

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 902

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CURTIS.

1868L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 162.1250, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to remedial education in virtual schools.

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

Section A. Section 162.1250, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 162.1250, to read as follows:

162.1250. 1. School districts shall receive state school funding under sections 163.031, 163.043, and 163.087 for resident students who are enrolled in the school district and who are taking a virtual course or full-time virtual program offered by the school district. The school district may offer instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and internet methods of communications that could take place outside of the regular school district facility. The school district may develop a virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with the courses available in accordance with district policy to any resident student of the district who is enrolled in the school district. Nothing in this section shall preclude a private, parochial, or home school student residing within a school district offering virtual courses or virtual programs from enrolling in the school district in accordance with the combined enrollment provisions of section 167.031 for the purposes of participating in the virtual courses or virtual programs.

2. Charter schools shall receive state school funding under section 160.415 for students enrolled in the charter school who are completing a virtual course or full-time virtual program offered by the charter school. Charter schools may offer instruction in a virtual setting using technology, intranet, and internet methods of communications. The charter school may develop a virtual program for any grade level, kindergarten through twelfth grade, with the courses

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.

18 available in accordance with school policy and the charter school's charter to any student enrolled
19 in the charter school.

20 3. For purposes of calculation and distribution of state school funding, attendance of a
21 student enrolled in a district or charter school virtual class shall equal, upon course completion,
22 ninety-four percent of the hours of attendance possible for such class delivered in the nonvirtual
23 program in the student's resident district or charter school. Course completion shall be calculated
24 in two increments, fifty percent completion and one hundred percent completion, based on the
25 student's completion of defined assignments and assessments, with distribution of state funding
26 to a school district or charter school at each increment equal to forty-seven percent of hours of
27 attendance possible for such course delivered in the nonvirtual program in a student's school
28 district of residence or charter school.

29 4. When courses are purchased from an outside vendor, the district or charter school
30 shall ensure that they are aligned with the show-me curriculum standards and comply with state
31 requirements for teacher certification. The state board of education reserves the right to request
32 information and materials sufficient to evaluate the online course. Online classes should be
33 considered like any other class offered by the school district or charter school.

34 5. Any school district or charter school that offers instruction in a virtual setting,
35 develops a virtual course or courses, or develops a virtual program of instruction shall ensure that
36 the following standards are satisfied:

37 (1) The virtual course or virtual program utilizes appropriate content-specific tools and
38 software;

39 (2) Orientation training is available for teachers, instructors, and students as needed;

40 (3) Privacy policies are stated and made available to teachers, instructors, and students;

41 (4) Academic integrity and internet etiquette expectations regarding lesson activities,
42 discussions, electronic communications, and plagiarism are stated to teachers, instructors, and
43 students prior to the beginning of the virtual course or virtual program;

44 (5) Computer system requirements, including hardware, web browser, and software, are
45 specified to participants;

46 (6) The virtual course or virtual program architecture, software, and hardware permit the
47 online teacher or instructor to add content, activities, and assessments to extend learning
48 opportunities;

49 (7) The virtual course or virtual program makes resources available by alternative means,
50 including but not limited to, video and podcasts;

51 (8) Resources and notes are available for teachers and instructors in addition to
52 assessment and assignment answers and explanations;

53 (9) Technical support and course management are available to the virtual course or
54 virtual program teacher and school coordinator;

55 (10) The virtual course or virtual program includes assignments, projects, and
56 assessments that are aligned with students' different visual, auditory, and hands-on learning
57 styles;

58 (11) The virtual course or virtual program demonstrates the ability to effectively use and
59 incorporate subject-specific and developmentally appropriate software in an online learning
60 module; and

61 (12) The virtual course or virtual program arranges media and content to help transfer
62 knowledge most effectively in the online environment.

63 6. Any special school district shall count any student's completion of a virtual course or
64 program in the same manner as the district counts completion of any other course or program for
65 credit.

66 7. A school district or charter school may contract with multiple providers of virtual
67 courses or virtual programs, provided they meet the criteria for virtual courses or virtual
68 programs under this section.

69 **8. By July 1, 2016, each school district or charter school shall develop a policy and**
70 **system for identifying high school students who are in immediate need of remedial**
71 **coursework. In order to adequately prepare the identified students for future high school**
72 **success, college-level work, or entry-level career positions, each school district or charter**
73 **school shall develop a virtual program for the students, with implementation of such**
74 **program by the beginning of the 2016-17 school year. Virtual programs required under**
75 **this subsection shall be funded as provided under subsections 1, 2, and 3 of this section.**

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