SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2147

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HENDERSON.

4687H.01I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 160.518, 160.522, 161.092, 161.1090, and 161.1095, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof six new sections relating to the statewide assessment system.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 160.518, 160.522, 161.092, 161.1090, and 161.1095, RSMo, are repealed and six new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 160.518, 160.522, 160.523, 161.092, 161.1090, and 161.1095, to read as follows:

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

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

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17 limited to, reading skills, writing skills, mathematics skills, world and American history, 18 forms of government, geography and science.

- (2) This subsection shall apply until the Missouri department of elementary and secondary education applies for and receives a waiver from complying with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, as amended, or until July 1, 2026, whichever occurs later.
- [2. The statewide assessment system shall only permit the academic performance of students in each school in the state to be tracked against prior academic performance in the same school.
- 3. The state board of education shall suggest, but not mandate, criteria for a school to demonstrate that its students learn the knowledge, skills and competencies at exemplary levels worthy of imitation by students in other schools in the state and nation. Exemplary levels shall be measured by the statewide assessment system developed pursuant to subsection 1 of this section, or until said statewide assessment system is available, by indicators approved for such use by the state board of education. The provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the commissioner of education may, upon request of the school district, present a plan for the waiver of rules and regulations to any such school, to be known as "Outstanding Schools Waivers", consistent with the provisions of subsection 4 of this section.
- 4. For any school that meets the criteria established by the state board of education for three successive school years pursuant to the provisions of subsection 3 of this section, by August first following the third such school year, the commissioner of education shall present a plan to the superintendent of the school district in which such school is located for the waiver of rules and regulations to promote flexibility in the operations of the school and to enhance and encourage efficiency in the delivery of instructional services. The provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the plan presented to the superintendent shall provide a summary waiver, with no conditions, for the pupil testing requirements pursuant to section 160.257, in the school. Further, the provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the plan shall detail a means for the waiver of requirements otherwise imposed on the school related to the authority of the state board of education to classify school districts pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 161.092 and such other rules and regulations as determined by the commissioner of education, excepting such waivers shall be confined to the school and not other schools in the district unless such other schools meet the criteria established by the state board of education consistent with subsection 3 of this section and the waivers shall not include the requirements contained in this section and section 160.514. Any waiver provided to any school as outlined in this subsection shall be void on June thirtieth of any school year in which the school fails to meet the criteria established by the state board of education consistent with subsection 3 of this section.

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5. The score on any assessment test developed pursuant to this section or this chapter of any student for whom English is a second language shall not be counted until such time as 56 such student has been educated for three full school years in a school in this state, or in any other state, in which English is the primary language.

- 2. (1) The state board of education shall select an available existing statewide assessment that satisfies the pupil testing mandates in effect for each school year under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, as amended.
- (2) This subsection shall apply in the school year immediately following the school year in which the Missouri department of elementary and secondary education applies for and receives a waiver from complying with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, as amended, or beginning July 1, 2026, whichever occurs later.
 - 3. The assessment shall:
 - (1) Be student centered:
- (2) Use assessments across each school year in the subjects and grade levels tested;
 - (3) Support teaching, learning, and program improvement;
 - (4) Build a summative profile of student learning and proficiency;
- 71 (5) Be aligned to state standards;
- 72 (6) Adapt within, above, and below grade level to reveal student learning level;
- 73 (7) Show student skill evolution;
- 74 (8) Provide an opportunity for all students to be challenged;
- 75 (9) Provide access to national norms;
- 76 (10) Measure growth during and across years;
 - (11) Assess student performance relative to grade level; and
- (12) Provide multiple opportunities for students to show proficiency. 78
 - 4. Except as otherwise provided in this section or section 160.522, results from assessments created under subsection 3 of this section shall be used only for the purpose of compliance with the requirements of such federal Every Student Succeeds Act and for no other purpose. As permitted by federal law, the state board of education shall ensure that standardized assessments are administered to the minimum extent practicable and reduce instructional time to the minimum extent practicable while appropriately and effectively assessing the academic achievement of students.
 - 5. (1) To the extent and as required by federal law, the state board of education shall create a single statewide accountability system for all public schools and charter schools to improve student academic achievement and school success.
 - The accountability system shall annually measure the following five indicators of student performance:

91 (a) Academic achievement;

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- 92 (b) Academic progress for elementary schools;
- 93 (c) Graduation rate for high schools;
- 94 (d) Progress in achieving English language proficiency; and
- 95 (e) School quality or student success.
- 6. The state board of education shall identify or, if necessary, establish one or more 97 developmentally appropriate alternate assessments for students who receive special 98 educational services, as that term is defined pursuant to section 162.675. In the development of such alternate assessments, the state board shall establish an advisory panel consisting of a majority of active special education teachers residing in Missouri and 100 other education professionals as appropriate to research available assessment options. The 102 advisory panel shall attempt to identify preexisting developmentally appropriate alternate 103 assessments but shall, if necessary, develop alternate assessments and recommend one or 104 more alternate assessments for adoption by the state board. The state board shall consider the 105 recommendations of the advisory council in establishing such alternate assessment or 106 assessments. Any student who receives special educational services, as that term is defined 107 pursuant to section 162.675, shall be assessed by an alternate assessment established pursuant 108 to this subsection upon a determination by the student's individualized education program team that such alternate assessment is more appropriate to assess the student's knowledge, 109 110 skills and competencies than the assessment developed pursuant to subsection 1 of this section. The alternate assessment shall evaluate the student's independent living skills, which 112 include how effectively the student addresses common life demands and how well the student meets standards for personal independence expected for someone in the student's age group, sociocultural background, and community setting.
 - The state board of education shall also develop recommendations regarding alternate assessments for any military dependent who relocates to Missouri after the commencement of a school term, in order to accommodate such student while ensuring that [he or she] such student is proficient in the knowledge, skills, and competencies adopted under section 160.514.
 - 160.522. 1. (1) The department of elementary and secondary education shall produce or cause to be produced, at least annually, a school accountability report card for each public school district, each public school building in a school district, [and] each charter school [in the state], and each virtual school authorized under section 161.670. The report card shall be designed to satisfy state and federal requirements for the disclosure of statistics about students, staff, finances, academic achievement, and other indicators. The purpose of the report card shall be to provide convenient and understandable access to federal, state, and local educational statistics and accountability information for parents, taxpayers, school

9 personnel, legislators, and the print and broadcast news media in a standardized, easily 10 accessible form.

- (2) Beginning in the 2024-25 school year, the school accountability report card shall be established and maintained in the form of an accountability dashboard for all public schools, charter schools, and local educational agencies. Such dashboard shall be maintained on the department's website and reachable by a clearly labeled link on the website home page.
- 2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop a standard form for the school accountability [report eard] dashboard. The information reported shall include, but not be limited to, the [district's] following information reported by each school district, charter school, or virtual school:
 - (1) The most recent accreditation rating[-];
 - (2) Accountability system measurements under section 160.518, as applicable, including, but not limited to, academic achievement indicators and academic progress indicators, which shall contain at least the following:
 - (a) Academic achievement;
- 25 (b) Academic progress for elementary schools;
- 26 (c) Graduation rate for high schools;
- 27 (d) Progress in achieving English language proficiency; and
- 28 (e) School quality or student success;
- 29 **(3)** Enrollment[-];

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- 30 (4) Rates of pupil attendance[-];
- 31 (5) High school dropout rate and graduation rate[-];
- 32 **(6)** The number and rate of suspensions of ten days or longer and expulsions of pupils 33 [7];
- 34 (7) The [district] ratio of students to administrators and students to classroom or virtual teachers[7];
- 36 **(8)** The average years of experience of professional staff and advanced degrees 37 earned[5];
- 38 **(9)** Student achievement, **growth, and other indicators** as measured through the statewide and local assessment [system] systems developed pursuant to section 160.518 by each school district, charter school, or virtual school, as applicable;
- 41 (10) Student scores on the ACT, along with the percentage of graduates taking the test 42 [-];
- 43 (11) Average teachers' and administrators' salaries compared to the state averages [-];

(12) Average per-pupil current expenditures for the district, **charter school**, **or** 45 **virtual school** as a whole and by attendance center as reported to the department of 46 elementary and secondary education[5];

- (13) The adjusted tax rate of the district, charter school, or virtual school;
- (14) The assessed valuation of the district[, percent];
- **(15)** The percentage of the district, charter school, or virtual school operating 50 budget received from state, federal, and local sources[, the percent];
 - (16) The percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch[5];
 - (17) Data on the [percent] percentage of students continuing their education in postsecondary programs[7];
 - (18) Information about the job placement rate for students who complete district, charter school, or virtual school vocational education programs[5];
 - (19) Whether the school district, **charter school**, **or virtual school** currently has a state-approved gifted education program[-]; and
 - (20) The percentage and number of students who are currently being served in the district's, charter school's, or virtual school's state-approved gifted education program.
 - 3. The report card shall permit the disclosure of data on a school-by-school basis, but the reporting shall not be personally identifiable to any student or education professional in the state.
 - 4. [The report card shall identify each school or attendance center that has been identified as a priority school under sections 160.720 and 161.092.] The [report also] dashboard shall identify attendance centers that have been [categorized under federal law as needing improvement or requiring specific school improvement strategies] designated by the department as in need of intervention in accordance with the provisions of sections 161.1080 to 161.1130 and shall display the information required as part of a school turnaround plan under subsection 4 of section 161.1095 or provide a link to such information on such attendance center's website.
 - 5. The [report eard] dashboard shall not limit or discourage other methods of public reporting and accountability by local school districts and charter schools. Districts and charter schools shall provide information included in the [report eard] dashboard to parents, community members, and the print and broadcast news media[, and legislators] by December first annually or as soon thereafter as the information is available to the district or charter school, giving preference to methods that incorporate the reporting into substantive official communications such as student report cards. The school district or charter school shall provide a printed [copy] summary of the district-level or school-level [report card] dashboard to any patron upon request and shall make reasonable efforts to supply businesses such as, but not limited to, real estate and employment firms with copies or other information

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81 about the reports so that parents and businesses from outside the district who may be 82 contemplating relocation have access.

6. For purposes of completing and distributing the annual [report card] dashboard summary as prescribed in this section, a school district may include the data from a charter school located within such school district, provided the local board of education or special administrative board for such district and the charter school reach mutual agreement for the inclusion of the data from the charter schools [and the terms of such agreement are approved 88 by the state board of education]. The charter school shall not be required to be a part of the local educational agency of such school district and may maintain a separate local educational agency status.

160.523. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

- (1) "Department", the department of elementary and secondary education;
- (2) "Grade-level equivalence", a metric developed and used by the department to show a student's proximity to doing grade-level work;
- 5 (3) "Parent", a parent, guardian, or other person having control or custody of a 6 student.
 - 2. Grade-level equivalence, as developed and used under this section, shall consist of a student's knowledge of academic subjects by grade level and performancelevel descriptors indicating whether such student is ready for the next grade, course, or level of education.
 - 3. The department shall establish panels to review and revise the performancelevel descriptors for each academic subject and grade level. Such performance-level descriptors shall consist of the following:
 - (1) Advanced, which shall indicate that such student:
- 15 Demonstrates superior performance on challenging grade-level subject 16 matter:
 - (b) Is above such student's current grade or level of education; and
 - (c) Is ready for, at a minimum, the next grade, course, or level of education;
 - (2) Proficient, which shall indicate that such student:
- 20 (a) Demonstrates mastery over all appropriate grade-level standards and has 21 introductory-level knowledge for the next grade, course, or level of education;
- 22 (b) May be above such student's current grade or level of education in some 23 areas: and
 - (c) Is ready for the next grade, course, or level of education;
- 2.5 (3) Grade level, which shall indicate that such student:
 - (a) Demonstrates mastery over appropriate grade-level subject matter;
- 27 (b) Is at such student's current grade or level of education; and

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28 (c) May be ready, with appropriate reinforcement, for the next grade, course, or 29 level of education;

- (4) Basic, which shall indicate that such student:
- 31 Demonstrates partial mastery of the essential knowledge and skills 32 appropriate to such student's grade, course, or level of education;
 - (b) May not be at such student's current grade or level of education; and
- 34 (c) May not be ready, without appropriate remediation, for the next grade, course, or level of education; and 35
 - (5) Below basic, which shall indicate that such student:
 - (a) Has failed to perform, at a minimum, at the limited knowledge level necessary for such student's grade, course, or level of education;
 - (b) Is not at such student's current grade or level of education; and
 - (c) Has been determined to be at the specific lower grade or level of education measured by and listed in such student's statewide assessment score.
 - 4. Such grade-level equivalence shall be determined at the same time each student's academic performance is measured by the statewide assessment system developed under section 160.518.
 - 5. Such grade-level equivalence shall be provided at the same time such student's statewide assessment score is reported to such student or such student's parent.
 - 6. No data related to grade-level equivalence shall be disclosed in any form that allows the personal identification of any student to any individual or entity, except such student or such student's parent.
 - 7. For the 2025-26 school year and all subsequent school years, the school accountability report card under section 160.522 shall include information about each school district's and charter school's grade-level equivalence as follows:
 - (1) Such grade-level equivalence shall be determined at the same time each student's academic performance is measured by the statewide assessment system developed under section 160.518;
- Such grade-level equivalence shall be provided at the same time such student's statewide assessment score is reported to such student or such student's 57 58 parent;
 - (3) Data related to grade-level equivalence shall be searchable on a building-bybuilding, school-by-school, district-by-district, and statewide basis in the department's electronic school accountability report card;
- 62 (4) Data related to grade-level equivalence shall display the percentage of students whose performance-level descriptor is grade level or above on a building-by-63 building, school-by-school, district-by-district, and statewide basis; and 64

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(5) No data related to grade-level equivalence shall be disclosed in any form that allows the personal identification of any student to any individual or entity except such student or such student's parent.

161.092. The state board of education shall:

- Adopt rules governing its own proceedings and formulate policies for the guidance of the commissioner of education and the department of elementary and secondary education;
- (2) Carry out the educational policies of the state relating to public schools that are provided by law and supervise instruction in the public schools;
- (3) Direct the investment of all moneys received by the state to be applied to the capital of any permanent fund established for the support of public education within the jurisdiction of the department of elementary and secondary education and see that the funds are applied to the branches of educational interest of the state that by grant, gift, devise or law they were originally intended, and if necessary institute suit for and collect the funds and return them to their legitimate channels;
- (4) Cause to be assembled information which will reflect continuously the condition and management of the public schools of the state;
- (5) Require of county clerks or treasurers, boards of education or other school officers, recorders and treasurers of cities, towns and villages, copies of all records required to be made by them and all other information in relation to the funds and condition of schools and the management thereof that is deemed necessary;
- (6) Provide blanks suitable for use by officials in reporting the information required by the board; 20
 - (7) When conditions demand, cause the laws relating to schools to be published in a separate volume, with pertinent notes and comments, for the guidance of those charged with the execution of the laws;
 - Grant, without fee except as provided in section 168.021, certificates of qualification and licenses to teach in any of the public schools of the state, establish requirements therefor, formulate regulations governing the issuance thereof, and cause the certificates to be revoked for the reasons and in the manner provided in section 168.071;
 - (9) (a) For school years ending before July 1, 2027, classify the public schools of the state, subject to limitations provided by law and subdivision (14) of this section, establish requirements for the schools of each class, and formulate rules governing the inspection and accreditation of schools preparatory to classification, with such requirements taking effect not less than two years from the date of adoption of the proposed rule by the state board of education, provided that this condition shall not apply to any requirement for which a time line for adoption is mandated in either federal or state law. Such rules shall include a process

to allow any district that is accredited without provision that does not meet the state board's promulgated criteria for a classification designation of accredited with distinction to propose alternative criteria to the state board to be classified as accredited with distinction];

- (b) Before July 1, 2025, the state board shall identify and recognize a minimum of two national school accreditation agencies from which any district may seek to obtain accreditation; and
- (c) For the 2027-28 school year and subsequent school years, the state board shall specify that any district with current accreditation from at least one of the identified national school accreditation agencies shall be considered to have full accreditation status without provision for all purposes of law and rule;
- (10) Make an annual report on or before the first Wednesday after the first day of January to the general assembly or, when it is not in session, to the governor for publication and transmission to the general assembly. The report shall be for the last preceding school year, and shall include:
- (a) A statement of the number of public schools in the state, the number of pupils attending the schools, their sex, and the branches taught;
- (b) A statement of the number of teachers employed, their sex, their professional training, and their average salary;
- (c) A statement of the receipts and disbursements of public school funds of every description, their sources, and the purposes for which they were disbursed;
 - (d) Suggestions for the improvement of public schools; and
- (e) Any other information relative to the educational interests of the state that the law requires or the board deems important;
- (11) Make an annual report to the general assembly and the governor concerning coordination with other agencies and departments of government that support family literacy programs and other services which influence educational attainment of children of all ages;
- (12) Require from the chief officer of each division of the department of elementary and secondary education, on or before the thirty-first day of August of each year, reports containing information the board deems important and desires for publication;
- (13) Cause fifty copies of its annual report to be reserved for the use of each division of the state department of elementary and secondary education, and ten copies for preservation in the state library;
- (14) Promulgate rules under which the board shall classify the public schools of the state **subject to the limitations of subdivision (9) of this section**; provided that the appropriate scoring guides, instruments, and procedures used in determining the accreditation status of a district shall be subject to a public meeting upon notice in a newspaper of general circulation in each of the three most populous cities in the state and also a newspaper that is a

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certified minority business enterprise or woman-owned business enterprise in each of the two most populous cities in the state, and notice to each district board of education, each superintendent of a school district, and to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president pro tem of the senate, and the members of the joint committee on education, at least fourteen days in advance of the meeting, which shall be conducted by the department of elementary and secondary education not less than ninety days prior to their application in accreditation, with all comments received to be reported to the state board of education; and

- (15) Have other powers and duties prescribed by law.
- 161.1090. 1. [Subject to appropriation,] The department shall establish a school turnaround program to assist schools in need of intervention and designated by the [department as in need of intervention] state accountability system under section 160.518 as comprehensive support and improvement schools or targeted support and improvement schools in accordance with the provisions of sections 161.1080 to 161.1130.
- 2. [The department shall use an outcome based measure to set criteria for the designation of schools in need of intervention.
- 3.] No more than one month after statewide assessment results are made public, the department shall designate specific schools as in need of intervention. [The department shall designate a school as in need of intervention only if sufficient funds are available in the school turnaround fund established in section 161.1105 to pay an independent school turnaround expert.
- 4. The department shall determine the specific criteria that a school shall be required to meet in order to exit the school turnaround program based on the same outcome-based measure that was used to designate the school as in need of intervention.
- 5. The department shall not designate any school as in need of intervention before September 1, 2020.
- 6. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the criteria established under this section from satisfying a school's requirement for intervention under the every student succeeds act.]
- 3. A school may exit the school turnaround program based on no longer being designated by the state accountability system under section 160.518 as either a comprehensive support and improvement school or a targeted support and improvement school.
- 161.1095. 1. Before October first of an initial remedial year, the governing board of any local educational agency with a school in need of intervention shall establish a school turnaround committee composed of the following members:
 - (1) One member of the governing board;
 - (2) The school principal;

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6 (3) Three parents of students enrolled in the school, appointed by the local parent-7 teacher association;

- (4) Four teachers at the school, appointed by the principal; and
- (5) The district's chief financial officer or equivalent.
- 10 2. Before October fifteenth of an initial remedial year, the governing board of any local educational agency with a school in need of intervention shall partner with the school 11 12 turnaround committee to select an independent school turnaround expert from the experts 13 identified by the department under section 161.1100.
- 14 3. The governing board shall not select an independent school turnaround expert that 15 is:
 - (1) The local educational agency with the school in need of intervention; or
- An employee of the local educational agency with the school in need of 17 intervention. 18
- A school turnaround committee shall partner with the independent school turnaround expert selected under subsection 2 of this section to develop and implement a 20 school turnaround plan that includes:
 - (1) The findings of the analysis conducted by the independent school turnaround expert on the data described in subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of section 161.1100;
 - Recommendations regarding changes to the school's personnel, culture, (2) curriculum, assessments, instructional practices, digital tools and other methods for teaching and learning, governance, leadership, finances, policies, or other areas that may be necessary to implement the school turnaround plan;
 - (3) Measurable student achievement goals and objectives;
 - (4) A professional development plan that identifies a strategy to address problems of instructional practice;
- (5) A leadership development plan focused on proven strategies to turn around 31 32 schools in need of intervention that align with administrator standards developed under 33 section 168.410;
 - (6) A detailed budget specifying how the school turnaround plan will be funded;
- (7) A plan to assess and monitor progress; 35
- (8) A plan to communicate and report data on progress to stakeholders; and 36
- 37 (9) A time line for implementation.
 - 5. Any local educational agency with a school in need of intervention shall:
 - (1) Prioritize funding and resources to the school in need of intervention; and
- 40 (2) Grant the school in need of intervention streamlined authority over staff, schedule, policies, budget, and academic programs to implement the school turnaround plan.

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42 6. Before March first of an initial remedial year, a school turnaround committee shall 43 submit the school turnaround plan to the governing board for approval.

- 7. Except as provided in subsection 8 of this section, before April first of an initial remedial year, the governing board shall submit the school turnaround plan to the department for approval.
- 8. If the governing board does not approve the school turnaround plan submitted under subsection 6 of this section, the school turnaround committee may submit a new or revised school turnaround plan to the governing board for approval. In order to allow additional time for the governing board to consider a new or revised school turnaround plan, the rules may extend the April first deadline for the governing board to submit the school turnaround plan to the department, provided that the governing board shall submit an approved school turnaround plan to the department not later than June first of such school year. The department shall not approve a school turnaround plan unless such plan has 54 been approved by the governing board of the school in need of intervention.

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