

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 983

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR PEARCE.

Read 1st time February 27, 2014, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

6295S.01I

AN ACT

To repeal section 173.670, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the Missouri science, technology, engineering and mathematics initiative.

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

Section A. Section 173.670, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 173.670, to read as follows:

173.670. 1. There is hereby established within the department of higher
2 education the "Missouri Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
3 Initiative". The department of higher education may award matching funds
4 through this initiative to public institutions of higher education as part of the
5 annual appropriations process.

6 2. The purpose of the initiative shall be to provide support to increase
7 interest among elementary, secondary, and university students in fields of study
8 related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and to increase the
9 number of Missouri graduates in these fields at Missouri's public two- and
10 four-year institutions of higher education.

11 3. There is hereby created a "Science, Technology, Engineering and
12 Mathematics Fund", which shall consist of money collected under this
13 section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund and may approve
14 disbursements from the fund in accordance with sections 30.170 and
15 30.180. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used solely for the
16 administration of this section. Any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of
17 the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state
18 treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are
19 invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited
20 to the fund.

21 4. The general assembly may appropriate funds to the science, technology,

22 engineering, and mathematics fund to match institution funds to support the
23 following programs:

24 (1) Endowed teaching professor programs, which provide funds to support
25 faculty who teach undergraduate courses in science, technology, engineering, or
26 mathematics fields at public institutions of higher education;

27 (2) Scholarship programs, which provide financial aid or loan forgiveness
28 awards to Missouri students who study in the science, technology, engineering,
29 or mathematics fields or who plan to enter the teaching field in Missouri with an
30 emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics areas;

31 (3) Experiential youth programs at public colleges or universities,
32 designed to provide Missouri middle school, junior high, and high school students
33 with the opportunity to experience science, technology, engineering, and
34 mathematics fields through camps or other educational offerings;

35 (4) Career enhancement programs for current elementary and secondary
36 teachers and professors at Missouri public and private colleges and universities
37 in the science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields to improve the
38 quality of teaching.

39 **5. Any taxpayer hiring a person who is currently enrolled as a**
40 **student majoring in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics,**
41 **at any two-year or four-year public or private Missouri college or**
42 **university, to fill an internship position in the fields of science,**
43 **technology, engineering, or mathematics, may apply to have up to five**
44 **thousand dollars of the taxpayer's state tax liability removed from the**
45 **general revenue fund and placed in the science, technology,**
46 **engineering and mathematics fund established in subsection 3 of this**
47 **section. For purposes of this subsection, "state tax liability" means in**
48 **the case of a business taxpayer, any liability incurred by such taxpayer**
49 **under the provisions of chapters 143, 147, 148, and 153, excluding**
50 **withholding tax imposed by sections 143.191 to 143.265, and related**
51 **provisions, and in the case of an individual taxpayer, any liability**
52 **incurred by such taxpayer under the provisions of chapter 143. The**
53 **department of higher education shall establish a procedure for**
54 **approving applications under this section. The cumulative amount of**
55 **taxes transferred to the science, technology, engineering, and**
56 **mathematics fund under this subsection shall not exceed an annual**
57 **total of fifty thousand dollars from all participating taxpayers. In the**

58 event a donation is made to the fund from a third party, that donation
59 shall not count towards the fifty thousand dollar annual limit. In order
60 to qualify for purposes of this subsection, the internship shall be:

61 (1) Located within the state of Missouri; and

62 (2) For a duration of at least twelve weeks and consist of at least
63 fifteen hours of work per week.

64 6. The department may promulgate rules and regulations for the
65 administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that
66 term is defined in section 536.010 that is created under the authority
67 delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with
68 and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and, if applicable,
69 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if
70 any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter
71 536, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul
72 a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
73 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August
74 28, 2014, shall be invalid and void.

Bill ✓

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