

HB 1861 -- Missouri Books From Birth Program

Sponsor: Grill

This bill establishes the Missouri Books From Birth Program in the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to encourage preschool children to read. The department will form a partnership with a nonprofit public benefit corporation to develop a comprehensive statewide program with the goal of providing one free book per month to all children between birth and five years of age in this state. The nonprofit corporation must elect its board of directors through a process annually approved by the Governor or his or her designee, may select its own chairperson, and may receive funds from the public and from the state. The Missouri Books From Birth Fund is created from which appropriated moneys will be used solely for the administration of the program.