

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1858
95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4695L.02C

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 640.240, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the minority and underrepresented environmental literacy program.

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

Section A. Section 640.240, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 173.240, to read as follows:

173.240. 1. There is hereby established within the department of higher education a "Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program". The department of higher education, hereafter referred to as the department, may award scholarships to minority and underrepresented students to pursue environmentally related courses of study. The scholarships shall be administered by the department recruitment and retention program under the supervision of the minority environmental literacy advisory committee established under this section. Those ethnic groups which are most severely underrepresented, as determined by data gathered and maintained by the National Academy of Sciences, shall receive priority in annual selection.

2. For the purpose of increasing the number of minority and underrepresented students, as determined by the National Academy of Sciences, who are enrolled in environmentally related courses of study, there is hereby created a "Recruitment and Retention Scholarship Fund". Any unexpended balance in the recruitment and retention scholarship fund shall not be subject to biennial transfer under the provisions of section 33.080. All interest earned on funds in the recruitment and retention scholarship fund shall accrue to the fund.

3. The general assembly may appropriate funds to the department for the purpose of funding scholarships as authorized by this section. Such funds shall be from general

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.

19 revenue, special fees administered by the department, federal funding sources, gifts or
20 donations, provided that such funds may be used for this purpose. All sums received for
21 this purpose shall be placed in the state treasury and credited to the recruitment and
22 retention scholarship fund.

23 **4. The department shall accept, receive and administer grants or other funds, gifts**
24 **or donations from the public and individuals, including the federal government, for the**
25 **purpose of funding scholarships under this section. Such funds shall be deposited in the**
26 **recruitment and retention scholarship fund.**

27 **5. The department shall promulgate rules to administer the scholarship program,**
28 **which shall include qualifications, application forms, annual filing deadlines, and**
29 **scholarship amounts.**

30 **6. The scholarship program shall be directed toward students in the following areas**
31 **of study:**

32 **(1) Engineering students pursuing an environmental course of study through**
33 **undergraduate and graduate degrees in civil, chemical, mechanical, environmental, or**
34 **biological engineering;**

35 **(2) Environmental sciences students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees**
36 **in geology, biology, wildlife management, planning, natural resources, or a closely related**
37 **course of study;**

38 **(3) Chemistry students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in the field**
39 **of environmental chemistry; and**

40 **(4) Law enforcement students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in**
41 **environmental law enforcement.**

42 **7. There is hereby created a "Minority Environmental Literacy Advisory**
43 **Committee", hereafter referred to as the committee, to be comprised of:**

44 **(1) The commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee, who will**
45 **serve as chairperson of the committee;**

46 **(2) Three representatives of universities and colleges. The universities and colleges**
47 **shall be selected by the department, with the approval of the director of the department**
48 **of natural resources. The university and college representatives shall each be appointed**
49 **by the affirmative action office of the respective institution;**

50 **(3) The director of the department of natural resources or the director's designee;**

51 **(4) Five at-large members appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent**
52 **of the senate, who shall be high school teachers and college professors and who shall be**
53 **selected to represent the various regions of the state;**

54 **(5) The state affirmative action officer.**

55 **8. The committee shall meet at least annually, at a time and place to be determined**
56 **by the chairperson, to select students to receive scholarships from applications filed with**
57 **the department retention and recruitment program. The members appointed by the**
58 **governor shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses.**

59 **9. Colleges and universities described in this section shall include public community**
60 **colleges.**

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2 environmental quality a "Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy
3 Program". The department of natural resources, hereafter referred to as the
4 department, may award scholarships to minority and underrepresented students
5 to pursue environmentally related courses of study. The scholarships shall be
6 administered by the division of environmental quality recruitment and retention
7 program under the supervision of the minority environmental literacy advisory
8 committee established under this section. Those ethnic groups which are most
9 severely underrepresented, as determined by data gathered and maintained by the
10 National Academy of Sciences, shall receive priority in annual selection.

11 2. For the purpose of increasing the number of minority and
12 underrepresented students, as determined by the National Academy of Sciences,
13 who are enrolled in environmentally related courses of study, there is hereby
14 created a "Recruitment and Retention Scholarship Fund". Any unexpended
15 balance in the recruitment and retention scholarship fund shall not be subject to
16 biennial transfer pursuant to the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo. All interest
17 earned on funds in the recruitment and retention scholarship fund shall accrue to
18 the fund.

19 3. The general assembly may appropriate funds to the department for the
20 purpose of funding scholarships as authorized by this section. Such funds shall
21 be from general revenue, special fees administered by the department, federal
22 funding sources, gifts or donations, provided that such funds may be used for this
23 purpose. All sums received for this purpose shall be placed in the state treasury
24 and credited to the recruitment and retention scholarship fund.

25 4. The department shall accept, receive and administer grants or other
26 funds, gifts or donations from the public and individuals, including the federal
27 government, for the purpose of funding scholarships under this section. Such
28 funds shall be deposited in the recruitment and retention scholarship fund.

29 5. The department shall promulgate rules to administer the scholarship
30 program, which shall include qualifications, application forms, annual filing
31 deadlines, and scholarship amounts.

32 6. The scholarship program shall be directed toward students in the
33 following areas of study:

34 (1) Engineering students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees
35 in civil, chemical, mechanical, or agricultural engineering;

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37 graduate degrees in geology, biology, wildlife management, planning, natural
38 resources, or a closely related course of study;

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40 the field of environmental chemistry; and

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42 degrees in environmental law enforcement.

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44 Committee", hereafter referred to as the committee, to be comprised of:

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46 designee, who will serve as chairperson of the committee;

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48 college representatives shall each be appointed by the affirmative action office
49 of the respective institution;

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51 designee;

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53 consent of the senate, who shall be high school teachers and college professors
54 and who shall be selected to represent the various regions of the state;

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59 recruitment program. The members appointed by the governor shall be
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