

House Resolution No. 552

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1780L.011

1 **Whereas**, on February 4, 2009, the Governor submitted a Reorganization Plan to
2 the General Assembly which would transfer postsecondary education assistance programs from
3 various state departments to the Department of Higher Education; and
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5 **Whereas**, Sections 26.500 to 26.540, RSMo, enacted in 1967, authorize the
6 Governor to reorganize executive departments without prior approval from the General
7 Assembly; and
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9 **Whereas**, as set forth in Section 26.510, RSMo, a reorganization plan submitted
10 to the General Assembly becomes effective 90 days after the final adjournment of the session of
11 the General Assembly which it is submitted, unless it is disapproved within 60 days of its
12 submission by adoption of a resolution by one house of the General Assembly; and
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14 **Whereas**, unless the proposed Reorganization Plan contained in Executive Order
15 09-09 is disapproved by the General Assembly by April 5, 2009, the proposed Reorganization
16 Plan will become effective August 28, 2009; and
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18 **Whereas**, Executive Order 09-09 states that the proposal to transfer postsecondary
19 education assistance programs from various state departments to the Department of Higher
20 Education "will improve efficiencies within state government, as the Department of Higher
21 Education already administers the vast majority of state grants and scholarships"; and
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23 **Whereas**, transferring all postsecondary education assistance programs to the
24 Department of Higher Education will not achieve the efficiency improvements within state
25 government as proposed by the Reorganization Plan; and

26 **Whereas**, a change of this significance should not be undertaken without a full
27 hearing in committee and debate of the full House of Representatives; and
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29 **Whereas**, the postsecondary education assistance programs currently administered
30 by state departments other than the Department of Higher Education are designed to target
31 specialized areas such as the A+ Schools Program, the Missouri Teacher Education Scholarship
32 Program, the Missouri Minority Teaching Scholarship Program, and the Urban Flight and Rural
33 Needs Scholarship Program administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary
34 Education; the Large Veterinary Student Loan Program administered by the Department of
35 Agriculture; and the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program
36 administered by the Department of Natural Resources; and
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38 **Whereas**, these programs are best served through administration by the state
39 department with the expertise and experience in working within the specialized areas targeted
40 by such programs; and
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42 **Whereas**, the various state departments administering postsecondary education
43 assistance programs have demonstrated success in matching students with the various
44 scholarship and assistance provided by these specialized programs; and
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46 **Whereas**, transfer and centralization of these specialized assistance programs to
47 the Department of Higher Education may actually have the unintended consequence of inefficient
48 administration of the financial assistance provided by these programs which would likely result
49 from the Department of Higher Education's insufficient expertise and experience in the
50 specialized areas needed to successfully and efficiently match and award assistance to students:
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53 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the members of the Missouri House
54 of Representatives, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, First Regular Session, that the
55 Reorganization Plan issued by Governor Jay Nixon on February 4, 2009, and read in the House
56 on February 4, 2009, be disapproved; and

57 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
58 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Governor
59 Jay Nixon.

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