

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
[P E R F E C T E D]
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 638
98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Education, March 3, 2016, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 638, adopted April 12, 2016.

Taken up for Perfection April 12, 2016. Bill declared Perfected and Ordered Printed, as amended.

4478S.02P

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal section 170.011, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to civics education.

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

Section A. Section 170.011, RSMo, is repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 170.011, 170.345, 170.350 and 633.420, to read as follows:

170.011. 1. Regular courses of instruction in the Constitution of the United States and of the state of Missouri and in American history and institutions shall be given in all public and private schools in the state of Missouri, except privately operated trade schools, and shall begin not later than the seventh grade and continue in high school to an extent determined by the state commissioner of education, and shall continue in college and university courses to an extent determined by the state commissioner of higher education. In the 1990-91 school year and each year thereafter, local school districts maintaining high schools shall comply with the provisions of this section by offering in grade nine, ten, eleven, or twelve a course of instruction in the institutions, branches and functions of the government of the state of Missouri, including local governments, and of the government of the United States, and in the electoral process. A local school district maintaining such a high school shall require that prior to the completion of the twelfth grade each pupil who receives a high school diploma or certificate of graduation on or after January 1, 1994,

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

16 shall satisfactorily complete such a course of study. Such course shall be of at
17 least one semester in length and may be two semesters in length. The
18 department of elementary and secondary education may provide assistance in
19 developing such a course if the district requests assistance. A school district may
20 elect to waive the requirements of this subsection for any student who transfers
21 from outside the state to a Missouri high school if the student can furnish
22 documentation deemed acceptable by the school district of the student's successful
23 completion in any year from the ninth through the twelfth grade of a course of
24 instruction in the institutions, branches, and functions of state government,
25 including local governments, and of the government of the United States, and in
26 the electoral process.

27 2. American history courses at the elementary and secondary levels shall
28 include in their proper time-line sequence specific referrals to the details and
29 events of the racial equality movement that have caused major changes in United
30 States and Missouri laws and attitudes.

31 3. No pupil shall receive a certificate of graduation from any public or
32 private school other than private trade schools unless he has satisfactorily passed
33 an examination on the provisions and principles of the Constitution of the United
34 States and of the state of Missouri, and in American history [and], American
35 institutions, **and American civics**. A school district may elect to waive the
36 requirements of this subsection for any student who transfers from outside the
37 state to a Missouri high school if the student can furnish documentation deemed
38 acceptable by the school district of the student's successful completion in any year
39 from the ninth through the twelfth grade of a course of instruction in the
40 institutions, branches, and functions of state government, including local
41 governments, and of the government of the United States, and in the electoral
42 process. A student of a college or university, who, after having completed a
43 course of instruction prescribed in this section and successfully passed an
44 examination on the United States Constitution, and in American history and
45 American institutions required hereby, transfers to another college or university,
46 is not required to complete another such course or pass another such examination
47 as a condition precedent to his graduation from the college or university.

48 4. In the 1990-91 school year and each year thereafter, each school district
49 maintaining a high school may annually nominate to the state board of education
50 a student who has demonstrated knowledge of the principles of government and
51 citizenship through academic achievement, participation in extracurricular

52 activities, and service to the community. Annually, the state board of education
53 shall select fifteen students from those nominated by the local school districts and
54 shall recognize and award them for their academic achievement, participation and
55 service.

56 5. The provisions of this section shall not apply to students from foreign
57 countries who are enrolled in public or private high schools in Missouri, if such
58 students are foreign exchange students sponsored by a national organization
59 recognized by the department of elementary and secondary education.

1 170.345. 1. This section shall be known as the "Missouri Civics
2 Education Initiative".

3 2. Any student entering ninth grade after July 1, 2017, who is
4 attending any public, charter, or private school, except private trade
5 schools, as a condition of high school graduation shall pass an
6 examination on the provisions and principles of American civics.

7 3. The examination shall consist of one hundred questions
8 similar to the one hundred questions used by the United States
9 Citizenship and Immigration Services that are administered to
10 applicants for United States citizenship.

11 4. The examination required under this section may be included
12 in any other examination that is administered on the provisions and
13 principles of the Constitution of the United States and of the state of
14 Missouri, and in American history and American institution, as
15 required in subsection 3 of section 170.011.

16 5. School districts may use any online test to comply with the
17 provisions of this section.

18 6. Each school district shall adopt a policy to permit the waiver
19 of the requirements of this section for any student with a disability if
20 recommended by the student's IEP committee. For purposes of this
21 subsection, "IEP" means individualized education program.

170.350. A school district may develop a policy that allows
2 student participation in the Constitution Project of the Missouri
3 Supreme Court to be recognized by:

4 (1) The granting of credit for some portion of, or in collaboration
5 with:

6 (a) Inclusion in the student's record of good citizenship as
7 required by the A+ tuition reimbursement program under section
8 160.545; or

9 **(b) The Missouri and United States Constitution course required**
10 **under section 170.011; or**

11 **(c) Any relevant course or instructional unit in American**
12 **government or a similar subject; or**

13 **(2) District or school-level awards including, but not limited to,**
14 **certificates or assemblies.**

633.420. 1. For the purposes of this section, the term "dyslexia"
2 **shall be defined as a disorder that is neurological in origin,**
3 **characterized by difficulties with accurate and fluent word recognition**
4 **and poor spelling and decoding abilities that typically result from a**
5 **deficit in the phonological component of language, often unexpected in**
6 **relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective**
7 **classroom instruction, and of which secondary consequences may**
8 **include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading**
9 **experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background**
10 **knowledge. Nothing in this definition shall require a student with**
11 **dyslexia to obtain an individualized education program (IEP) unless**
12 **the student has otherwise met the federal conditions necessary.**

13 **2. There is hereby created the "Legislative Task Force on**
14 **Dyslexia". The joint committee on education shall provide technical**
15 **and administrative support as required by the task force to fulfill its**
16 **duties. The task force shall meet at least quarterly and may hold**
17 **meetings by telephone or video conference. The task force shall advise**
18 **and make recommendations to the governor, general assembly, and**
19 **relevant state agencies regarding matters concerning individuals with**
20 **dyslexia including education and other adult and adolescent services.**

21 **3. The task force shall be comprised of nineteen members**
22 **consisting of the following:**

23 **(1) Four members of the general assembly, with two members**
24 **from the senate to be appointed by the president pro tempore and two**
25 **members from the house of representatives to be appointed by the**
26 **speaker of the house of representatives;**

27 **(2) The commissioner of education, or his or her designee;**

28 **(3) One representative from an institution of higher education**
29 **located in this state with specialized expertise in dyslexia and reading**
30 **instruction appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;**

31 **(4) A representative from a state teachers association appointed**

32 by the president pro tempore of the senate;

33 (5) A representative from the International Dyslexia Association
34 of Missouri appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

35 (6) A representative from Decoding Dyslexia of Missouri
36 appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;

37 (7) A representative from the Missouri Association of Elementary
38 School Principals appointed by the speaker of the house of
39 representatives;

40 (8) A representative from the Missouri Council of Administrators
41 of Special Education appointed by the president pro tempore of the
42 senate;

43 (9) A professional licensed in the state of Missouri with
44 experience diagnosing dyslexia including, but not limited to, a licensed
45 psychologist, school psychologist, or neuropsychologist appointed by
46 the speaker of the house of representatives;

47 (10) A speech-language pathologist with training in an Orton-
48 Gillingham remediation program recommended by the Missouri Speech-
49 Language Hearing Association to be appointed by the pro tempore of
50 the senate;

51 (11) A certified academic language therapist recommended by
52 the Academic Language Therapists Association who is a resident of this
53 state appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;

54 (12) A representative from an independent private provider or
55 nonprofit organization serving individuals with dyslexia appointed by
56 the speaker of the house of representatives;

57 (13) An assistive technology specialist with expertise in
58 accessible print materials and assistive technology used by individuals
59 with dyslexia recommended by the Missouri assistive technology
60 council appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;

61 (14) One private citizen who has a child that has been diagnosed
62 with dyslexia appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

63 (15) One private citizen who has been diagnosed with dyslexia
64 appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate; and

65 (16) A pediatrician with knowledge of dyslexia to be appointed
66 by the speaker of the house of representatives.

67 4. A chairperson shall be selected by the members of the task
68 force. Any vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the same manner

69 as the original appointment. Members shall serve on the task force
70 without compensation.

71 5. The task force shall make recommendations for a statewide
72 system for identification, intervention, and delivery of supports for
73 students with dyslexia including the development of resource materials
74 and professional development activities. These recommendations shall
75 be included in a report to the governor and general assembly and shall
76 include findings and proposed legislation and shall be made available
77 no longer than twelve months from the task force's first meeting.

78 6. The recommendations and resource materials developed by
79 the task force shall:

80 (1) Determine valid and reliable diagnostic assessments and
81 protocols that can be used and the appropriate personnel to administer
82 the assessments in order to identify children with dyslexia or the
83 characteristics of dyslexia as part of an ongoing reading progress
84 monitoring system in schools;

85 (2) Recommend a research-based instruction and intervention
86 system including a list of approved dyslexia therapy programs, to
87 address dyslexia or characteristics of dyslexia for use by schools in
88 multi-tiered systems of support, and for services as appropriate for
89 special education eligible students;

90 (3) Develop and implement preservice and in-service professional
91 development activities to address dyslexia identification and
92 intervention, including utilization of accessible print materials and
93 assistive technology, within degree programs such as education,
94 reading, special education, speech-language pathology, and psychology;

95 (4) Review teacher certification and professional development
96 requirements as they relate to the needs of students with dyslexia;

97 (5) Examine the barriers to accurate information on the
98 prevalence of students with dyslexia across the state and recommend
99 a process for accurate reporting of demographic data; and

100 (6) Study and evaluate current practices for diagnosing, treating,
101 and educating children in this state and examine how current laws and
102 regulations affect students with dyslexia in order to present
103 recommendations to the governor and general assembly.

104 7. The task force shall hire or contract for hire specialist
105 services to support the work of the task force as necessary with

106 appropriations made by the general assembly for that purpose or from
107 other available funding.

108 8. The task force authorized under this section shall
109 automatically terminate on August 31, 2018, unless reauthorized by an
110 act of the general assembly.

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Unofficial

Bill

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