

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By _____

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for
2 Senate Bill No. 68, Page 41, Section 160.2710, Line 10, by inserting after all of the said section and
3 line the following:
4

5 "161.264. 1. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary
6 education shall establish a statewide program to be known as the "STEM Career Awareness Activity
7 Program" to increase STEM career awareness among students in grades nine through twelve. For
8 the purposes of this section, "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

9 2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall promote the statewide
10 program beginning in the 2026-27 school year. The program shall introduce students in grades nine
11 through twelve to a wide variety of STEM careers and technology through an activity program that
12 involves participating in STEM-related activities at state, national, or international competitions.

13 3. (1) By January 1, 2026, the department of elementary and secondary education shall
14 solicit proposals to provide the activity program. By March 1, 2026, the department of elementary
15 and secondary education shall select a provider for the program.

16 (2) The department shall select a provider that presents quantitative or qualitative data
17 demonstrating the effectiveness of the program in any of the following areas:

18 (a) Helping teachers improve their instruction in STEM-related subjects;

19 (b) Increasing the likelihood that students will go on to study a STEM-related subject at a
20 four-year college upon graduation from high school; or

21 (c) Increasing the likelihood that students will enter the STEM workforce upon graduation
22 from high school or college.

23 (3) The department shall select a provider that delivers a program that meets the following
24 criteria:

25 (a) Provides an activity program that is led by teachers who are fully certified to teach in
26 STEM-related subjects in grades nine through twelve under the laws governing the certification of
27 teachers in Missouri; and

28 (b) Facilitates a cohort of students in grades nine through twelve to participate in STEM-
29 related activities at state, national, or international competitions.

Action Taken _____ Date _____

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections 2 and 3 of this section to the contrary, the department of elementary and secondary education may choose a third-party nonprofit entity to implement the statewide program, solicit proposals, and select a provider as described under subsection 3 of this section.

5. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Fund". The fund shall consist of any appropriations, gifts, bequests, or public or private donations to such fund. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements of public moneys in accordance with distribution requirements and procedures developed by the department of elementary and secondary education. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of this section. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

6. The department of elementary and secondary education may promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after the effective date of this act shall be invalid and void."; and

Further amend said bill, Page 68, Section 167.624, Line 10, by inserting after all of the said section and line the following:

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

(1) "Board", the state board of education;

(2) "Commissioner", the commissioner of education;

(3) "Recovery high school", a ~~[public]~~ high school that serves eligible students diagnosed with substance use disorder or dependency as defined by the most recent Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders and that provides both a comprehensive four-year high school education in an alternative ~~[public]~~ school setting and a structured plan of recovery;

(4) "Sending district", the school district where a student attending or planning to attend the recovery high school resides and from which the student is referred for enrollment in a recovery high school;

(5) "Sponsoring entity", the state department of elementary and secondary education, a school district, a magnet school, a charter school, a private school as defined in section 166.700, or any combination of such entities.

2. (1) The commissioner may approve and authorize up to four pilot recovery high schools, geographically located in metropolitan areas throughout the state, to be established by ~~[school districts or groups of school districts]~~ a sponsoring entity for the purpose of demonstrating the effectiveness of the recovery high school model in this state. The commissioner shall issue a request for proposals from ~~[school districts]~~ sponsoring entities to operate a pilot recovery high school. Such proposals may be submitted by an individual ~~[school district]~~ sponsoring entity proposing to operate a recovery high school or by a group of ~~[school districts]~~ sponsoring entities proposing to jointly operate such a school. Such proposals shall be submitted to the commissioner no later than July first of the school year prior to the school year in which the recovery high school is proposed to begin operation. The approval of the board shall be required for the recovery high school to begin operation.

(2) Proposals shall detail how the ~~[district or districts]~~ sponsoring entity will satisfy the criteria for a high school education program under state law and board rule and how the recovery high school will satisfy the requirements for accreditation by the Association of Recovery Schools or another recovery school accreditation organization authorized by the board. The proposal shall include a financial plan outlining the anticipated public and private funding that will allow the recovery high school to operate and meet the school's educational and recovery criteria. The ~~[district or districts]~~ sponsoring entity may partner with one or more local nonprofit organizations or other local educational agencies regarding establishment and operation of a recovery high school and may establish a joint board to oversee the operation of the recovery high school as provided in a memorandum of understanding entered with such organization or organizations.

(3) By approval of the proposal upon the recommendation of the commissioner, the board shall be deemed to have authorized all necessary equivalencies and waivers of regulations enumerated in the proposal.

(4) The commissioner may specify an authorization period for the recovery high school, which shall be no less than four years. Before July first of each year the recovery high school is in operation, the ~~[school district or group of school districts]~~ sponsoring entity, in consultation with the recovery high school, shall submit to the commissioner an analysis of the recovery high school's educational, recovery, and other related outcomes as specified in the proposal. The commissioner shall review the analysis and renew any recovery high school meeting the requirements of this section and the requirements of the school's proposal and may include terms and conditions to address areas needing correction or improvement. The commissioner may revoke or suspend the authorization of a recovery high school not meeting the requirements of this section or the requirements of the school's proposal.

(5) Pupil attendance, dropout rate, student performance on statewide assessments, and other data considered in the Missouri school improvement program and school accreditation shall not be attributed to the general accreditation of either a sending district or the ~~[district or districts]~~ sponsoring entity operating the recovery high school and may be used by the commissioner only in the renewal process for the recovery high school as provided in this subsection.

1 3. (1) A school district may enter into an agreement with a ~~[district or districts]~~ sponsoring
 2 entity operating a recovery high school for the enrollment of an eligible student who is currently
 3 enrolled in or resides in the sending district.

4 (2) A parent or guardian may seek to enroll an eligible student residing in a sending district
 5 in a recovery high school created under this section. A student over eighteen years of age residing
 6 in a sending district may seek to enroll in a recovery high school.

7 (3) An "eligible student" shall mean a student who is in recovery from substance use
 8 disorder or substance dependency, or such a condition along with co-occurring disorders such as
 9 anxiety, depression, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and who is determined by the
 10 recovery high school to be a student who would academically and clinically benefit from placement
 11 in the recovery high school and is committed to working on the student's recovery. The recovery
 12 high school shall consider available information including, but not limited to, any recommendation
 13 of a drug counselor, alcoholism counselor, or substance abuse counselor licensed or certified under
 14 applicable laws and regulations.

15 (4) A recovery high school shall not limit or deny admission to an eligible student based on
 16 race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, income level, proficiency in the English language, or
 17 athletic ability.

18 4. (1) The recovery high school shall annually adopt a policy establishing a tuition rate for
 19 its students no later than February first of the preceding school year.

20 (2) The sending district of an eligible student who is enrolled in and attending a recovery
 21 high school shall pay tuition to the recovery high school equal to the lesser of:

22 (a) The tuition rate established under subdivision (1) of this subsection; or

23 (b) The state adequacy target, as defined in section 163.011, plus the average sum produced
 24 per child by the local tax effort above the state adequacy target of the sending district.

25 (3) If costs associated with the provision of special education and related disability services
 26 to the student exceed the tuition to be paid under subdivision (2) of this subsection, the sending
 27 district shall remain responsible for paying the excess cost to the recovery high school.

28 (4) The commissioner may enter into an agreement with the appropriate official or agency
 29 of another state to develop a reciprocity agreement for otherwise eligible, nonresident students
 30 seeking to attend a recovery high school in this state. A recovery high school may enroll otherwise
 31 eligible students residing in a state other than this state as provided in such reciprocity agreement.
 32 Such reciprocity agreement shall require the out-of-state student's district of residence to pay to the
 33 recovery high school an annual amount equal to one hundred five percent of the tuition rate for the
 34 recovery high school established under this subsection. If an otherwise eligible student resides in a
 35 state that is not subject to a reciprocity agreement, such student may attend a recovery high school
 36 provided such student pays to the school one hundred five percent of the tuition rate for the recovery
 37 high school established under this subsection. No student enrolled and attending a recovery high
 38 school under this subdivision shall be included as a resident pupil for any state aid purpose under
 39 chapter 163.

1 5. The board, in consultation with the department of mental health, may promulgate rules to
2 implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
3 section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective
4 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
5 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested
6 with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to
7 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
8 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2022, shall be invalid and void."; and
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10 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
11 accordingly.