

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2098

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTON.

Read 1st time March 5, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

4856L.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 160, RSMo, by adding thereto six new sections relating to African-American education.

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

Section A. Chapter 160, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto six new sections, to be
2 known as sections 160.900, 160.903, 160.906, 160.909, 160.912, and 160.915, to read as
3 follows:

**160.900. There is hereby established the "Missouri Commission on African-
2 American Education" to be located jointly within the department of elementary and
3 secondary education and department of higher education. The commission shall consist
4 of eighteen members whose members shall be selected as follows:**

5 **(1) Two state senators, one appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate
6 and one appointed by the minority floor leader of the senate;**

7 **(2) Two state representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the house of
8 representatives and one appointed by the minority floor leader of the house of
9 representatives;**

10 **(3) One member from the department of elementary and secondary education
11 appointed by the commissioner of education;**

12 **(4) One member from the department of higher education appointed by the
13 commissioner of higher education; and**

14 **(5) Twelve members of the general public to be appointed by the governor with the
15 advice and consent of the senate. These members shall be residents of the state of Missouri,
16 and the governor shall give due regard to broad geographic representation. These
17 members shall have served prominently as spokespersons for, or as leaders of**

18 organizations which serve members of, religious, ethnic, national heritage, or social groups
19 representative of African-American culture, or shall be residents who are experienced in
20 the field of African-American history or education.

2 **160.903. 1.** Each member of the commission shall serve for a term of two years, and
3 shall be eligible for reappointment. Each member shall serve until his or her successor is
4 appointed and qualified, and the expiration of the term of that incumbent. Any vacancy
5 occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled in the same manner as the
6 original appointment but for the unexpired term only.

7 **2.** The members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but shall be
8 reimbursed for any actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
9 duties as members of the commission.

10 **160.906. 1.** The commission shall have a chairperson appointed by the governor
11 for a two-year term. The commission shall meet upon the call of the chairperson or of a
12 majority of the members of the commission. The presence of a majority of the authorized
13 membership of the commission shall be required for the conduct of official business.

14 **2.** The commission shall, by a plurality of votes, appoint an executive director, who
15 shall serve at its pleasure and shall be a person qualified by training and experience to
16 perform the duties of the office.

17 **160.909.** The commission shall have the following responsibilities and duties:

18 **(1)** To provide, based upon the collective knowledge and experience of its members,
19 assistance and advice to the public schools and public institutions of higher education with
20 respect to the implementation of African-American education and awareness programs;

(2) To meet with appropriate education officials and other interested public and
private organizations, including service organizations, for the purpose of assisting with the
planning, coordination, or modification of courses of study dealing with the subjects of
African-American culture and history;

(3) To survey and catalog the extent and breadth of African-American education
presently being incorporated into the curricula and taught in the education systems of the
state, to inventory those African-American memorials, exhibits, and resources which could
be incorporated in courses of study at various locations and other educational agencies in
the development and implementation of African-American education programs. In
furtherance of this responsibility, the commission shall be authorized to contact and
cooperate with existing African-American public or private nonprofit resource
organizations and may act as a liaison concerning African-American education to members
of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, and the Missouri senate and
house of representatives;

19 (4) To compile a roster of individual volunteers who are willing to share their
20 knowledge and experience in classrooms, seminars, and workshops on the subject of
21 African-American culture or history. These volunteers may be scholars, clergymen,
22 community relations professionals, and other persons who, by virtue of their experience
23 or interest, have acquired personal or academic knowledge of African-American culture
24 or history;

25 (5) To coordinate events memorializing significant events in African-American
26 history and to seek volunteers who are willing and able to participate in commemorative
27 events that will enhance public awareness of the significance of such events; and

28 (6) To prepare reports for the governor and the general assembly regarding its
29 findings and recommendations to facilitate the inclusion of African-American education
30 and special programs emphasizing African-American culture and history in educational
31 systems in the state.

160.912. 1. The commission is authorized to call upon any department, division,
2 or agency of the state to supply such data, program reports, and other information,
3 personnel, and assistance as it deems necessary to discharge its responsibilities pursuant
4 to sections 160.900 to 160.915.

5 **2.** These departments, divisions, or agencies of the state shall, to the extent possible
6 and not inconsistent with any other law of this state, cooperate with the commission and
7 shall furnish the commission with such information, personnel, and assistance as may be
8 necessary or helpful to accomplish the commission's responsibilities pursuant to sections
9 160.900 to 160.915.

160.915. 1. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Missouri Commission
2 on African-American Education Fund", which shall consist of any moneys appropriated,
3 granted, or donated for the furtherance of the purposes stated in sections 160.900 to
4 160.912. The fund shall be administered jointly by the department of elementary and
5 secondary education and department of higher education. Upon appropriation, moneys
6 in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of sections 160.900 to 160.912.

7 **2.** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, to the contrary, any
8 moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of
9 the general revenue fund.