

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 471

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HUMMEL.

Read 1st time February 23, 2017, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

2087S.02I

AN ACT

To repeal section 173.670, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fund.

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

Section A. Section 173.670, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 173.670, to read as follows:

173.670. 1. There is hereby established within the department of higher
2 education the "Missouri Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
3 Initiative". The department of higher education may award matching funds
4 through this initiative to public institutions of higher education as part of the
5 annual appropriations process.

6 2. The purpose of the initiative shall be to provide support to increase
7 interest among elementary, secondary, and university students in fields of study
8 related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and to increase the
9 number of Missouri graduates in these fields at Missouri's public two- and
10 four-year institutions of higher education.

11 3. There is hereby created a "Science, Technology, Engineering and
12 Mathematics Fund", which shall consist of money collected under this
13 section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund and may approve
14 disbursements from the fund in accordance with sections 30.170 and
15 30.180. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used solely for the
16 administration of this section. Any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of
17 the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state
18 treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are
19 invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited
20 to the fund.

21 4. As part of the initiative, the department of higher education shall
22 develop a process to award grants to Missouri public two- and four-year
23 institutions of higher education and school districts that have entered into
24 articulation agreements to offer information technology certification through
25 technical course work leading to postsecondary academic credit through the
26 program established in section 173.675.

27 5. The general assembly may appropriate funds to the science, technology,
28 engineering, and mathematics fund to match institution funds to support the
29 following programs, **or it may choose not to earmark funds, allowing the**
30 **department of higher education and department of elementary and**
31 **secondary education to support the following programs:**

32 (1) Endowed teaching professor programs, which provide funds to support
33 faculty who teach undergraduate courses in science, technology, engineering, or
34 mathematics fields at public institutions of higher education;

35 (2) Scholarship programs, which provide financial aid or loan forgiveness
36 awards to Missouri students who study in the science, technology, engineering,
37 or mathematics fields or who plan to enter the teaching field in Missouri with an
38 emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics areas;

39 (3) Experiential youth programs at public colleges or universities,
40 designed to provide Missouri middle school, junior high, and high school students
41 with the opportunity to experience science, technology, engineering, and
42 mathematics fields through camps or other educational offerings;

43 (4) Career enhancement programs for current elementary and secondary
44 teachers and professors at Missouri public and private colleges and universities
45 in the science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields to improve the
46 quality of teaching.

47 **6. Any taxpayer hiring a person who is currently enrolled as a**
48 **student majoring in or graduated with a degree in a field of study**
49 **related to science, technology, engineering, or mathematics at any two-**
50 **year or four-year public or private Missouri college or university to fill**
51 **an internship or full-time position in the fields of science, technology,**
52 **engineering, or mathematics may apply to have up to five thousand**
53 **dollars of the taxpayer's state tax liability transferred from the general**
54 **revenue fund and placed in the science, technology, engineering, and**
55 **mathematics fund established in subsection 3 of this section, upon**
56 **appropriation. For purposes of this subsection, "state tax liability"**

57 means any liability incurred by a taxpayer under the provisions of
58 chapter 143, excluding withholding tax imposed by sections 143.191 to
59 143.265, or the tax imposed in chapters 147, 148, or 153. The
60 department of higher education shall establish a procedure for
61 approving applications under this section. For purposes of this
62 subsection, the taxpayer's state tax liability shall be paid before a
63 transfer under this subsection occurs. The cumulative amount of taxes
64 transferred to the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
65 fund under this subsection and section 620.3030 shall not exceed an
66 annual total of fifty thousand dollars from all participating taxpayers.
67 In the event a donation is made to the fund from a third party, that
68 donation shall not count towards the fifty thousand dollar annual limit.
69 In order to qualify for the purposes of this subsection, the internship
70 or full-time position shall be:

- 71 (1) Located within the state of Missouri; and
- 72 (2) For internships, last a duration of at least one year and
73 consist of at least forty hours per week.

74 7. The department of higher education may promulgate rules and
75 regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion
76 of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010 that is created under
77 the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it
78 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and,
79 if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are
80 nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
81 pursuant to chapter 536, to review, to delay the effective date, or to
82 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
83 then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or
84 adopted after August 28, 2017, shall be invalid and void.

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