

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 577

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SHIELDS.

1216H.02I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 167.903, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to workforce development in elementary and secondary education.

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

Section A. Section 167.903, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 167.903 and 167.907, to read as follows:

167.903. 1. **The department of elementary and secondary education shall establish a process by which** each student prior to ~~[his or her]~~ **the student's** ninth grade year at a public school, including a charter school, ~~[may]~~ **shall** develop with help from the **student's parent or guardian and the** school's guidance counselors ~~[a personal]~~ **an individual career and academic plan [of study]**, which shall be reviewed ~~[regularly, as needed]~~ **annually** by **the student**, school personnel, and the student's parent or guardian and updated based upon the needs of the student. Each plan shall present a sequence of courses and experiences that conclude with the student reaching ~~[his or her]~~ **the student's** postsecondary goals, with implementation of the plan of study transferring to the program of postsecondary education or training upon the student's high school graduation. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:

- 12 (1) Requirements for graduation from the school district or charter school;
- 13 (2) Career or postsecondary goals;
- 14 (3) Coursework or program of study related to career and postsecondary goals, which
- 15 shall include, if relevant, opportunities that the district or school may not directly offer;
- 16 (4) Grade-appropriate and career-related experiences, as outlined in the grade-level
- 17 expectations of the Missouri comprehensive guidance program; 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.

18 (5) Student assessments, interest inventories, or academic results needed to develop,
19 review, and revise the personal plan of study, which shall include, if relevant, assessments,
20 inventories, or academic results that the school district or charter school may not offer.

21 2. Each school district shall adopt a policy to permit the waiver of the requirements of
22 this section for any student with a disability if recommended by the student's IEP committee.
23 For purposes of this subsection, "IEP" means individualized education program.

24 **3. Prior to the completion of the second semester of the student's twelfth-grade**
25 **year, each student shall include, as part of the student's individual career and academic**
26 **plan, a declaration of the student's postsecondary plans including, but not limited to, the**
27 **following:**

28 (1) **Confirmation of employment upon graduation;**

29 (2) **Acceptance to an institution of higher education, whether a two-year**
30 **institution or a four-year institution;**

31 (3) **Acceptance to participate in a vocational, technical, or other training**
32 **program designed to prepare the student for employment; or**

33 (4) **Commitment to enlist in the Armed Forces of the United States.**

167.907. 1. **Beginning July 1, 2024, each school district shall establish a process**
2 **for students to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, as**
3 **maintained by the United States Department of Education.**

4 2. **A student or such student's parent or guardian may decline to complete or**
5 **submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid under subsection 1 of this section if**
6 **such student provides to such student's school:**

7 (1) **Written confirmation of a commitment to enlist in the Armed Forces of the**
8 **United States; or**

9 (2) **A written confirmation, signed by the student's parent or guardian, attesting**
10 **that the student understands what the application is and has chosen not to file such**
11 **application.**

12 3. **At any time, the superintendent or superintendent's designee shall exempt**
13 **such student from the requirement to complete or submit the application if such student**
14 **is unable to complete the application because of extenuating circumstances as**
15 **determined by the school district.**

16 4. **Unless a student or such student's parent or guardian chooses to exercise**
17 **options as described under subsection 2 of this section, such student shall complete and**
18 **submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid to receive a certificate of**
19 **graduation from any public school or charter school.**