

House _____ Amendment NO. _____

Offered By _____

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 477, Page 1, Section A, Line 2, by
2 inserting after all of the said section and line the following:
3

4 "161.264. 1. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary
5 education shall establish a statewide program to be known as the "STEM Career Awareness Activity
6 Program" to increase STEM career awareness among students in grades nine through twelve. For
7 the purposes of this section, "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

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

12 3. (1) By January 1, 2026, the department of elementary and secondary education shall
13 solicit proposals to provide the activity program. By March 1, 2026, the department of elementary
14 and secondary education shall select a provider for the program.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections 2 and 3 of this section to the contrary, the
30 department of elementary and secondary education may choose a third-party nonprofit entity to

Action Taken _____ Date _____

1 implement the statewide program, solicit proposals, and select a provider as described under
2 subsection 3 of this section.

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

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

21
22 Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references
23 accordingly.