

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By _____

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Bill No. 160, Page 5, Section
2 160.231, Line 27, by inserting after all of the said section and line the following:

3
4 "160.2700. For purposes of sections 160.2700 to 160.2725, "adult high school" means a
5 school that:

6 (1) Is for individuals who do not have a high school diploma and who are [~~twenty-one~~]
7 eighteen years of age or older;

8 (2) Offers an industry certification program or programs and a high school diploma in a
9 manner that allows students to earn a diploma at the same time that they earn an industry
10 certification;

11 (3) Offers child care for children of enrolled students attending the school; and

12 (4) Is not eligible to receive funding under section 160.415 or 163.031.

13 160.2705. 1. The department of social services shall authorize Missouri-based nonprofit
14 organizations meeting the criteria of this section to establish and operate up to five adult high
15 schools, with:

16 (1) One adult high school to be located in a city not within a county;

17 (2) One adult high school to be located in a county of the third classification without a
18 township form of government and with more than forty-one thousand but fewer than forty-five
19 thousand inhabitants or a county contiguous to that county;

20 (3) One adult high school to be located in a county of the first classification with more than
21 two hundred sixty thousand but fewer than three hundred thousand inhabitants or a county
22 contiguous to that county;

23 (4) One adult high school to be located in a county of the first classification with more than
24 one hundred fifty thousand but fewer than two hundred thousand inhabitants; and

25 (5) One adult high school to be located in a county with more than seven hundred thousand
26 but fewer than eight hundred thousand inhabitants, or a contiguous county.

27 2. The department of social services shall administer funding to adult high schools subject to
28 appropriations. The department shall be responsible for granting and maintaining authorization for
29 adult high schools. For adult high schools in operation prior to January 1, 2023, the department
30 shall maintain authorization for the nonprofit organization to operate the schools, subject to

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1 compliance with this section. No more than one organization shall be authorized to operate an adult
2 high school at each location described in subsection 1 of this section. An organization may establish
3 satellite campuses for any adult high school it is authorized to operate. The department shall
4 administer funding for satellite campuses subject to appropriations.

5 3. On or before January 1, 2024, the department of social services shall select an eligible
6 Missouri-based nonprofit organization to operate in a location described in subdivision (5) of
7 subsection 1 of this section. An eligible organization shall:

8 (1) Demonstrate the ability to establish, within twenty-one months of the receipt of the
9 authorization, an adult high school offering high school diplomas, an industry certification program
10 or programs, and child care for children of the students attending the high schools;

11 (2) Demonstrate the ability to commit at least five hundred thousand dollars for the purpose
12 of establishing the necessary infrastructure at the adult high school;

13 (3) Demonstrate substantial and positive experience in providing services, including
14 industry certifications and job placement services, to adults ~~[twenty-one]~~ eighteen years of age or
15 older whose educational and training opportunities have been limited by educational disadvantages,
16 disabilities, homelessness, criminal history, or similar circumstances;

17 (4) Establish a partnership with a state-supported postsecondary education institution or
18 more than one such partnership, if a partnership or partnerships are necessary in order to meet the
19 requirements for an adult high school;

20 (5) Establish a comprehensive plan that sets forth how the adult high schools will help
21 address the need for a sufficiently trained workforce in the surrounding region for each adult high
22 school;

23 (6) Establish partnerships and strategies for engaging the community and business leaders in
24 carrying out the goals of each adult high school;

25 (7) Establish the ability to meet quality standards through certified teachers and programs
26 that support each student in such student's goal to find a more rewarding job;

27 (8) Establish a plan for assisting students in overcoming barriers to educational success
28 including, but not limited to, educational disadvantages, homelessness, criminal history, disability,
29 including learning disability such as dyslexia, and similar circumstances;

30 (9) Establish a process for determining outcomes of the adult high school, including
31 outcomes related to a student's ability to find a more rewarding job through the attainment of a high
32 school diploma and job training and certification; and

33 (10) Limit the administrative fee to no more than ten percent.

34 4. (1) The department of elementary and secondary education shall establish academic
35 requirements for students to obtain high school diplomas.

36 (2) Requirements for a high school diploma shall be based on an adult student's prior high
37 school achievement and the remaining credits and coursework that would be necessary for the
38 student to receive a high school diploma if such student were in a traditional high school setting.

1 The adult student shall meet the requirements with the same level of academic rigor as would
2 otherwise be necessary to attain such credits.

3 (3) The adult high school authorized under this section shall award high school diplomas to
4 students who successfully meet the established academic requirements. The adult high school
5 authorized under this section shall confer the diploma as though the student earned the diploma at a
6 traditional high school. The diploma shall have no differentiating marks, titles, or other symbols.

7 (4) Students at adult high schools may complete required coursework at their own pace and
8 as available through the adult high school. They shall not be required to satisfy any specific number
9 of class minutes. The adult high school may also make classes available to students online as may
10 be appropriate. However, students shall not complete the majority of instruction of the school's
11 curriculum online or through remote instruction. For the purposes of this subsection, synchronous
12 instruction connecting students to a live class conducted in a Missouri adult high school shall be
13 treated the same as in-person instruction.

14 (5) The department of elementary and secondary education shall not create additional
15 regulations or burdens on the adult high school or the students attending the adult high schools
16 beyond certifying necessary credits and ensuring that students have sufficiently mastered the subject
17 matter to make them eligible for credit.

18 5. An adult high school shall be deemed a secondary school system for the purposes of
19 subdivision ~~[(45)]~~ (16) of subsection 1 of section 210.211.

20 160.2710. 1. Any person who is ~~[twenty-one]~~ eighteen years of age or older may enroll in
21 an adult high school if he or she has not earned a high school diploma.

22 2. An adult high school shall give a preference in admission to those students who receive
23 any local, state, or federal assistance in which a person or family is required not to exceed a certain
24 income level in order to qualify for the assistance.

25 3. For the purposes of compiling and tracking dropout rates of a local education agency by
26 the department of elementary and secondary education, a student transferring from a local education
27 agency to an adult high school shall be considered a transfer student and not a dropout student from
28 the local education agency.

29 161.264. 1. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary education
30 shall establish a statewide program to be known as the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Program"
31 to increase STEM career awareness among students in grades nine through twelve. For the purposes
32 of this section, "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

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

37 3. (1) By January 1, 2026, the department of elementary and secondary education shall
38 solicit proposals to provide the activity program. By March 1, 2026, the department of elementary
39 and secondary education shall select a provider for the program.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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