



Michael L. Parson

GOVERNOR
STATE OF MISSOURI

June 30, 2023

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI
102nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Herewith I return to you Conference Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 2 entitled:

AN ACT

To appropriate money for the expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the State Board of Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the several divisions and programs thereof, to be expended only as provided in Article IV, Section 28 of the Constitution of Missouri, and to transfer money among certain funds for the period beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

Section 2.025

I hereby veto \$3,500,000 Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Federal Emergency Relief 2021 Fund for a technology service for supervision over school-issued electronic devices. The U.S. Department of Education dictates that ESSER funding should be used to prevent, prepare for, or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; for construction, renovation, and minor remodeling adhering to local and state requirements; and be awarded to recipients who comply with federal award requirements. Use of ESSER III funding for this purpose would reduce the amount of aid to be distributed to local education agencies for previously planned expenditures.

For payments to local education agencies for third-party vendor technology services.
From \$3,500,000 to \$0 from Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Federal Emergency Relief 2021 Fund.
From \$1,328,335,334 to \$1,324,835,334 in total for the section.

Section 2.030

I hereby veto \$955,000 general revenue for a primary substance use prevention not-for-profit organization. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, Missouri high school students are currently required to take one half credit of health education to be eligible to receive a high school diploma. Current health education curriculum adheres to the National Health Education Standards, which includes curriculum incorporating substance use awareness. Additionally, although it does not explicitly identify a specific vendor, this appropriation appears to describe a specific vendor's platform. The department is subject to state purchasing laws set forth in Chapter 34, RSMo, and must follow those laws when selecting a vendor rather than contracting with a particular vendor.

For a primary substance use prevention not-for-profit organization.

From \$955,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$80,027,012 to \$79,072,012 in total for the section.

Section 2.031

I hereby veto \$25,000,000 federal funds for the Close the Gap Program. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. The Fiscal Year 2023 budget includes \$50 million for this program, which has not yet been expended.

From \$10,500,000 to \$0 from Budget Stabilization Fund.

From \$39,500,000 to \$25,000,000 from Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Federal Emergency Relief 2021 Fund.

From \$50,000,000 to \$25,000,000 in total for the section.

Section 2.045

I hereby veto \$350,000 general revenue for teacher training organizations. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget

for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, this budget includes raising baseline teacher pay to \$38,000 and additional compensation for teachers through the Career Ladder program. It also includes \$1,700,000 for teacher training and recruitment programs in urban schools. This program is a virtual teacher training organization for college junior and senior students nationwide, but there is no requirement that the funding be restricted to supporting college students located in-state. Additionally, there are no known outcome measures to indicate that this additional state investment will recruit out-of-state teachers to Missouri.

For teacher training organizations to address learning loss and improve teacher recruitment efforts.

From \$350,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$2,050,000 to \$1,700,000 in total for the section.

Section 2.097

I hereby veto \$315,000 general revenue for instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, the proposed appropriation is not sufficient to meet the statewide need. This is a local responsibility with minimal statewide impact. Other funding mechanisms should be pursued in lieu of earmarked state funding for this project. Additionally, the budget fully funds the foundation formula. Each school district maintains discretion in allocating their resources for needs such as this.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$315,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$315,000 to \$0 in total for the section.

Section 2.103

I hereby veto \$2,500,000 general revenue for a statewide school safety software. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, although it does not explicitly identify a specific vendor, this appropriation appears to describe a specific vendor's platform. The department is subject to state purchasing laws set forth in Chapter 34, RSMo, and must follow those laws when selecting a vendor rather than contracting with a particular vendor. Additionally, this duplicates a program already being

provided by the Department of Public Safety. Outcome measures are necessary before the state can consider expanding the program further.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$2,500,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$2,500,000 to \$0 in total for the section.

Section 2.104

I hereby veto \$25,000 general revenue for providing school board member training. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, the proposed appropriation is not sufficient to meet the statewide need. This is a local responsibility with minimal statewide impact. Other funding mechanisms should be pursued in lieu of earmarked state funding for this project.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$25,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$25,000 to \$0 in total for the section.

Section 2.143

I hereby veto \$1,700,000 general revenue for grants to establish a mental health digital referral platform for students. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, although it does not explicitly identify a specific vendor, this appropriation appears to describe a specific vendor's platform. The department is subject to state purchasing laws set forth in Chapter 34, RSMo, and must follow those laws when selecting a vendor rather than contracting with a particular vendor. Additionally, this is a local responsibility with minimal statewide impact. Other funding mechanisms should be pursued in lieu of earmarked state funding for this project. The budget fully funds the foundation formula. Each school district maintains discretion in allocating their resources for these kinds of services as there is interest.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$1,700,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$1,700,000 to \$0 in total for the section.

Section 2.159

I hereby veto \$3,500,000 general revenue for transfer to the Postsecondary Advising Fund. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, this is a transfer into a fund that has no spending authority. Additionally, this program provides one-time state funding to support ongoing program costs, which could possibly jeopardize the program's future sustainability.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$3,500,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$3,500,000 to \$0 in total for the section.

Section 2.173

I hereby veto \$3,000,000 general revenue for youth digital mental health services. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, the Fiscal Year 2024 budget invests over \$35 million in 988 mental health hotline infrastructure to assist citizens statewide experiencing a mental health emergency. This program would be duplicative of those investments.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$3,000,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$3,000,000 to \$0 in total for the section.

Section 2.190

I hereby veto \$200,000 School Broadband Fund for facilitating the success of homeless children and youth. This is not an appropriate use of the School Broadband Fund.

For facilitating the identification, enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youths under Title IX, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015.

From \$200,000 to \$0 from School Broadband Fund.
From \$14,349,932 to \$14,149,932 in total for the section.

Section 2.241

I hereby veto \$2,000,000 general revenue for a classroom support staff grant program. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, this is a local responsibility with minimal statewide impact. Other funding mechanisms should be pursued in lieu of earmarked state funding for this project. Additionally, the budget fully funds the foundation formula and it is at each school district's discretion to allocate their resources as needed. Finally, this program provides one-time state funding to support ongoing program costs, which could possibly jeopardize the program's future sustainability.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$2,000,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$2,000,000 to \$0 in total for the section.

Section 2.300

I hereby veto \$1,073,000 general revenue for an early childhood education community needs assessment. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, this item would provide duplicate funding to an organization receiving appropriations in House Bill 5.

For a nonprofit organization for an early childhood education community needs assessment.
From \$1,073,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$30,190,175 to \$29,117,175 in total for the section.

Section 2.305

I hereby veto \$3,000,000 Title XIX – Federal Fund for home visitation services under the MO HealthNet program. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, only services rendered by Medicaid-enrolled providers are eligible for reimbursement through Title XIX funding. The

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education utilizes early childhood educators, who are not Medicaid enrolled providers, for home visitation programs, making this an ineligible use of funding.

For the purpose of funding home visitation service under the MO HealthNet program.

From \$3,000,000 to \$0 from Title XIX – Federal Fund.

From \$18,633,066 to \$15,633,066 in total for the section.

Section 2.360

I hereby veto \$7,692,315 general revenue for payments to school districts for children in residential placements. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly.

For payments to school districts for children in residential placements through the Department of Mental Health or the Department of Social Services pursuant to Section 167.26 RSMo.

From \$10,384,630 to \$2,692,315 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$15,384,630 to \$7,692,315 in total for the section.

Section 2.433

I hereby veto \$588,980 general revenue for legal fees and judgment for the Strain-Japan School District. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget that was passed by the Missouri General Assembly totals \$53.5 billion, over \$1.7 billion more than my recommended budget. Additionally, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation which is estimated to result in a loss of ongoing general revenues exceeding \$300 million and increasing ongoing general revenue expenditures by over \$200 million. In addition, Missouri has consistently maintained a AAA bond rating and we will ensure a balanced budget for years to come. In light of all of these factors, I have vetoed this provision in an effort to help ensure the financial stability of Missouri beyond my Administration and the current General Assembly. Further, this is an inappropriate use of State funds and should be borne by the affected parties.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$588,980 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$588,980 to \$0 in total for the section.

On June 30, 2023 I approved said Conference Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute House Bill No. 2, except for those items specifically vetoed and not approved.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Parson". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "M" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael L. Parson
Governor