

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2447

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE RICHEY.

5187H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 161, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to grants for certain educational programs offered by public school districts.

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
2 known as section 161.390, to read as follows:

161.390. 1. For purposes of this section, the term "classical education program"
2 **means an educational program that has a goal of educating students through skill**
3 **development and the cultivation of knowledge. Skills are developed through the liberal**
4 **arts, and knowledge is cultivated through the sciences. The liberal arts and the sciences**
5 **represent two distinct but inseparable domains of classical education. Liberal arts**
6 **encompass two practiced sets of skills: language skills, including grammar, logic, and**
7 **rhetoric; and mathematical skills, including arithmetic, geometry, music, and**
8 **astronomy. Historically, a classical education focuses on three bodies of knowledge:**
9 **the human sciences, including literature, history, and philosophy; the natural sciences,**
10 **including biology, chemistry, and physics; and the theological sciences, including dogma,**
11 **ethics, and apologetics.**

12 **2. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary**
13 **education shall establish the "Classical Education Grant Program" pursuant to the**
14 **provisions of this section.**

15 **3. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Classical Education**
16 **Grant Program Fund". The fund shall consist of any appropriations to such fund and**
17 **any gifts, bequests, or donations to such fund. The state treasurer shall be custodian of**

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 the fund. The department of elementary and secondary education shall administer the
19 fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve
20 disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in
21 the fund shall be used solely by the department of elementary and secondary education
22 for the purpose of providing grants to eligible school districts to provide classical
23 education programs as specified in this section.

24 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys
25 remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the
26 general revenue fund.

27 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as
28 other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
29 credited to the fund.

30 4. Subject to appropriation, the department of elementary and secondary
31 education shall award grants from the classical education grant program fund to eligible
32 school districts for the purpose of providing classical education programs. A school
33 district wishing to receive such a grant shall submit an application to the department of
34 elementary and secondary education addressing:

35 (1) A core mission that classical education courses will help achieve;

36 (2) A plan that outlines classical education courses and key metrics that will
37 show success;

38 (3) Resources available to the school district and in the community that will
39 assist in creating successful outcomes in classical education; and

40 (4) Resources and support needed to help the school district succeed in
41 implementing classical education courses.

42 5. The department of elementary and secondary education shall promulgate all
43 necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or
44 portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the
45 authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is
46 subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This
47 section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the
48 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to
49 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
50 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2024, shall be
51 invalid and void.