

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1681

## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5129H.01T

2016

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 173.616, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the regulation of proprietary schools.

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

Section A. Section 173.616, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 173.616, to read as follows:

173.616. 1. The following schools, training programs, and courses of instruction shall be exempt from the provisions of sections 173.600 to 173.618:

(1) A public institution;

(2) Any college or university represented directly or indirectly on the advisory committee of the coordinating board for higher education as provided in subsection 3 of section 173.005;

(3) An institution that is certified by the board as an "approved private institution" under subdivision (2) of section 173.1102;

(4) A not-for-profit religious school that is accredited by the American Association of Bible Colleges, the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, or a regional accrediting association, such as the North Central Association, which is recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education; and

(5) Beginning July 1, 2008, all out-of-state public institutions of higher education, as such term is defined in subdivision (12) of subsection 2 of section 173.005.

2. The coordinating board shall exempt the following schools, training programs and courses of instruction from the provisions of sections 173.600 to 173.618:

(1) A not-for-profit school owned, controlled and operated by a bona fide religious or denominational organization which offers no programs or degrees and grants no degrees or

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 certificates other than those specifically designated as theological, bible, divinity or other  
19 religious designation;

20 (2) A not-for-profit school owned, controlled and operated by a bona fide eleemosynary  
21 organization which provides instruction with no financial charge to its students and at which no  
22 part of the instructional cost is defrayed by or through programs of governmental student  
23 financial aid, including grants and loans, provided directly to or for individual students;

24 (3) A school which offers instruction only in subject areas which are primarily for  
25 avocational or recreational purposes as distinct from courses to teach employable, marketable  
26 knowledge or skills, which does not advertise occupational objectives and which does not grant  
27 degrees;

28 (4) A course of instruction, study or training program sponsored by an employer for the  
29 training and preparation of its own employees;

30 (5) A course of study or instruction conducted by a trade, business or professional  
31 organization with a closed membership where participation in the course is limited to bona fide  
32 members of the trade, business or professional organization, or a course of instruction for  
33 persons in preparation for an examination given by a state board or commission where the state  
34 board or commission approves that course and school;

35 (6) A school or person whose clientele are primarily students aged sixteen or under;

36 **(7) A yoga teacher training course, program, or school.**

37 3. A school which is otherwise licensed and approved under and pursuant to any other  
38 licensing law of this state shall be exempt from sections 173.600 to 173.618, but a state  
39 certificate of incorporation shall not constitute licensing for the purpose of sections 173.600 to  
40 173.618.

41 4. Any school, training program or course of instruction exempted herein may elect by  
42 majority action of its governing body or by action of its director to apply for approval of the  
43 school, training program or course of instruction under the provisions of sections 173.600 to  
44 173.618. Upon application to and approval by the coordinating board, such school training  
45 program or course of instruction may become exempt from the provisions of sections 173.600  
46 to 173.618 at any subsequent time, except the board shall not approve an application for  
47 exemption if the approved school is then in any status of noncompliance with certification  
48 standards and a reversion to exempt status shall not relieve the school of any liability for  
49 indemnification or any penalty for noncompliance with certification standards during the period  
50 of the school's approved status.

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