate all necessary
26 rules and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that
27 term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall
28 become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if
29 applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers
30 vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to
31 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
32 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2023, shall be invalid and void."; and
33

34 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
35 accordingly.