

House \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Offered By

1 AMEND Senate Substitute No. 2 for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 727, Page 37,  
2 Section 160.415, Line 295, by inserting after all of the said section and line the following:

3  
4 "160.518. 1. (1) For all school years ending before July 1, 2026, consistent with the  
5 provisions contained in section 160.526, the state board of education shall develop, modify, and  
6 revise, as necessary, a statewide assessment system that provides maximum flexibility for local  
7 school districts to determine the degree to which students in the public schools of the state are  
8 proficient in the knowledge, skills, and competencies adopted by such board pursuant to section  
9 160.514. The statewide assessment system shall assess problem solving, analytical ability,  
10 evaluation, creativity, and application ability in the different content areas and shall be performance-  
11 based to identify what students know, as well as what they are able to do, and shall enable teachers  
12 to evaluate actual academic performance. The statewide assessment system shall neither promote  
13 nor prohibit rote memorization and shall not include existing versions of tests approved for use  
14 pursuant to the provisions of section 160.257, nor enhanced versions of such tests. After the state  
15 board of education adopts and implements academic performance standards as required under  
16 section 161.855, the state board of education shall develop and adopt a standardized assessment  
17 instrument under this section based on the academic performance standards adopted under section  
18 161.855. The statewide assessment system shall measure, where appropriate by grade level, a  
19 student's knowledge of academic subjects including, but not limited to, reading skills, writing skills,  
20 mathematics skills, world and American history, forms of government, geography and science.

21 (2) (a) For the 2026-27 school year and all subsequent school years, the state board of  
22 education shall select an available existing statewide assessment that satisfies the federal pupil  
23 testing mandates in effect under Pub. L. 114-95, as amended, and any applicable modifications or  
24 waivers approved under such federal law, for each school year.

25 (b) The assessments shall:

26 a. Be aligned to state standards;

27 b. Provide access to national norms;

28 c. Measure student growth; and

29 d. Assess student performance relative to grade level.

Action Taken \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1           (c) Except as otherwise provided in this section or section 160.522, results from assessments  
2 created under this subsection shall be used only for the purpose of compliance with the requirements  
3 of such federal law and for no other purpose.

4           (d) As permitted by federal law and applicable waivers, the state board of education shall  
5 ensure that standardized assessments are administered to the minimum extent practicable and reduce  
6 instructional time to the minimum extent practicable while still appropriately and effectively  
7 assessing the academic achievement of students.

8           ~~2.The statewide assessment system shall only permit the academic performance of students~~  
9 ~~in each school in the state to be tracked against prior academic performance in the same school.~~

10           ~~3.The state board of education shall suggest, but not mandate, criteria for a school to~~  
11 ~~demonstrate that its students learn the knowledge, skills and competencies at exemplary levels~~  
12 ~~worthy of imitation by students in other schools in the state and nation. Exemplary levels shall be~~  
13 ~~measured by the statewide assessment system developed pursuant to subsection 1 of this section, or~~  
14 ~~until said statewide assessment system is available, by indicators approved for such use by the state~~  
15 ~~board of education. The provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the commissioner~~  
16 ~~of education may, upon request of the school district, present a plan for the waiver of rules and~~  
17 ~~regulations to any such school, to be known as "Outstanding Schools Waivers", consistent with the~~  
18 ~~provisions of subsection 4 of this section.~~

19           ~~4.For any school that meets the criteria established by the state board of education for three~~  
20 ~~successive school years pursuant to the provisions of subsection 3 of this section, by August first~~  
21 ~~following the third such school year, the commissioner of education shall present a plan to the~~  
22 ~~superintendent of the school district in which such school is located for the waiver of ru les and~~  
23 ~~regulations to promote flexibility in the operations of the school and to enhance and encourage~~  
24 ~~efficiency in the delivery of instructional services. The provisions of other law to the contrary~~  
25 ~~notwithstanding, the plan presented to the superintendent shall provide a summary waiver, with no~~  
26 ~~conditions, for the pupil testing requirements pursuant to section 160.257, in the school. Further, the~~  
27 ~~provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the plan shall detail a means for the waiver~~  
28 ~~of requirements otherwise imposed on the school related to the authority of the state board of~~  
29 ~~education to classify school districts pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 161.092 and such other~~  
30 ~~rules and regulations as determined by the commissioner of education, excepting such waivers shall~~  
31 ~~be confined to the school and not other schools in the district unless such other schools meet the~~  
32 ~~criteria established by the state board of education consistent with subsection 3 of this section and~~  
33 ~~the waivers shall not include the requirements contained in this section and section 160.514. Any~~  
34 ~~waiver provided to any school as outlined in this subsection shall be void on June thirtieth of any~~  
35 ~~school year in which the school fails to meet the criteria established by the state board of education~~  
36 ~~consistent with subsection 3 of this section.~~

37           ~~5.The score on any assessment test developed pursuant to this section or this chapter of any~~  
38 ~~student for whom English is a second language shall not be counted until such time as such student~~

1 ~~has been educated for three full school years in a school in this state, or in any other state, in which~~  
2 ~~English is the primary language.]~~

3 2. (1) For the 2026-27 school year and all subsequent school years, local school districts  
4 and charter schools shall develop or adopt curriculum-embedded measures of student learning that  
5 are authentic and relevant to a student's learning and experiences. Such measures may include  
6 portfolios, performance-based assessments, and projects with public demonstrations.

7 (2) School districts and charter schools shall create local measures of student learning that  
8 are:

9 (a) Authentic to student discipline-specific learning, experience, and the demonstration of  
10 performance-based learning;

11 (b) Anchored in challenging and relevant curricula and designed to enhance student  
12 involvement through engaging tasks and opportunities for students to document their learning;

13 (c) Evaluated and graded in a manner that provides the student with meaningful feedback  
14 that can be used for academic improvement;

15 (d) Developed by teachers in consultation with school administrators, students, parents, and  
16 the community; and

17 (e) Available for demonstration and community inspection.

18 (3) Local assessments and assessment systems shall be created in conjunction with teachers,  
19 administrators, students, parents, and the community to reflect a complete picture of student  
20 learning and shall also be reflective of statewide academic standards. School districts and charter  
21 schools are encouraged to support communities of practice and provide the time and resources  
22 necessary to create such assessments.

23 (4) School districts and charter schools shall create multiple school quality indicators  
24 aligned to core areas of school quality and function and appropriate measures for each indicator.

25 (5) Local assessments and school quality indicators may be submitted to the department for  
26 review and comment. The department shall, by rule, establish a process for such review and  
27 comment. The department may support local development of curriculum-embedded assessments by  
28 developing model units with embedded assessments, which school districts and charter schools may  
29 adopt or adapt to develop their own assessments. The department may also identify and catalog  
30 high-quality curricula that include embedded assessments.

31 (6) Any local assessment or assessment system or local school quality indicator submitted to  
32 the department may be used by any school district or charter school and results may be added to the  
33 school report card along with any technical comment from the department's review.

34 [6-] 3. The state board of education shall identify or, if necessary, establish one or more  
35 developmentally appropriate alternate assessments for students who receive special educational  
36 services, as that term is defined pursuant to section 162.675. In the development of such alternate  
37 assessments, the state board shall establish an advisory panel consisting of a majority of active  
38 special education teachers residing in Missouri and other education professionals as appropriate to  
39 research available assessment options. The advisory panel shall attempt to identify preexisting

1 developmentally appropriate alternate assessments but shall, if necessary, develop alternate  
2 assessments and recommend one or more alternate assessments for adoption by the state board. The  
3 state board shall consider the recommendations of the advisory council in establishing such alternate  
4 assessment or assessments. Any student who receives special educational services, as that term is  
5 defined pursuant to section 162.675, shall be assessed by an alternate assessment established  
6 pursuant to this subsection upon a determination by the student's individualized education program  
7 team that such alternate assessment is more appropriate to assess the student's knowledge, skills and  
8 competencies than the assessment developed pursuant to subsection 1 of this section. The alternate  
9 assessment shall evaluate the student's independent living skills, which include how effectively the  
10 student addresses common life demands and how well the student meets standards for personal  
11 independence expected for someone in the student's age group, sociocultural background, and  
12 community setting.

13 ~~[7-]~~ 4. The state board of education shall also develop recommendations regarding alternate  
14 assessments for any military dependent who relocates to Missouri after the commencement of a  
15 school term, in order to accommodate such student while ensuring that he or she is proficient in the  
16 knowledge, skills, and competencies adopted under section 160.514.

17 161.092. The state board of education shall:

18 (1) Adopt rules governing its own proceedings and formulate policies for the guidance of  
19 the commissioner of education and the department of elementary and secondary education;

20 (2) Carry out the educational policies of the state relating to public schools that are provided  
21 by law and supervise instruction in the public schools;

22 (3) Direct the investment of all moneys received by the state to be applied to the capital of  
23 any permanent fund established for the support of public education within the jurisdiction of the  
24 department of elementary and secondary education and see that the funds are applied to the branches  
25 of educational interest of the state that by grant, gift, devise or law they were originally intended,  
26 and if necessary institute suit for and collect the funds and return them to their legitimate channels;

27 (4) Cause to be assembled information which will reflect continuously the condition and  
28 management of the public schools of the state;

29 (5) Require of county clerks or treasurers, boards of education or other school officers,  
30 recorders and treasurers of cities, towns and villages, copies of all records required to be made by  
31 them and all other information in relation to the funds and condition of schools and the management  
32 thereof that is deemed necessary;

33 (6) Provide ~~[blanks]~~ forms and online tools suitable for use by officials in reporting the  
34 information required by the board;

35 (7) When conditions demand, cause the laws relating to schools to be published in a  
36 separate volume, with pertinent notes and comments, for the guidance of those charged with the  
37 execution of the laws;

38 (8) Grant, without fee except as provided in section 168.021, certificates of qualification and  
39 licenses to teach in any of the public schools of the state, establish requirements therefor, formulate

1 regulations governing the issuance thereof, and cause the certificates to be revoked for the reasons  
2 and in the manner provided in section 168.071;

3 (9) (a) For all school years ending before July 1, 2027, classify the public schools of the  
4 state, subject to limitations provided by law and subdivision (14) of this section, establish  
5 requirements for the schools of each class, and formulate rules governing the inspection and  
6 accreditation of schools preparatory to classification, with such requirements taking effect not less  
7 than two years from the date of adoption of the proposed rule by the state board of education,  
8 provided that this condition shall not apply to any requirement for which a time line for adoption is  
9 mandated in either federal or state law~~].—Such rules shall include a process to allow any district that~~  
10 ~~is accredited without provision that does not meet the state board's promulgated criteria for a~~  
11 ~~classification designation of accredited with distinction to propose alternative criteria to the state~~  
12 ~~board to be classified as accredited with distinction]~~, and further provided, that this condition shall  
13 not apply to accreditation by an approved accrediting agency identified under this subdivision; and

14 (b) On or before June 30, 2025, identify and recognize a minimum of two national school  
15 accreditation agencies from which any district may seek to obtain accreditation and specify that, for  
16 the 2027-28 school year and all subsequent school years, any district with current accreditation from  
17 at least one of the identified national school accreditation agencies shall be considered to have full  
18 accreditation status without provision for all purposes of law and rule. A district that has not  
19 obtained accreditation under this subdivision shall not be considered unaccredited or provisionally  
20 accredited for any purpose of law;

21 (10) Make an annual report on or before the first Wednesday after the first day of January to  
22 the general assembly or, when it is not in session, to the governor for publication and transmission to  
23 the general assembly. The report shall be for the last preceding school year, and shall include:

24 (a) A statement of the number of public schools in the state, the number of pupils attending  
25 the schools, their sex, and the branches taught;

26 (b) A statement of the number of teachers employed, their sex, their professional training,  
27 and their average salary;

28 (c) A statement of the receipts and disbursements of public school funds of every  
29 description, their sources, and the purposes for which they were disbursed;

30 (d) Suggestions for the improvement of public schools; and

31 (e) Any other information relative to the educational interests of the state that the law  
32 requires or the board deems important;

33 (11) Make an annual report to the general assembly and the governor concerning  
34 coordination with other agencies and departments of government that support family literacy  
35 programs and other services which influence educational attainment of children of all ages;

36 (12) Require from the chief officer of each division of the department of elementary and  
37 secondary education, on or before the thirty-first day of August of each year, reports containing  
38 information the board deems important and desires for publication;

1           (13) Cause fifty copies of its annual report to be reserved for the use of each division of the  
2 state department of elementary and secondary education, and ten copies for preservation in the state  
3 library;

4           (14) Promulgate rules under which the board shall classify the public schools of the state  
5 subject to the limitations of subdivision (9) of this section; provided that the appropriate scoring  
6 guides, instruments, and procedures used in determining the accreditation status of a district shall be  
7 subject to a public meeting upon notice in a newspaper of general circulation in each of the three  
8 most populous cities in the state and also a newspaper that is a certified minority business enterprise  
9 or woman-owned business enterprise in each of the two most populous cities in the state, and notice  
10 to each district board of education, each superintendent of a school district, and to the speaker of the  
11 house of representatives, the president pro tem of the senate, and the members of the joint  
12 committee on education, at least fourteen days in advance of the meeting, which shall be conducted  
13 by the department of elementary and secondary education not less than ninety days prior to their  
14 application in accreditation, with all comments received to be reported to the state board of  
15 education;

16           (15) Have other powers and duties prescribed by law."; and

17  
18 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references  
19 accordingly.