

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 873

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SCHUPP.

Read 1st time January 8, 2018, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

5617S.011

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 167, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a course on career readiness for ninth grade students.

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

Section A. Chapter 167, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 167.910, to read as follows:

**167.910. 1. Before January 1, 2019, the state board of education shall convene a work group to explore the possibility of a course covering the topics described in this section being offered in the public schools to ninth grade students. The work group shall operate in the same manner as the work groups described under section 160.514.**

**2. The work group shall consider a course that:**

**(1) Gives ninth grade students an opportunity to explore various career and educational opportunities by:**

**(a) Administering career surveys to students and helping students use Missouri Connections to determine their career interests and develop plans to meet their career goals;**

**(b) Explaining the differences between types of colleges, including two-year and four-year colleges;**

**(c) Describing technical degrees offered by colleges;**

**(d) Explaining the courses and educational experiences offered at community colleges;**

**(e) Describing the various certificates and credentials available to earn at the school or other schools including, but not limited to, career and technical education certificates described under section 170.029 and industry-recognized certificates and credentials;**

**(f) Advising students of any advanced placement courses that**

22 they may take at the school;

23 (g) Describing any opportunities at the school for dual  
24 enrollment;

25 (h) Advising students of any Project Lead the Way courses  
26 offered at the school and explaining how Project Lead the Way courses  
27 help students learn valuable skills;

28 (i) Informing students of the availability of funding for  
29 postsecondary education through the A+ schools program described  
30 under section 160.545;

31 (j) Describing the availability of virtual courses;

32 (k) Describing the types of skills and occupations most in  
33 demand in the current job market and those skills and occupations  
34 likely to be in high demand in future years;

35 (l) Describing the typical salaries for occupations, salary trends,  
36 and opportunities for advancement in various occupations;

37 (m) Emphasizing the opportunities available in careers involving  
38 science, technology, engineering, and math;

39 (n) Advising students of the resources offered at the StL  
40 Workforce Center or other similar centers located in the state;

41 (o) Preparing students for the ACT assessment;

42 (p) Administering a practice ACT assessment to students;

43 (q) Advising students of opportunities to take the SAT and the  
44 Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery;

45 (r) Administering a basic math test to students so that they can  
46 assess their math skills;

47 (s) Administering a basic writing test to students so that they  
48 can assess their writing skills;

49 (t) Helping each student prepare a personal plan of study that  
50 outlines a sequence of courses and experiences that concludes with the  
51 student reaching his or her postsecondary goals; and

52 (u) Explaining how to complete college applications and the Free  
53 Application for Federal Student Aid;

54 (2) Focuses on career readiness and emphasizes the importance  
55 of work ethic, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and  
56 creativity; and

57 (3) Demonstrates that graduation from a four-year college is not  
58 the only pathway to success by describing to students at least sixteen

59 pathways to success in detail and including guest visitors who  
60 represent each pathway described. In exploring how these pathways  
61 could be covered in the course, the work group shall consider how  
62 instructors for the course may be able to rely on assistance from the  
63 state's Pathways to Prosperity Network within the department of  
64 elementary and secondary education.

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