

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[P E R F E C T E D]

SENATE BILL NO. 947

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SHIELDS.

Read 1st time January 24, 2006, and ordered printed.

Read 2nd time January 26, 2006, and referred to the Committee on Education.

Reported from the Committee March 2, 2006, with recommendation that the bill do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

Taken up March 27, 2006. Read 3rd time and placed upon its final passage; bill passed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4481S.02P

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to early childhood education.

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

Section A. Chapter 161, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 161.213, to read as follows:

161.213. 1. The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop standards for high-quality early childhood education no later than June 30, 2007. The standards shall be applicable to all public school pre-kindergarten programs that receive Title I or Missouri preschool project funds.

2. Such standards shall include, but not be limited to, the following principles:

(1) Access for all children whose parents or guardians choose to participate;

(2) Focus on cognitive, language, physical, and social/emotional development;

(3) Assessment of needs of children and their families;

(4) Highly qualified and properly certified teachers; and

(5) Delivery of comprehensive services supported by strong and accessible technical assistance and professional development.

3. In developing such standards, the department shall involve representatives of the business community, parents as teachers, head start, early childhood start, early childhood special education, Missouri

19 preschool project, first steps, Title I preschools, and school district
20 personnel.

21 4. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section
22 536.010, RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this
23 section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to
24 all of the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section
25 536.028, RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable
26 and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to
27 chapter 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to
28 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
29 then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or
30 adopted after August 28, 2006, shall be invalid and void.

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Bill

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