

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By

1 AMEND Senate Substitute No. 2 for Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 727, Page 85,
2 Section 166.700, Line 50, by inserting after all of the said section and line the following:

3
4 "166.705. 1. A parent of a qualified student may establish a Missouri empowerment
5 scholarship account for the student by entering into a written agreement with an educational
6 assistance organization. The agreement shall provide that:

7 (1) The qualified student shall enroll in a qualified school and receive an education in at
8 least the subjects of English language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science;

9 (2) Except for a qualified student who is in the custody of the state, the qualified student
10 shall not be enrolled in a public school operated by, or a charter school located within, the qualified
11 student's district of residence and shall release the district of residence from all obligations to
12 educate the qualified student while the qualified student is enrolled in the program. This
13 subdivision shall not be construed to relieve the student's district of residence from the obligation to
14 conduct an evaluation for disabilities;

15 (3) The qualified student shall receive a grant, in the form of moneys deposited in
16 accordance with section 135.714, in the qualified student's Missouri empowerment scholarship
17 account;

18 (4) The moneys deposited in the qualified student's Missouri empowerment scholarship
19 account shall be used only for the following expenses of the qualified student:

20 (a) ~~[Tuition or fees at a qualified school;]~~

21 ~~[(b)]~~ Textbooks required by a qualified school;

22 ~~[(e)]~~ (b) Educational therapies or services from a licensed or accredited practitioner or
23 provider including, but not limited to, licensed or accredited paraprofessionals or educational aides;

24 ~~[(d)]~~ (c) Tutoring services;

25 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) Curriculum;

26 ~~[(f)]~~ ~~[Tuition or fees for a private virtual school;]~~

27 ~~[(g)]~~ (e) Fees for a nationally standardized norm-referenced achievement test, advanced
28 placement examinations, international baccalaureate examinations, or any examinations related to
29 college or university admission;

30 ~~[(h)]~~ (f) Fees for management of the Missouri empowerment scholarship account by firms
31 selected by the educational assistance organization;

32 ~~[(i)]~~ (g) Services provided by a public school including, but not limited to, individual
33 classes and extracurricular programs;

34 ~~[(j)]~~ (h) Computer hardware or other technological devices that are used to help meet the
35 qualified student's educational needs and that are approved by an educational assistance
36 organization;

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1 ~~[(k)]~~ (i) Fees for summer education programs and specialized after-school education
2 programs;

3 ~~[(H)]~~ (j) Transportation costs for mileage to and from a qualified school; and
4 (5) Moneys deposited in the qualified student's Missouri empowerment scholarship account
5 shall not be used for the following:

6 (a) Consumable educational supplies including, but not limited to, paper, pens, pencils, or
7 markers;

8 (b) Tuition at a private school located outside of the state of Missouri; and

9 (c) Payments or reimbursements to any person related within the third degree of
10 consanguinity or affinity to a qualified student.

11 2. Missouri empowerment scholarship accounts are renewable on an annual basis upon
12 request of the parent of a qualified student. Notwithstanding any changes to the qualified student's
13 multidisciplinary evaluation team plan, a student who has previously qualified for a Missouri
14 empowerment scholarship account shall remain eligible to apply for renewal until the student
15 completes high school and submits scores to the state treasurer from a nationally standardized norm-
16 referenced achievement test, advanced placement examination, international baccalaureate
17 examination, or any examination related to college or university admission purchased with Missouri
18 empowerment scholarship account funds.

19 3. A signed agreement under this section shall satisfy the compulsory school attendance
20 requirements of section 167.031.

21 4. A qualified school or a provider of services purchased under this section shall not share,
22 refund, or rebate any Missouri empowerment scholarship account moneys with the parent or
23 qualified student in any manner.

24 5. If a qualified student withdraws from the program by enrolling in a school other than a
25 qualified school or is disqualified from the program under the provisions of section 166.710, the
26 qualified student's Missouri empowerment scholarship account shall be closed and any remaining
27 funds shall be returned to the educational assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified
28 students. Under such circumstances, the obligation to provide an education for such student shall
29 transfer back to the student's district of residence.

30 6. Any funds remaining in a qualified student's Missouri empowerment scholarship account
31 at the end of a school year shall remain in the account and shall not be returned to the educational
32 assistance organization. Any funds remaining in a qualified student's Missouri empowerment
33 scholarship account upon graduation from a qualified school shall be returned to the educational
34 assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified students.

35 7. Moneys received under sections 166.700 to 166.720 shall not constitute Missouri taxable
36 income to the parent of the qualified student."; and

37
38 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
39 accordingly.