

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1998

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MEIRATH.

5053H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapters 160 and 173, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to state funding of educational institutions.

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

Section A. Chapters 160 and 173, RSMo, are amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 160.2560 and 173.2560, to read as follows:

160.2560. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Defunding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Elementary and Secondary Education Act".

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

(1) "Department", the state department of elementary and secondary education;

(2) "Diversity, equity, and inclusion" or "DEI", any educational program, course, initiative, or curriculum designed to promote, teach, or enforce principles related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. DEI includes, but is not limited to, training, workshops, curriculum materials, student groups, and any other program or event related to such subjects;

(3) "Educational institution", each public school and school district in this state;

(4) "State funding", any financial support, grants, or allocations provided by the state of Missouri to an educational institution, including federal funds passed through the state.

3. (1) No educational institution shall use state funding for the implementation, teaching, or support of DEI programs or initiatives.

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.

16 **(2) (a) An educational institution that uses state funding for activities related to**
17 **DEI shall return the amount of state funding used for such activities to the state**
18 **treasury.**

19 **(b) In addition to the repayment of state funding, the offending educational**
20 **institution shall lose all state funding for the fiscal year in which the violation occurs.**

21 **(c) The state shall also withhold any future state funding to the offending**
22 **educational institution until the violation is rectified to the satisfaction of the**
23 **department.**

24 **4. (1) The department shall establish procedures to monitor the use of state**
25 **funding in educational institutions and ensure compliance with this section.**

26 **(2) Any resident, taxpayer, or employee of an educational institution may file a**
27 **complaint with the department if such individual believes an educational institution has**
28 **violated this section.**

29 **(3) The department shall issue an annual report detailing the enforcement of this**
30 **section. Such report shall include the number of violations and the total amount of state**
31 **funding recovered.**

173.2560. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Defunding
2 **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Higher Education Act".**

3 **2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:**

4 **(1) "Department", the state department of higher education and workforce**
5 **development;**

6 **(2) "Diversity, equity, and inclusion" or "DEI", any educational program,**
7 **course, initiative, or curriculum designed to promote, teach, or enforce principles**
8 **related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. DEI includes, but is not limited to, training,**
9 **workshops, curriculum materials, student groups, and any other program or event**
10 **related to such subjects;**

11 **(3) "Educational institution", a public postsecondary educational institution**
12 **governed or supervised by a:**

13 **(a) Board erected under chapter 172, 174, 175, or 178;**

14 **(b) Board of trustees of a community college; or**

15 **(c) State board for any other technical school;**

16 **(4) "State funding", any financial support, grants, or allocations provided by the**
17 **state of Missouri to an educational institution, including federal funds passed through**
18 **the state.**

19 **3. (1) No educational institution shall use state funding for the implementation,**
20 **teaching, or support of DEI programs or initiatives.**

21 **(2) (a) An educational institution that uses state funding for activities related to**
22 **DEI shall return the amount of state funding used for such activities to the state**
23 **treasury.**

24 **(b) In addition to the repayment of state funding, the offending educational**
25 **institution shall lose all state funding for the fiscal year in which the violation occurs.**

26 **(c) The state shall also withhold any future state funding to the offending**
27 **educational institution until the violation is rectified to the satisfaction of the**
28 **department.**

29 **4. (1) The department shall establish procedures to monitor the use of state**
30 **funding in educational institutions and ensure compliance with this section.**

31 **(2) Any resident of the state or employee of an educational institution may file a**
32 **complaint with the department if such individual believes an educational institution has**
33 **violated this section.**

34 **(3) The department shall issue an annual report detailing the enforcement of this**
35 **section. Such report shall include the number of violations and the total amount of state**
36 **funding recovered.**

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