

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 236

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SHIELDS.

Read 1st time January 10, 2007, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1105S.02I

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 168, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to mentoring standards for education personnel.

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

Section A. Chapter 168, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new  
2 section, to be known as section 168.350, to read as follows:

**168.350. 1. The department of elementary and secondary  
2 education shall develop standards for high-quality mentoring for  
3 beginning teachers and beginning principals no later than June 30,  
4 2008. The standards shall be applicable to all public schools.**

**5 2. Such standards shall be established for both of the required  
6 years of mentoring under subsection 3 of section 168.021 and shall be  
7 based upon, but not be limited to, the following principles:**

**8 (1) Every district shall have a teacher-driven mentor program in  
9 collaboration with and support of the administration;**

**10 (2) Guidance and support are required for all beginning  
11 teachers, regardless of when they enter the profession;**

**12 (3) Communication between mentors and beginning teachers is  
13 open and confidential;**

**14 (4) Quality mentors are necessary to establish beginning  
15 teachers' trust and respect for their colleagues and profession; and**

**16 (5) All staff members provide informal support for beginning  
17 teachers.**

**18 3. Quality mentor programs shall include, but not be limited to,  
19 the following:**

**20 (1) An introduction to the cultural environment of the  
21 community and the school district;**

- 22           (2) A systemic and ongoing evaluation by all stakeholders;  
23           (3) An individualized plan for beginning teachers that aligns  
24 with the district's goals and needs;  
25           (4) Appropriate criteria for selecting mentors;  
26           (5) Comprehensive mentor training;  
27           (6) A complete list of responsibilities for the mentor, beginning  
28 teacher, and administrators; and  
29           (7) Sufficient time for mentors to observe beginning teachers and  
30 for the beginning teachers to observe master teachers.
- 31           4. In developing such standards, the department shall involve  
32 representatives from the state teacher organizations, administration  
33 and principal organizations, Missouri advisory council for the  
34 certification of educators as created by section 168.015, Missouri Staff  
35 Development Council, and from colleges and universities.

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Bill

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