

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 5577H.011  
 Bill No.: HB 2673  
 Subject: Education, Higher; Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development  
 Type: Original  
 Date: April 22, 2024

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies provisions relating to the authority to confer degrees at public institutions of higher education.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Colleges and Universities*	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other State Funds</u></b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>

\*This proposal allows other universities to confer degrees currently conferred only by the University of Missouri (UM). It is assumed if other universities decide to offer degrees in programs currently only conferred by UM that the administrative costs could exceed \$250,000 annually and that revenue (tuition and fees) would move from one university to another and would net to \$0.

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

#### §§172.280, 173.005 & 174.160 – Authority to confer degrees at colleges/universities

Officials from the **University of Missouri System (UM)** state the immediate fiscal impact of this bill on the University of Missouri System is difficult to predict, but it is reasonable to believe that starting new graduate, professional and engineering programs at other institutions will create increased administrative expenses at other institutions and cause a corresponding loss of state funding to the UM System and its campuses, relative to if said programs were offered in partnership with the University.

Officials from **Northwest Missouri State University, Missouri State University** and the **University of Central Missouri (UCM)** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary.

**Oversight** assumes UM could experience a negative fiscal impact as a result of this proposal since students could opt to attend another university to obtain their desired degree and that other universities in Missouri would incur additional administrative expenses starting up/adding new programs. The administrative expenses may or may not be offset by an increase in enrollment. Therefore, for fiscal note purposes, Oversight assumes this proposal will have a \$0 to unknown negative fiscal impact on universities. It is further assumed the net effect on tuition/fees lost by UM and received by other universities will not be significantly different. In addition, it is assumed the impact could be greater than \$250,000 if even one university decided to create a new graduate, professional and/or engineering program at their institution. Oversight will range the impact from \$0 to an unknown amount.

Officials from the **Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note.

**Oversight** only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other universities were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
<b>COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES</b>			
<u>Costs – Colleges &amp; Universities</u> (§§172.280, 173.005 & 174.160) – potential increased administrative costs p.3	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>	<b>\$0 to (Unknown)</b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill relates to the authority to confer degrees at public institutions of higher education. The bill repeals the following provisions:

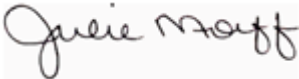
- The University of Missouri will be the State’s only public research university and the exclusive grantor of research doctorates and first-professional degrees, including dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine (Section 172.280);
- The University of Missouri will be the State’s only public research university and the exclusive grantor of research doctorates and first-professional degrees, including dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine (Section 173.005); and
- Degrees in engineering may be conferred only by the University of Missouri or by a public institution of higher education in collaboration with the University of Missouri,

with the University of Missouri being the degree-granting institution, unless the University of Missouri declines to collaborate with such institution (Section 174.160).

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development  
University of Missouri System  
Northwestern Missouri State University  
Missouri State University  
University of Central Missouri



Julie Morff  
Director  
April 22, 2024



Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
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