

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2375

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

---

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ELLINGTON.

6239H.021

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

To repeal sections 160.545, 173.262, 173.1104, 173.1110, 173.2505, 178.411, and 208.009, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof six new sections relating to persons unlawfully present in the United States.

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

Section A. Sections 160.545, 173.262, 173.1104, 173.1110, 173.2505, 178.411, and 208.009, RSMo, are repealed and six new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 160.545, 173.262, 173.1104, 173.2505, 173.2550, and 178.411, to read as follows:

160.545. 1. There is hereby established within the department of elementary and secondary education the “A+ Schools Program” to be administered by the commissioner of education. The program shall consist of grant awards made to public secondary schools that demonstrate a commitment to ensure that:

(1) All students be graduated from school;

(2) All students complete a selection of high school studies that is challenging and for which there are identified learning expectations; and

(3) All students proceed from high school graduation to a college or postsecondary vocational or technical school or high-wage job with work place skill development opportunities.

2. The state board of education shall promulgate rules and regulations for the approval of grants made under the program to schools that:

(1) Establish measurable districtwide performance standards for the goals of the program outlined in subsection 1 of this section; and

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.

14           (2) Specify the knowledge, skills and competencies, in measurable terms, that students  
15 must demonstrate to successfully complete any individual course offered by the school, and any  
16 course of studies which will qualify a student for graduation from the school; and

17           (3) Do not offer a general track of courses that, upon completion, can lead to a high  
18 school diploma; and

19           (4) Require rigorous coursework with standards of competency in basic academic  
20 subjects for students pursuing vocational and technical education as prescribed by rule and  
21 regulation of the state board of education; and

22           (5) Have a partnership plan developed in cooperation and with the advice of local  
23 business persons, labor leaders, parents, and representatives of college and postsecondary  
24 vocational and technical school representatives, with the plan then approved by the local board  
25 of education. The plan shall specify a mechanism to receive information on an annual basis from  
26 those who developed the plan in addition to senior citizens, community leaders, and teachers to  
27 update the plan in order to best meet the goals of the program as provided in subsection 1 of this  
28 section. Further, the plan shall detail the procedures used in the school to identify students that  
29 may drop out of school and the intervention services to be used to meet the needs of such  
30 students. The plan shall outline counseling and mentoring services provided to students who will  
31 enter the work force upon graduation from high school, address apprenticeship and intern  
32 programs, and shall contain procedures for the recruitment of volunteers from the community  
33 of the school to serve in schools receiving program grants.

34           3. Any nonpublic school in this state may apply to the state board of education for  
35 certification that it meets the requirements of this section subject to the same criteria as public  
36 high schools. Every nonpublic school that applies and has met the requirements of this section  
37 shall have its students eligible for reimbursement of postsecondary education under subsection  
38 8 of this section on an equal basis to students who graduate from public schools that meet the  
39 requirements of this section. Any nonpublic school that applies shall not be eligible for any  
40 grants under this section. Students of certified nonpublic schools shall be eligible for  
41 reimbursement of postsecondary education under subsection 8 of this section so long as they  
42 meet the other requirements of such subsection. For purposes of subdivision (5) of subsection  
43 2 of this section, the nonpublic school shall be included in the partnership plan developed by the  
44 public school district in which the nonpublic school is located. For purposes of subdivision (1)  
45 of subsection 2 of this section, the nonpublic school shall establish measurable performance  
46 standards for the goals of the program for every school and grade level over which the nonpublic  
47 school maintains control.

48           4. A school district may participate in the program irrespective of its accreditation  
49 classification by the state board of education, provided it meets all other requirements.

50           5. By rule and regulation, the state board of education may determine a local school  
51 district variable fund match requirement in order for a school or schools in the district to receive  
52 a grant under the program. However, no school in any district shall receive a grant under the  
53 program unless the district designates a salaried employee to serve as the program coordinator,  
54 with the district assuming a minimum of one-half the cost of the salary and other benefits  
55 provided to the coordinator. Further, no school in any district shall receive a grant under the  
56 program unless the district makes available facilities and services for adult literacy training as  
57 specified by rule of the state board of education.

58           6. For any school that meets the requirements for the approval of the grants authorized  
59 by this section and specified in subsection 2 of this section for three successive school years, by  
60 August first following the third such school year, the commissioner of education shall present  
61 a plan to the superintendent of the school district in which such school is located for the waiver  
62 of rules and regulations to promote flexibility in the operations of the school and to enhance and  
63 encourage efficiency in the delivery of instructional services in the school. The provisions of  
64 other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the plan presented to the superintendent shall provide  
65 a summary waiver, with no conditions, for the pupil testing requirements pursuant to section  
66 160.257 in the school. Further, the provisions of other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the  
67 plan shall detail a means for the waiver of requirements otherwise imposed on the school related  
68 to the authority of the state board of education to classify school districts pursuant to subdivision  
69 (9) of section 161.092 and such other rules and regulations as determined by the commissioner  
70 of education, except such waivers shall be confined to the school and not other schools in the  
71 school district unless such other schools meet the requirements of this subsection. However, any  
72 waiver provided to any school as outlined in this subsection shall be void on June thirtieth of any  
73 school year in which the school fails to meet the requirements for the approval of the grants  
74 authorized by this section as specified in subsection 2 of this section.

75           7. For any school year, grants authorized by subsections 1, 2, and 5 of this section shall  
76 be funded with the amount appropriated for this program, less those funds necessary to reimburse  
77 eligible students pursuant to subsection 8 of this section.

78           8. The department of higher education shall, by rule, establish a procedure for the  
79 reimbursement of the cost of tuition, books and fees to any public community college or  
80 vocational or technical school or within the limits established in subsection 10 of this section for  
81 any two-year private vocational or technical school for any student:

82           (1) Who has attended a high school in the state for at least three years immediately prior  
83 to graduation that meets the requirements of subsection 2 of this section; except that, students  
84 who are active duty military dependents, and students who are dependants of retired military who  
85 relocate to Missouri within one year of the date of the parent's retirement from active duty, who,

86 in the school year immediately preceding graduation, meet all other requirements of this  
87 subsection and are attending a school that meets the requirements of subsection 2 of this section  
88 shall be exempt from the three-year attendance requirement of this subdivision; and

89 (2) Who has made a good faith effort to first secure all available federal sources of  
90 funding that could be applied to the reimbursement described in this subsection; and

91 (3) Who has earned a minimal grade average while in high school as determined by rule  
92 of the department of higher education, and other requirements for the reimbursement authorized  
93 by this subsection as determined by rule and regulation of the department];~~and~~

94 ~~——(4) Who is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States].~~

95 9. The commissioner of education shall develop a procedure for evaluating the  
96 effectiveness of the program described in this section. Such evaluation shall be conducted  
97 annually with the results of the evaluation provided to the governor, speaker of the house, and  
98 president pro tempore of the senate.

99 10. For a two-year private vocational or technical school to obtain reimbursements under  
100 subsection 8 of this section, the following requirements shall be satisfied:

101 (1) Such two-year private vocational or technical school shall be a member of the North  
102 Central Association and be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission as of July 1, 2008,  
103 and maintain such accreditation;

104 (2) Such two-year private vocational or technical school shall be designated as a  
105 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

106 (3) No two-year private vocational or technical school shall receive tuition  
107 reimbursements in excess of the tuition rate charged by a public community college for course  
108 work offered by the private vocational or technical school within the service area of such college;  
109 and

110 (4) The reimbursements provided to any two-year private vocational or technical school  
111 shall not violate the provisions of Article IX, Section 8, or Article I, Section 7, of the Missouri  
112 Constitution or the first amendment of the United States Constitution.

173.262. 1. There is hereby established the "Marguerite Ross Barnett Competitiveness  
2 Scholarship Program", and any moneys appropriated by the general assembly for this program  
3 shall be used to provide scholarships for Missouri citizens to attend a Missouri college or  
4 university of their choice pursuant to the provisions of this section.

5 2. The definitions of terms set forth in section 173.205 shall be applicable to such terms  
6 as used in this section. The term "competitiveness scholarship" means an amount of money paid  
7 by the state of Missouri to a qualified college or university student pursuant to the provisions of  
8 this section.

9           3. The coordinating board for higher education shall be the administrative agency for the  
10 implementation of the program established by this section, and shall:

11           (1) Promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for the exercise of its functions and the  
12 effectuation of the purposes of this section;

13           (2) Prescribe the form and the time and method of awarding competitiveness  
14 scholarships, and shall supervise the processing thereof; and

15           (3) Select qualified recipients to receive competitiveness scholarships, make such awards  
16 of competitiveness scholarships to qualified recipients and determine the manner and method of  
17 payment to the recipient.

18           4. A student shall be eligible for initial or renewed competitiveness scholarship if, at the  
19 time of his application and throughout the period during which he is receiving such assistance,  
20 he is a part-time student who:

21           (1) Is eighteen years of age or older;

22           (2) Is employed twenty hours or more per week;

23           (3) ~~Is a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States;~~

24 ~~——(4)]~~ Is a resident of the state of Missouri, as determined by reference to standards  
25 promulgated pursuant to section 173.140;

26 ~~[(5)]~~ (4) Is enrolled, or has been accepted for enrollment, as a part-time undergraduate  
27 student in an approved private or public institution; and

28 ~~[(6)]~~ (5) Establishes financial need.

29           5. A recipient of competitiveness scholarship awarded under the provisions of this  
30 section may transfer from one approved Missouri public or private institution to another without  
31 losing eligibility for the scholarship. If a recipient of the scholarship at any time withdraws from  
32 an approved private or public institution so that under the rules and regulations of that institution  
33 he is entitled to a refund of any tuition, fees or other charges, the institution shall pay the portion  
34 of the refund attributable to the scholarship for that term to the coordinating board for higher  
35 education.

173.1104. 1. An applicant shall be eligible for initial or renewed financial assistance  
2 only if, at the time of application and throughout the period during which the applicant is  
3 receiving such assistance, the applicant:

4           (1) ~~Is a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States;~~

5 ~~——(2)]~~ Is a resident of the state of Missouri, as determined by reference to standards  
6 promulgated by the coordinating board;

7 ~~[(3)]~~ (2) Is enrolled, or has been accepted for enrollment, as a full-time undergraduate  
8 student in an approved private or public institution; and

9           ~~[(4)]~~ (3) Is not enrolled or does not intend to use the award to enroll in a course of study  
10 leading to a degree in theology or divinity.

11           2. If an applicant is found guilty of or pleads guilty to any criminal offense during the  
12 period of time in which the applicant is receiving financial assistance, such applicant shall not  
13 be eligible for renewal of such assistance, provided such offense would disqualify the applicant  
14 from receiving federal student aid under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as  
15 amended.

16           3. Financial assistance shall be allotted for one academic year, but a recipient shall be  
17 eligible for renewed assistance until he or she has obtained a baccalaureate degree, provided such  
18 financial assistance shall not exceed a total of ten semesters or fifteen quarters or their  
19 equivalent. Standards of eligibility for renewed assistance shall be the same as for an initial  
20 award of financial assistance, except that for renewal, an applicant shall demonstrate a  
21 grade-point average of two and five-tenths on a four-point scale, or the equivalent on another  
22 scale. This subsection shall be construed as the successor to section 173.215 for purposes of  
23 eligibility requirements of other financial assistance programs that refer to section 173.215.

173.2505. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the “Dual Credit  
2 Scholarship Act”.

3           2. To be eligible to receive the dual credit scholarship, a student shall:

4           (1) ~~[Be a United States citizen or permanent resident;~~

5           ~~———(2)]~~ Be a Missouri resident as defined by the coordinating board for higher education  
6 pursuant to section 173.005;

7           ~~[(3)]~~ (2) Be enrolled in a dual credit program offered by an approved dual credit  
8 provider, as defined in section 173.2500;

9           ~~[(4)]~~ (3) Have a cumulative high school grade point average of at least two and a half on  
10 a four point scale or equivalent; and

11           ~~[(5)]~~ (4) Meet one or more of the following indicators of economic need:

12           (a) Be individually eligible to be enrolled in a federal free or reduced-price lunch  
13 program, based on income levels established by the United States Department of Agriculture;

14           (b) Reside in a foster home, be a ward of the state, or be homeless; or

15           (c) Receive low-income public assistance, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance  
16 Program (SNAP) or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and  
17 Children (WIC), or live in federally subsidized public housing.

18           3. The dual credit scholarship is hereby created to provide financial assistance to high  
19 school students enrolling in dual credit courses offered by an approved dual credit provider as  
20 defined in section 173.2500. The coordinating board may promulgate rules for the  
21 administration of the program including establishing the application, eligibility, and payment

22 procedures. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is  
23 created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies  
24 with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028.  
25 This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general  
26 assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and  
27 annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and  
28 any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2016, shall be invalid and void.

29 4. Subject to appropriation, the dual credit scholarship shall reimburse eligible students  
30 for up to fifty percent of the tuition cost paid by the student to enroll in a dual credit course  
31 offered by an approved dual credit provider.

32 5. No student shall receive in excess of five hundred dollars annually for all dual credit  
33 courses taken by such student.

34 6. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Dual Credit Scholarship Fund",  
35 which shall consist of moneys appropriated to the fund by the general assembly and private  
36 donations made to the fund. The state treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund and shall  
37 invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and  
38 moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund. Notwithstanding the  
39 provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the  
40 biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund.

**173.2550. 1. The provisions of this section shall be known and may be cited to as  
2 the "Make America Great Again Act".**

**3 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be denied any post-  
4 secondary public education benefit based on the citizenship or immigration status, lawful  
5 or unlawful, of such person.**

178.411. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 (1) "Board", state board of education;

3 (2) "Course", any unit of study for which an institution awards credit hours toward the  
4 completion of an education program;

5 (3) "Fee", any tuition or fee or both charged by an institution for attendance at that  
6 institution by a resident of this state;

7 (4) "Fee waiver", the relinquishment by the institution of its charge of fees to a  
8 homemaker according to the provisions of this section;

9 (5) "Homemaker", an individual whose principal job has been homemaking, who has lost  
10 his or her main source of income because of divorce, separation, death or disability of a spouse,  
11 long-term family income below poverty level, or loss of eligibility for public assistance, and who

12 has not been employed on a full-time basis of forty hours per week for at least three years. Such  
13 full-time employment shall not include seasonal occupations;

14 (6) "Institution", a public area vocational-technical school or a public community college  
15 as established in this chapter;

16 (7) "Training program ready", the completion by a homemaker of a comprehensive  
17 vocational assessment of interests, aptitudes and abilities inventories or tests to ensure  
18 appropriate vocational educational placement from an approved vocational  
19 assessment/evaluation program, including the completion of a vocational orientation involving  
20 career decision-making activities, career exploration into nontraditional programs, new  
21 technologies and high demand occupations;

22 (8) "Vocational education program", an educational program for less than a  
23 baccalaureate degree, the controlling purpose of which is to prepare for profitable employment.

24 2. The board shall be the administrative agency for the implementation of this section.  
25 The board shall:

26 (1) Promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of this section;

27 (2) Determine the procedures necessary for a homemaker to apply for and receive a fee  
28 waiver and provide the necessary forms;

29 (3) Determine eligibility guidelines for an institution to follow in the event that more  
30 homemakers apply for fee waivers in vocational education programs than the institution can  
31 accommodate in any particular enrollment period;

32 (4) Determine guidelines for individual eligibility and minimum standards in order for  
33 a homemaker to become and to remain eligible to receive a fee waiver, including becoming  
34 training program ready;

35 (5) Distribute annual grants to the institutions within the amounts appropriated therefor  
36 according to the provisions of this section.

37 3. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of this section shall  
38 become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of section 536.024.

39 4. Any other provision of the law to the contrary notwithstanding, an institution may  
40 waive the fee required for attendance in a vocational education program by a homemaker.  
41 Unless otherwise required by federal law, the receipt of the fee waiver shall not cause a reduction  
42 from any other agency benefits while the individual is enrolled in a vocational education program  
43 and for a period of six months after exit to full-time unsubsidized employment.

44 5. Within the limits of the amounts appropriated therefor, the board shall award an  
45 annual grant to each institution for fee waivers. The appropriated amount shall be divided  
46 between the area vocational-technical schools and the community colleges and shall be  
47 distributed according to the state plan for federal vocational education funds.



48           6. A homemaker may receive a fee waiver from an institution if at the time of application  
 49 and throughout the period during which the homemaker is receiving such waiver the homemaker  
 50 is a ~~[citizen or permanent resident of the United States, is a]~~ resident of the state of Missouri as  
 51 defined by the board, and is enrolled or has been accepted for enrollment in a vocational  
 52 education program the purpose of which is to prepare for gainful employment. In no event shall  
 53 a homemaker receive additional fee waivers beyond the completion of the vocational education  
 54 program for which the homemaker is enrolled. A homemaker may change from one program  
 55 to another prior to completion of the original program without loss of eligibility; provided,  
 56 however, that the total credit hours for which fees are waived shall not exceed the equivalent  
 57 credit hours of a community college associate's degree.

58           7. Nothing in this section shall be construed as a promise or guarantee that a homemaker  
 59 will be admitted to an institution or to a particular program within that institution, that a  
 60 homemaker will be allowed to continue after having been admitted, or will be graduated from  
 61 a program at an institution. Each institution's rules and policies on student advancement shall  
 62 apply to homemakers receiving fee waivers. An institution may subsequently refuse to waive  
 63 fees if the homemaker has not made satisfactory progress or has withdrawn from the program  
 64 prior to completion of the course without cause according to the institution's rules.

~~[173.1110. 1. No covered student unlawfully present in the United States  
 2 shall receive a postsecondary education public benefit. Educational institutions  
 3 awarding postsecondary education public benefits to covered students shall verify  
 4 that these students are United States citizens, permanent residents, or lawfully  
 5 present in the United States.~~

~~6           2. The following documents, in hard copy or electronic form, may be  
 7 used to document that a covered student is a United States citizen, permanent  
 8 resident, or is lawfully present in the United States:~~

~~9           (1) The Free Application for Student Aid Institutional Student  
 10 Information Record;~~

~~11           (2) A state-issued driver's license;~~

~~12           (3) A state-issued nondriver's identification card;~~

~~13           (4) Documentary evidence recognized by the department of revenue  
 14 when processing an application for a driver's license or nondriver's identification  
 15 card;~~

~~16           (5) A United States birth certificate;~~

~~17           (6) A United States military identification card; or~~

~~18           (7) Any document issued by the federal government that confirms an  
 19 alien's lawful presence in the United States.~~

20 ~~3. All postsecondary higher education institutions shall annually certify~~  
21 ~~to the department of higher education that they have not knowingly awarded a~~  
22 ~~postsecondary education public benefit to a covered student who is unlawfully~~  
23 ~~present in the United States.~~

24 ~~4. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:~~

25 ~~(1) "Covered student", a student eighteen years of age or older, who has~~  
26 ~~graduated from high school and is attending classes on the campus of a~~  
27 ~~postsecondary educational institution during regularly scheduled academic~~  
28 ~~sessions;~~

29 ~~(2) "Postsecondary education public benefit", institutional financial aid~~  
30 ~~awarded by public postsecondary educational institutions and state-administered~~  
31 ~~postsecondary grants and scholarships awarded by all postsecondary educational~~  
32 ~~institutions to covered students.]~~

33

~~[208.009. 1. No alien unlawfully present in the United States shall~~  
2 ~~receive any state or local public benefit, except for state or local public benefits~~  
3 ~~that may be offered under 8 U.S.C. 1621(b). Nothing in this section shall be~~  
4 ~~construed to prohibit the rendering of emergency medical care, prenatal care,~~  
5 ~~services offering alternatives to abortion, emergency assistance, or legal~~  
6 ~~assistance to any person.~~

7 ~~2. As used in this section, "public benefit" means any grant, contract, or~~  
8 ~~loan provided by an agency of state or local government; or any retirement,~~  
9 ~~welfare, health, disability, housing, or food assistance benefit under which~~  
10 ~~payments, assistance, credits, or reduced rates or fees are provided. The term~~  
11 ~~"public benefit" shall not include postsecondary education public benefits as~~  
12 ~~defined in section 173.1110, any municipal permit, or contracts or agreements~~  
13 ~~between public utility providers and their customers or unemployment benefits~~  
14 ~~payable under chapter 288. The unemployment compensation program shall~~  
15 ~~verify the lawful presence of an alien for the purpose of determining eligibility~~  
16 ~~for benefits in accordance with its own procedures.~~

17 ~~3. In addition to providing proof of other eligibility requirements, at the~~  
18 ~~time of application for any state or local public benefit, an applicant who is~~  
19 ~~eighteen years of age or older shall provide affirmative proof that the applicant~~  
20 ~~is a citizen or a permanent resident of the United States or is lawfully present in~~  
21 ~~the United States. Such affirmative proof shall include documentary evidence~~  
22 ~~recognized by the department of revenue when processing an application for a~~

23 driver's license, a Missouri driver's license, as well as any document issued by the  
24 federal government that confirms an alien's lawful presence in the United States.  
25 In processing applications for public benefits, an employee of an agency of state  
26 or local government shall not inquire about the legal status of a custodial parent  
27 or guardian applying for a public benefit on behalf of his or her dependent child  
28 who is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.

29 ~~4. An applicant who cannot provide the proof required under this section~~  
30 ~~at the time of application may alternatively sign an affidavit under oath, attesting~~  
31 ~~to either United States citizenship or classification by the United States as an~~  
32 ~~alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, in order to receive temporary~~  
33 ~~benefits or a temporary identification document as provided in this section. The~~  
34 ~~affidavit shall be on or consistent with forms prepared by the state or local~~  
35 ~~government agency administering the state or local public benefits and shall~~  
36 ~~include the applicant's Social Security number or any applicable federal~~  
37 ~~identification number and an explanation of the penalties under state law for~~  
38 ~~obtaining public assistance benefits fraudulently.~~

39 ~~5. An applicant who has provided the sworn affidavit required under~~  
40 ~~subsection 4 of this section is eligible to receive temporary public benefits as~~  
41 ~~follows:~~

42 ~~(1) For ninety days or until such time that it is determined that the~~  
43 ~~applicant is not lawfully present in the United States, whichever is earlier, or~~

44 ~~(2) Indefinitely if the applicant provides a copy of a completed~~  
45 ~~application for a birth certificate that is pending in Missouri or some other state.~~  
46 ~~An extension granted under this subsection shall terminate upon the applicant's~~  
47 ~~receipt of a birth certificate or a determination that a birth certificate does not~~  
48 ~~exist because the applicant is not a United States citizen.~~

49 ~~6. An applicant who is an alien shall not receive any state or local public~~  
50 ~~benefit unless the alien's lawful presence in the United States is first verified by~~  
51 ~~the federal government. State and local agencies administering public benefits~~  
52 ~~in this state shall cooperate with the United States Department of Homeland~~  
53 ~~Security in achieving verification of an alien's lawful presence in the United~~  
54 ~~States in furtherance of this section. The system utilized may include the~~  
55 ~~Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program operated by the United~~  
56 ~~States Department of Homeland Security. After an applicant's lawful presence~~  
57 ~~in the United States has been verified through the Systematic Alien Verification~~

58 for Entitlements Program, no additional verification is required within the same  
59 agency of the state or local government.

60 ~~7. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to require any~~  
61 ~~nonprofit organization duly registered with the Internal Revenue Service to~~  
62 ~~enforce the provisions of this section, nor does it prohibit such an organization~~  
63 ~~from providing aid.~~

64 ~~8. Any agency that administers public benefits shall provide assistance~~  
65 ~~in obtaining appropriate documentation to persons applying for public benefits~~  
66 ~~who sign the affidavit required by subsection 4 of this section stating they are~~  
67 ~~eligible for such benefits but lack the documents required under subsection 3 of~~  
68 ~~this section.]~~

✓