

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NOS. 2139 & 2175
103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5492H.03C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapters 506 and 508, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to application of foreign law.

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

Section A. Chapters 506 and 508, RSMo, are amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 506.602 and 508.074, to read as follows:

- 506.602. 1. As used in this section, the term "foreign law, legal code, or system" shall mean any legal framework from a jurisdiction outside of any state or territory of the United States, including international organizations and tribunals.**
- 2. Except as provided in subsection 3 of this section, application of any foreign law, legal code, or system that denies the parties the fundamental liberties, rights, and privileges guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of Missouri shall be prohibited. Any legal document or court decision that purports to apply any such foreign law, legal code, or system shall be void and unenforceable.**
- 3. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to:**
- (1) Disapprove or abrogate existing precedent of the Missouri supreme court;**
 - (2) Limit adjudication of ecclesiastical matters of a religious organization, including the selection, appointment, discipline, or removal of clergy or interpretation of doctrine;**
 - (3) Apply to corporations, partnerships, or associations that voluntarily subject themselves to foreign law or courts; or**
 - (4) Apply where federal law preempts state law, including obligations under treaties or international agreements.**

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.

**508.074. No state court, arbitration panel, tribunal, or administrative agency
2 shall transfer any civil action if such transfer would result in the application of any
3 foreign law, legal code, or system that would violate or likely violate the fundamental
4 liberties, rights, and privileges of the parties guaranteed under the Constitution of the
5 United States or the Constitution of Missouri.**

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