

HB 674 -- EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

SPONSOR: Walsh Moore

This bill requires the Office of Administration to submit a report to the General Assembly by December 31st of each year beginning in 2023. The report's content is specified in the bill and relates to the "Missouri as a Model Employer" initiative under executive order 19-16.

The bill also establishes the "Missouri Employment First Act." All state agencies that provide employment-related services or services or support to persons with disabilities, are required to coordinate with other agencies, promote competitive integrated employment, and implement an employment first policy when providing services to persons with disabilities of working age. In addition, state agencies will offer specified information to all working-age persons with disabilities and to the parents or guardians of youth with a disability, as explained in the bill.

The bill provides that this shall not be construed as requiring any state agency or employer to give a preference in hiring to persons with disabilities, or require a state agency to perform an action not in conformity with federal law.

This bill is the same as HB 1924 (2022).