

# SENATE BILL NO. 461

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GREGORY (21).

0750S.02I

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 348, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to tax credits for investments in certain Missouri businesses.

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

Section A. Chapter 348, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto  
2 two new sections, to be known as sections 348.273 and 348.274,  
3 to read as follows:

**348.273. 1. This section and section 348.274 shall be  
2 known and may be cited as the "Missouri Angel Investment  
3 Incentive Act".**

**4 2. As used in this section and section 348.274, the  
5 following terms mean:**

**6 (1) "Cash investment", any moneys or money-equivalent  
7 contribution in consideration of qualified securities;**

**8 (2) "Department", the department of economic  
9 development;**

**10 (3) "Designated geographic regions", the following  
11 four regions:**

**12 (a) Region 1: Counties of Andrew, Bates, Benton,  
13 Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Clinton, DeKalb, Gentry, Henry, Holt,  
14 Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Platte, Ray, and Worth;**

**15 (b) Region 2: Counties of Franklin, Jefferson,  
16 Lincoln, St. Charles, Warren, and St. Louis, and the City of  
17 St. Louis;**

18 (c) Region 3: Counties geographically north of the  
19 Missouri River, but excluding any counties in region 1 or  
20 region 2; and

21 (d) Region 4: Counties geographically south of the  
22 Missouri River, but excluding any counties in region 1 or  
23 region 2;

24 (4) "Investor", one of the following persons or  
25 entities:

26 (a) A natural person who is an accredited investor as  
27 defined under 17 CFR 230.501(a)(5) or 230.501(a)(6), as in  
28 effect on April 5, 2012;

29 (b) A permitted entity investor who is an accredited  
30 investor as defined under 17 CFR 230.501(a)(8), as in effect  
31 on August 28, 2013; or

32 (c) A natural person or permitted entity investor  
33 making an investment who qualifies under the federal  
34 Jumpstart Our Business Startups (JOBS) Act, P.L. 112-106, as  
35 in effect on August 28, 2013; and

36 The term "investor" shall not include any person who serves  
37 as an executive, officer, or employee of the business in  
38 which an otherwise qualified cash investment is made, and  
39 such person shall not qualify for the issuance of tax  
40 credits for such investment. However, an investor who  
41 serves solely as a director may qualify for the issuance of  
42 tax credits;

43 (5) "MTC", the Missouri technology corporation  
44 established under section 348.251;

45 (6) "Owner", any natural person who is, directly or  
46 indirectly, a partner, stockholder, or member in a permitted  
47 entity investor;

48           (7) "Permitted entity investor", any general  
49 partnership; limited partnership; corporation that has in  
50 effect a valid election to be taxed as an S corporation  
51 under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;  
52 revocable living trust; nonprofit corporation; or limited  
53 liability company that has elected to be taxed as a  
54 partnership under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as  
55 amended, and that was established and is operated for the  
56 purpose of making investments in other entities;

57           (8) "Qualified knowledge-based company", a company  
58 engaged in the research, development, implementation, and  
59 commercialization of innovative technologies, products, and  
60 services for use in the commercial marketplace;

61           (9) "Qualified Missouri business", a Missouri business  
62 that is approved as a qualified knowledge-based company by  
63 the MTC and meets at least one of the following criteria:

64           (a) Any partnership, association, limited liability  
65 company, or corporation domiciled in Missouri; or

66           (b) Any limited liability company or corporation that  
67 is domiciled outside the state of Missouri but has its  
68 business operations located primarily in Missouri or does  
69 substantially all of such business's production in Missouri;

70           (10) "Qualified securities", a cash investment through  
71 any form or combination of forms of financial assistance as  
72 provided under this subdivision. Such forms of financial  
73 assistance include, but are not limited to:

74           (a) Any form of equity, such as:

75           a. A general or limited partnership interest;

76           b. Common stock;

77           c. Simple agreement for future equity (SAFE); or

78           d. Preferred stock, without regard to voting rights or  
79 seniority position, and regardless of whether convertible  
80 into common stock; and

81           (b) Any debt instrument subordinate to the general  
82 creditors of the qualified Missouri company debtor that  
83 requires no payment from the qualified Missouri company  
84 debtor and that shall convert to some form of equity prior  
85 to, or in conjunction with, the qualified Missouri company  
86 raising any additional funds;

87           (11) "Rural county", any county in the state of  
88 Missouri with fewer than twenty-five thousand inhabitants,  
89 and such term shall be deemed to include both the farm and  
90 nonfarm population thereof. The number of inhabitants  
91 specified in this subdivision shall be increased by six  
92 percent every ten years after each decennial census  
93 beginning in 2030; and

94           (12) "Tax credit", a credit against the tax otherwise  
95 due under chapter 143, excluding withholding tax imposed by  
96 sections 143.191 to 143.265, chapter 147, or chapter 148.

97           3. (1) For all tax years beginning on or after  
98 January 1, 2026, a tax credit shall be allowed for an  
99 investor's cash investment in the qualified securities of a  
100 qualified Missouri business. The credit shall be in a total  
101 amount equal to forty percent of such investor's cash  
102 investment in any qualified Missouri business, subject to  
103 the limitations set forth in this subsection. The credit  
104 shall be in a total amount equal to fifty percent where the  
105 investor's cash investment in the qualified securities of a  
106 qualified Missouri business are in a rural county. If the  
107 amount by which that portion of the credit allowed by this  
108 section exceeds the investor's tax liability in any one tax  
109 year, the remaining portion of the credit may be carried

110 forward five years or until the total amount of the credit  
111 is used, whichever occurs first. If the investor is a  
112 permitted entity investor, the credit provided by this  
113 section shall be claimed by the permitted entity investor in  
114 proportion to such owner's equity investment in the  
115 permitted entity investor.

116 (2) A cash investment in a qualified security shall be  
117 deemed to have been made on the date of acquisition of the  
118 qualified security, as such date is determined in accordance  
119 with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as  
120 amended.

121 (3) The department and the MTC shall not allow tax  
122 credits of more than seventy-five thousand dollars for a  
123 single qualified Missouri business per investor who is a  
124 natural person or a permitted entity investor and shall not  
125 allow a total of three hundred thousand dollars in tax  
126 credits for a single tax year per investor who is a natural  
127 person or a permitted entity investor. No tax credit  
128 authorized by this section or section 348.274 shall be  
129 allowed for any cash investments in qualified securities  
130 made in any year after December 31, 2032. The total amount  
131 of tax credits that may be allowed under this section shall  
132 not exceed six million dollars during either calendar year  
133 2026 or 2027. Beginning in calendar year 2028, the total  
134 amount of tax credits allowed under this section shall be  
135 annually increased by twenty percent of the total amount of  
136 tax credits allowed in the immediately preceding calendar  
137 year, so long as the total amount of tax credits allowed in  
138 the immediately preceding calendar year was issued during  
139 the immediately preceding calendar year. For each  
140 successive year thereafter, if the total amount of tax  
141 credits allowed in the immediately preceding calendar year

142 under this section is issued, the total amount of tax  
143 credits shall be increased by an additional twenty percent.  
144 Such increase of twenty percent of tax credits allowed shall  
145 continue, so long as the total amount of tax credits allowed  
146 in the immediately preceding calendar year was completely  
147 issued. The balance of unissued tax credits may be carried  
148 over for issuance in future years before December 31, 2034.  
149 The balance of unissued tax credits carried over, if any,  
150 shall not be used in the calculation of the total amount of  
151 tax credits allowed in a given calendar year.

152 (4) At the beginning of each calendar year, the MTC  
153 shall equally designate the total amount of tax credits  
154 available during the first six months of that calendar year  
155 to each designated geographic region. As soon as  
156 practicable at the end of the first six months of that  
157 calendar year, the MTC shall prepare and issue a report to  
158 the director of the department designating all tax credit  
159 awards for that year to date, so that the department may  
160 issue such tax credits in accordance with the provisions of  
161 this section and section 348.274.

162 (5) During the last six months of the calendar year,  
163 any unissued tax credits previously allocated to any  
164 designated geographic region may be awarded at the  
165 discretion of the MTC to a qualified Missouri company in any  
166 designated geographic region throughout the state.

167 4. (1) Before an investor is entitled to receive tax  
168 credits under this section and section 348.274, such  
169 investor shall have made a cash investment in a qualified  
170 security of a qualified Missouri business. The business  
171 shall have been approved as a qualified Missouri business  
172 before the date on which the cash investment was made. To

173 be designated as a qualified Missouri business, a business  
174 shall apply to the MTC.

175 (2) The application by a business shall be in the form  
176 and substance required by the MTC in coordination with the  
177 department by and through its service on the MTC board of  
178 directors but shall include at least the following:

179 (a) The name of the business and certified copies of  
180 the organizational documents of the business;

181 (b) A business plan, including a description of the  
182 business and the management, product, market, and financial  
183 plan of the business;

184 (c) A statement of the potential economic impact of  
185 the business, including the number, location, and types of  
186 jobs expected to be created;

187 (d) A description of the qualified securities to be  
188 issued, the consideration to be paid for the qualified  
189 securities, and the amount of any tax credits requested;

190 (e) A statement of the amount, timing, and projected  
191 use of the proceeds to be raised from the proposed sale of  
192 qualified securities; and

193 (f) Such other information as may be reasonably  
194 requested.

195 (3) The designation of a business as a qualified  
196 Missouri business shall be made by the MTC, and each  
197 qualified Missouri business shall annually apply to renew  
198 such designation, to be approved by the MTC. A business  
199 shall be so designated if the MTC determines, based upon the  
200 application submitted by the business and any additional  
201 information provided in connection with such application or  
202 as reasonably requested by the MTC, that such business meets  
203 established criteria, including at least the following:

204           (a) The business shall not have had annual gross  
205 revenues of more than five million dollars in the most  
206 recent tax year of the business;

207           (b) Businesses that are not bioscience businesses  
208 shall have been in operation for less than five years, and  
209 bioscience businesses shall have been in operation for less  
210 than ten years;

211           (c) The ability of investors in the business to  
212 receive tax credits for cash investments in qualified  
213 securities of the business is beneficial to advancing the  
214 goals of this section and section 348.274;

215           (d) The business shall not have ownership interests  
216 including, but not limited to, common or preferred shares of  
217 stock that can be traded via a public stock exchange before  
218 the date that a qualifying investment is made;

219           (e) The business shall not be engaged primarily in any  
220 one or more of the following enterprises:

221           a. The business of banking, savings and loan or  
222 lending institutions, credit or finance, or financial  
223 brokerage or investments;

224           b. The provision of professional services, such as  
225 legal, accounting, or engineering services; however,  
226 contract research or manufacturing organizations, sometimes  
227 referred to as CROs or CMOs, shall not be subject to this  
228 exclusion;

229           c. Governmental, charitable, religious, or trade  
230 organizations;

231           d. The ownership, development, brokerage, sales, or  
232 leasing of real estate;

233           e. Insurance;

234           f. Construction, construction management, or  
235 contracting;

- 236 g. Business consulting or brokerage;
- 237 h. Any business engaged primarily as a passive  
238 business, having irregular or noncontiguous operations, or  
239 deriving substantially all of the income of the business  
240 from passive investments that generate interest, dividends,  
241 royalties, or capital gains or any business arrangements the  
242 effect of which is to immunize an investor from risk of loss;
- 243 i. Any activity that is in violation of the law;
- 244 j. Any business raising moneys primarily to purchase  
245 real estate, land, or fixtures; and
- 246 k. Any gambling-related business;
- 247 (f) The business has a reasonable chance of success;
- 248 (g) The business has the reasonable potential to  
249 create measurable employment within the region, this state,  
250 or both;
- 251 (h) The business is based on an innovative technology,  
252 product, or service designed to be used in the commercial  
253 marketplace;
- 254 (i) The existing owners of the business and other  
255 founders have made or are committed to making a substantial  
256 financial or time commitment to the business;
- 257 (j) The securities to be issued and purchased are  
258 qualified securities;
- 259 (k) The business has the reasonable potential to  
260 address needs and opportunities specific to the region, this  
261 state, or both;
- 262 (l) The business has made binding commitments to the  
263 MTC for adequate reporting of financial data, including a  
264 requirement for an annual report or, if required, an annual  
265 audit of the financial and operational records of the  
266 business; the right of access to the financial records of  
267 the business; the right of the department and the MTC to

268 record and publish normal and customary data and information  
269 related to the issuance of tax credits that are not  
270 otherwise determined to be trade or business secrets; and  
271 other such protections as may be in the best interest of  
272 Missouri taxpayers to achieve the goals of this section and  
273 section 348.274; and

274 (m) The business shall satisfy all other requirements  
275 of this section and section 348.274.

276 (4) A qualified Missouri business shall have the  
277 burden of proof to demonstrate the qualifications of the  
278 business under this section.

279 (5) The MTC shall establish an application fee for  
280 qualified Missouri businesses and investors or transferees.  
281 This fee shall be utilized by MTC to administer this act,  
282 issue the tax credits, and review the applications.

348.274. 1. (1) The MTC is authorized to allocate  
2 tax credits to qualified Missouri businesses, and the  
3 department is authorized to issue tax credits to investors  
4 in such qualified Missouri businesses. Such tax credits  
5 shall be allocated to those qualified Missouri businesses  
6 that, as determined by the MTC, are most likely to provide  
7 the greatest economic benefit to the region or the state, or  
8 both. The MTC may allocate, and the department may issue,  
9 whole or partial tax credits in accordance with the report  
10 issued to the director of the department based on the MTC's  
11 assessment of the qualified Missouri businesses. The MTC  
12 may consider numerous factors in such assessment including,  
13 but not limited to, the quality and experience of the  
14 management team, the size of the estimated market  
15 opportunity, the risk from current or future competition,  
16 the ability to defend intellectual property, the quality and

17 utility of the business model, and the quality and  
18 reasonableness of financial projections for the business.

19 (2) Each qualified Missouri business for which the MTC  
20 has allocated tax credits such that the department can issue  
21 tax credits to the investors of such qualified Missouri  
22 business shall submit to the MTC a report before such tax  
23 credits are issued. Such report shall include the following:

24 (a) The name, address, and taxpayer identification  
25 number of each investor who has made cash investment in the  
26 qualified securities of the qualified Missouri business;

27 (b) Proof of such investment, including copies of the  
28 securities' purchase agreements and cancelled checks or wire-  
29 transfer receipts; and

30 (c) Such other information as may be reasonably  
31 required under this section and section 348.273 or  
32 reasonably requested by the department or the MTC.

33 2. (1) The state of Missouri, the department, or the  
34 MTC shall not be held liable for any damages to any investor  
35 that makes an investment in any qualified security of a  
36 qualified Missouri business, any business that applies to be  
37 designated as a qualified Missouri business and is denied,  
38 or any investor that makes an investment in a business that  
39 applies to be designated as a qualified Missouri business  
40 and is denied.

41 (2) Each qualified Missouri business shall have the  
42 obligation to notify the MTC, which shall notify the  
43 director of the department, of any changes in the  
44 qualifications of the business or in the eligibility of  
45 investors to claim a tax credit for cash investment in a  
46 qualified security.

47 (3) The director of the department, in cooperation  
48 with the MTC, shall provide the information specified under

49 subdivision (3) of subsection 4 of this section to the  
50 director of the department of revenue on an annual basis.  
51 The MTC shall conduct an annual review of the activities  
52 undertaken under this section and section 348.273 to ensure  
53 that tax credits issued under this section and section  
54 348.273 are issued in compliance with the provisions of this  
55 section and section 348.273 or rules and regulations  
56 promulgated by the MTC or the department with respect to  
57 this section and section 348.273. The reasonable costs of  
58 the annual review shall be paid by the MTC according to a  
59 reasonable fee schedule adopted by the MTC in cooperation  
60 with the department by and through its service on the MTC  
61 board of directors.

62 (4) If the MTC determines that a business is not in  
63 substantial compliance with the requirements under this  
64 section and section 348.273 to maintain its designation, the  
65 department or MTC, by written notice, may inform the  
66 business that such business will lose its designation as a  
67 qualified Missouri business one hundred twenty days from the  
68 date of mailing of the notice unless such business corrects  
69 the deficiencies and is once again in compliance with the  
70 requirements for designation and provides the MTC with  
71 evidence of correcting the deficiencies as the MTC  
72 reasonably requests.

73 (5) At the end of the one hundred twenty day period,  
74 if the qualified Missouri business is still not in  
75 substantial compliance, the department or MTC may send a  
76 notice of loss of designation to the business, the director  
77 of the department of revenue, and to all known investors in  
78 the business.

79 (6) A business may lose its designation as a qualified  
80 Missouri business under this section and section 348.273 by

81 moving either its headquarters outside of Missouri or a  
82 substantial number of the jobs created in Missouri to a  
83 location outside Missouri within ten years after receiving  
84 financial assistance under this section and section 348.273,  
85 provided that no business may lose its designation as a  
86 qualified Missouri business under this section and section  
87 348.273 if such move is in connection with the acquisition  
88 of the business by sale of all or substantially all of its  
89 business, whether by merger, sale of stock, sale of assets,  
90 or otherwise.

91 (7) In the event that a business loses its designation  
92 as a qualified Missouri business, such business shall be  
93 precluded from being issued any additional tax credits  
94 available under this section and section 348.273 with  
95 respect to the business, shall be precluded from being  
96 approved as a qualified Missouri business, and shall be  
97 subject to an appropriate clawback provision that the MTC,  
98 in cooperation with the department by and through its  
99 service on the MTC board of directors, may institute.

100 (8) Investors who lawfully make an investment in a  
101 qualified Missouri business shall not have issued tax  
102 credits disallowed solely due to the business subsequently  
103 losing its designation as a qualified Missouri business. In  
104 the event such qualified business loses its designation as a  
105 qualified Missouri business, the amount of tax credits  
106 issued under this section and section 348.273 shall be  
107 subject to clawback provisions from the qualified Missouri  
108 business, to be determined by the department and the MTC  
109 board of directors.

110 (9) The portions of documents and other materials  
111 submitted to the department or MTC that contain confidential  
112 information shall be kept confidential and shall be

113 maintained in a secured environment. For the purposes of  
114 this section and section 348.273, confidential information  
115 shall include, but not be limited to, such portions of trade  
116 secrets, documents, any customer lists, and other materials;  
117 any formula, compound, production data, or compilation of  
118 information that will allow certain individuals within a  
119 commercial concern using such portions of documents and  
120 other material the means to fabricate, produce, or compound  
121 an article of trade; or any service having commercial value  
122 that gives the user an opportunity to obtain a business  
123 advantage over competitors who do not know or use such  
124 service.

125 (10) The department and the MTC may prepare and adopt  
126 procedures, rules, and published guidance concerning the  
127 performance of the duties placed upon each respective entity  
128 by this section and section 348.273.

129 3. Any investor who makes a cash investment in a  
130 qualified security of a qualified Missouri business may  
131 transfer the tax credits such investor may receive under  
132 subsection 3 of section 348.273 to any natural person. So  
133 long as the investor has not claimed the tax credit against  
134 the investor's Missouri income tax liability, such  
135 transferee may claim the tax credit against the transferee's  
136 Missouri income tax liability as provided in subdivision (1)  
137 of subsection 3 of section 348.273, subject to all  
138 restrictions and limitations set forth in this section and  
139 section 348.273. Documentation of any tax credit transfer  
140 under this section shall be provided by the investor in the  
141 manner established by the MTC and the department, by and  
142 through its service on the MTC board of directors.

143 4. (1) Each qualified Missouri business for which tax  
144 credits were issued under this section and section 348.273

145 shall report to the MTC annually on or before February  
146 first. The MTC shall provide copies of the reports to the  
147 department under appropriate confidentiality agreements as  
148 may be necessary under the circumstances. Such reports  
149 shall include the following:

150 (a) The name, address, and taxpayer identification  
151 number of each investor who has made a cash investment in  
152 the qualified securities of the qualified Missouri business  
153 and has received tax credits for this investment during the  
154 preceding year;

155 (b) The amounts of cash investments by each investor  
156 and a description of the qualified securities issued in  
157 consideration of such cash investments; and

158 (c) Such other information as may be reasonably  
159 required under this section and section 348.273.

160 (2) The MTC shall report quarterly to the director of  
161 the department on the allocation of the tax credits in the  
162 preceding calendar quarter. Such reports shall include:

163 (a) The number of applications received;

164 (b) The number and ratio of successful applications to  
165 unsuccessful applications;

166 (c) The amount of tax credits allocated but not issued  
167 in the previous quarter, including what percentage was  
168 allocated to individuals and what percentage was allocated  
169 to investment firms; and

170 (d) Such other information as reasonably agreed upon  
171 from time to time.

172 (3) The MTC and the department, as applicable, shall  
173 also report annually to the governor, the director of the  
174 department of economic development, the president pro  
175 tempore of the senate, and the speaker of the house of

176 representatives, on or before April first, on the allocation  
177 and issuance of the tax credits. Such reports shall include:

178 (a) The amount of tax credits issued in the previous  
179 fiscal year, including what percentage was issued to  
180 individuals and what percentage was issued to investment  
181 firms;

182 (b) The types of businesses that benefitted from the  
183 tax credits;

184 (c) The amount of allocated but unissued tax credits  
185 and the information about the unissued tax credits set forth  
186 in subdivision (2) of this subsection;

187 (d) Any aggregate job creation or capital investment  
188 in the region that resulted from the use of the tax credits  
189 for a period of five years beginning from the date on which  
190 the tax credits were awarded;

191 (e) The manner in which the purpose of this section  
192 and section 348.273 has been carried out with regard to a  
193 designated geographic region;

194 (f) The total cash investments made for the purchase  
195 of qualified securities of qualified Missouri businesses  
196 within the state during the preceding year and cumulatively  
197 since the effective date of this section and section 348.273;

198 (g) An estimate of jobs created and jobs preserved by  
199 cash investments made in qualified Missouri businesses  
200 within the state;

201 (h) An estimate of the multiplier effect on the  
202 economy of the cash investments made under this section and  
203 section 348.273; and

204 (i) Information regarding what businesses deriving  
205 benefits from the tax credits remained in the designated  
206 geographic region, what businesses ceased business, what

207 businesses were purchased, and what businesses may have  
208 moved out of a designated geographic region or the state.

209 (4) Any violation of the reporting requirements of  
210 this subsection by a qualified Missouri business may be  
211 grounds for the loss of designation as a qualified Missouri  
212 business, and any such business that loses its designation  
213 as a qualified Missouri business shall be subject to the  
214 restrictions upon loss of designation set forth in  
215 subsection 2 of this section.

216 5. Notwithstanding any provision of section 105.1500  
217 to the contrary, any requirement to provide information,  
218 documents, or records under section 348.273 or 348.274, and  
219 any requirement established by the MTC or any state agency  
220 to provide information, documents, or records for the  
221 purpose of administering these sections, shall be exempt  
222 from section 105.1500 of the personal privacy protection act.

223 6. Tax credits issued under section 348.273 or 348.274  
224 shall be classified as "entrepreneurial tax credits" under  
225 section 135.800 of the tax credit accountability act.

226 7. Section 348.273 and this section shall expire on  
227 December 31, 2032.

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