SECOND REGULAR SESSION SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 549

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Economic Development, February 1, 2018, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

4475S.02C

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal sections 620.809 and 620.2020, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to financial incentives for job creation.

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

Section A. Sections 620.809 and 620.2020, RSMo, are repealed and two

- 2 new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 620.809 and
- 3 620.2020, to read as follows:

620.809. 1. The Missouri community college job training program fund,

- 2 formerly established in the state treasury by section 178.896, shall now be known
- 3 as the "Missouri Works Community College New Jobs Training Fund" and shall
- 4 be administered by the department for the training program. The department of
- 5 revenue shall credit to the fund, as received, all new jobs credits. The fund shall
- 6 also consist of any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests received from federal,
- 7 private, or other sources. The general assembly, however, shall not provide for
- 8 any transfer of general revenue funds into the fund. Moneys in the fund shall be
- 9 disbursed to the department under regular appropriations by the general
- 10 assembly. The department shall disburse such appropriated funds in a timely
- 11 manner into the special funds established by community college districts for
- 12 training projects, which funds shall be used to pay training project costs. Such
- 13 disbursements shall be made to the special fund for each training project as
- 14 provided under subsection 5 of this section. All moneys remaining in the fund at
- 15 the end of any fiscal year shall not lapse to the general revenue fund, as provided
- 16 in section 33.080, but shall remain in the fund.
- 2. The Missouri community college job retention training program fund,

formerly established in the state treasury by section 178.764, shall now be known as the "Missouri Works Community College Job Retention Training Fund" and shall be administered by the department for the Missouri works training program. The department of revenue shall credit to the fund, as received, all retained jobs credits. The fund shall also consist of any gifts, contributions, grants, or bequests received from federal, private, or other sources. The general assembly, however, shall not provide for any transfer of general revenue funds into the fund. Moneys in the fund shall be disbursed to the department under regular appropriations by the general assembly. The department shall disburse such appropriated funds in a timely manner into the special funds established by community college districts for projects, which funds shall be used to pay training program costs, including the principal, premium, and interest on certificates issued by the district to finance or refinance, in whole or in part, a project. Such disbursements by the department shall be made to the special fund for each project as provided under subsection 5 of this section. All moneys remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall not lapse to the general revenue fund, as provided in section 33.080, but shall remain in the fund.

- 3. The department of revenue shall develop such forms as are necessary to demonstrate accurately each qualified company's new jobs credit paid into the Missouri works community college new jobs training fund or retained jobs credit paid into the Missouri works community college job retention training fund. The new or retained jobs credits shall be accounted as separate from the normal withholding tax paid to the department of revenue by the qualified company. Reimbursements made by all qualified companies to the Missouri works community college new jobs training fund and the Missouri works community college job retention training fund shall be no less than all allocations made by the department to all community college districts for all projects. The qualified company shall remit the amount of the new or retained jobs credit, as applicable, to the department of revenue in the same manner as provided in sections 143.191 to 143.265.
- 4. A community college district, with the approval of the department in consultation with the office of administration, may enter into an agreement to establish a training project and provide training project services to a qualified company. As soon as possible after initial contact between a community college district and a potential qualified company regarding the possibility of entering into an agreement, the district shall inform the department of the potential

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training project. The department shall evaluate the proposed training project 55 within the overall job training efforts of the state to ensure that the training project will not duplicate other job training programs. The department shall have 56 fourteen days from receipt of a notice of intent to approve or disapprove a 57 training project. If no response is received by the qualified company within 58 fourteen days, the training project shall be deemed approved. Disapproval of any 59 training project shall be made in writing and state the reasons for such 60 disapproval. If an agreement is entered into, the district and the qualified 61 company shall notify the department of revenue within fifteen calendar days. In 62 63 addition to any provisions required under subsection 6 of this section for a 64 qualified company applying to receive a retained job credit, an agreement may 65 provide, but shall not be limited to:

- (1) Payment of training project costs, which may be paid from one or a combination of the following sources:
- (a) Funds appropriated by the general assembly to the Missouri works community college new jobs training program fund or Missouri works community college job retention training program fund, as applicable, and disbursed by the department for the purposes consistent with sections 620.800 to 620.809;
- 72 (b) Funds appropriated by the general assembly from the general revenue 73 fund and disbursed by the department for the purposes consistent with sections 74 620.800 to 620.809;
 - (c) Tuition, student fees, or special charges fixed by the board of trustees to defray training project costs in whole or in part;
- 77 (2) Payment of training project costs which shall not be deferred for a 78 period longer than eight years;
- 79 (3) Costs of on-the-job training for employees which shall include wages or salaries of participating employees. Payments for on-the-job training shall not 80 exceed the average of fifty percent of the total wages paid by the qualified 82 company to each participant during the period of training. Payment for 83 on-the-job training may continue for up to six months from the date the training 84 begins;
- 85 (4) A provision which fixes the minimum amount of new or retained jobs 86 credits, general revenue fund appropriations, or tuition and fee payments which 87 shall be paid for training project costs; and
- (5) Any payment required to be made by a qualified company. This 88 89 payment shall constitute a lien upon the qualified company's business property

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- 90 until paid, shall have equal priority with ordinary taxes and shall not be divested 91 by a judicial sale. Property subject to such lien may be sold for sums due and 92 delinquent at a tax sale, with the same forfeitures, penalties, and consequences 93 as for the nonpayment of ordinary taxes. The purchasers at tax sale shall obtain 94 the property subject to the remaining payments.
 - 5. (1) For projects that are funded exclusively under paragraph (a) of subdivision (1) of subsection 4 of this section, the department shall disburse such funds to the special fund for each training project in the same proportion as the new jobs or retained jobs credits remitted by the qualified company participating in such project bears to the total new jobs or retained jobs credits from withholding remitted by all qualified companies participating in projects during the period for which the disbursement is made.
 - (2) Subject to appropriation, for projects that are funded through a combination of funds under paragraphs (a) and (b) of subdivision (1) of subsection 4 of this section, the department shall disburse funds appropriated under paragraph (b) of subdivision (1) of subsection 4 of this section to the special fund for each training project upon commencement of the project. The department shall disburse funds appropriated under paragraph (a) of subdivision (1) of subsection 4 of this section to the special fund for each training project in the same proportion as the new jobs or retained jobs credits remitted by the qualified company participating in such project bears to the total new jobs or retained jobs credits from withholding remitted by all qualified companies participating in projects during the period for which the disbursement is made, reduced by the amount of funds appropriated under paragraph (b) of subdivision (1) of subsection 4 of this section.
 - 6. Any qualified company that submits a notice of intent for retained job credits shall enter into an agreement, providing that the qualified company has:
- 117 (1) Maintained at least one hundred full-time employees per year at the 118 project facility for the calendar year preceding the year in which the application 119 is made;
- 120 (2) Retained, at the project facility, the same number of employees that 121 existed in the taxable year immediately preceding the year in which application 122 is made; and
- 123 (3) Made or agrees to make a new capital investment of greater than five 124 times the amount of any award under this training program at the project facility 125 over a period of two consecutive calendar years, as certified by the qualified

126 company and:

- 127 (a) Has made substantial investment in new technology requiring the 128 upgrading of employee skills; or
- 129 (b) Is located in a border county of the state and represents a potential 130 risk of relocation from the state; or
- 131 (c) Has been determined to represent a substantial risk of relocation from 132 the state by the director of the department of economic development.
- 7. If an agreement provides that all or part of the training program costs are to be met by receipt of new or retained jobs credit, such new or retained jobs credit from withholding shall be determined and paid as follows:
 - (1) New or retained jobs credit shall be based upon the wages paid to the employees in the new or retained jobs;
 - (2) A portion of the total payments made by the qualified companies under sections 143.191 to 143.265 shall be designated as the new or retained jobs credit from withholding. Such portion shall be an amount equal to two and one-half percent of the gross wages paid by the qualified company for each of the first one hundred jobs included in the project and one and one-half percent of the gross wages paid by the qualified company for each of the remaining jobs included in the project. If business or employment conditions cause the amount of the new or retained jobs credit from withholding to be less than the amount projected in the agreement for any time period, then other withholding tax paid by the qualified company under sections 143.191 to 143.265 shall be credited to the applicable fund by the amount of such difference. The qualified company shall remit the amount of the new or retained jobs credit to the department of revenue in the manner prescribed in sections 143.191 to 143.265. When all training program costs have been paid, the new or retained jobs credits shall cease;
 - (3) The community college district participating in a project shall establish a special fund for and in the name of the training project. All funds appropriated by the general assembly from the funds established under subsections 1 and 2 of this section and disbursed by the department for the training project and other amounts received by the district for training project costs as required by the agreement shall be deposited in the special fund. Amounts held in the special fund shall be used and disbursed by the district only to pay training project costs for such training project. The special fund may be divided into such accounts and subaccounts as shall be provided in the agreement, and amounts held therein may be invested in the same manner

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162 as the district's other funds;

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- (4) Any disbursement for training project costs received from the department under sections 620.800 to 620.809 and deposited into the training 164 project's special fund may be irrevocably pledged by a community college district 166 for the payment of the principal, premium, and interest on the certificate issued by a community college district to finance or refinance, in whole or in part, such training project;
 - (5) The qualified company shall certify to the department of revenue that the new or retained jobs credit is in accordance with an agreement and shall provide other information the department of revenue may require;
 - (6) An employee participating in a training project shall receive full credit under section 143.211 for the amount designated as a new or retained jobs credit;
 - (7) If an agreement provides that all or part of training program costs are to be met by receipt of new or retained jobs credit, the provisions of this subsection shall also apply to any successor to the original qualified company until the principal and interest on the certificates have been paid.
 - 8. To provide funds for the present payment of the training project costs of new or retained jobs training project through the training program, a community college district may borrow money and issue and sell certificates payable from a sufficient portion of the future receipts of payments authorized by the agreement including disbursements from the Missouri works community college new jobs training fund or the Missouri works community college job retention training fund, to the special fund established by the district for each project. The total amount of outstanding certificates sold by all community college districts shall not exceed the total amount authorized under law as of January 1, 2013, unless an increased amount is authorized in writing by a majority of members of the committee. The certificates shall be marketed through financial institutions authorized to do business in Missouri. The receipts shall be pledged to the payment of principal of and interest on the certificates. Certificates may be sold at public sale or at private sale at par, premium, or discount of not less than ninety-five percent of the par value thereof, at the discretion of the board of trustees, and may bear interest at such rate or rates as the board of trustees shall determine, notwithstanding the provisions of section 108.170 to the contrary. However, the provisions of chapter 176 shall not apply to the issuance of such certificates. Certificates may be issued with respect to a single project or multiple projects and may contain terms or conditions as the

198 board of trustees may provide by resolution authorizing the issuance of the 199 certificates.

- 9. Certificates issued to refund other certificates may be sold at public sale or at private sale as provided in this section, with the proceeds from the sale to be used for the payment of the certificates being refunded. The refunding certificates may be exchanged in payment and discharge of the certificates being refunded, in installments at different times or an entire issue or series at one time. Refunding certificates may be sold or exchanged at any time on, before, or after the maturity of the outstanding certificates to be refunded. They may be issued for the purpose of refunding a like, greater, or lesser principal amount of certificates and may bear a rate of interest that is higher, lower, or equivalent to that of the certificates being renewed or refunded.
- a notice of its intention to issue the certificates, stating the amount, the purpose, and the project or projects for which the certificates are to be issued. A person with standing may, within fifteen days after the publication of the notice, by action in the circuit court of a county in the district, appeal the decision of the board of trustees to issue the certificates. The action of the board of trustees in determining to issue the certificates shall be final and conclusive unless the circuit court finds that the board of trustees has exceeded its legal authority. An action shall not be brought which questions the legality of the certificates, the power of the board of trustees to issue the certificates, the effectiveness of any proceedings relating to the authorization of the project, or the authorization and issuance of the certificates from and after fifteen days from the publication of the notice of intention to issue.
- 11. The board of trustees shall make a finding based on information supplied by the qualified company that revenues provided in the agreement are sufficient to secure the faithful performance of obligations in the agreement.
- 12. Certificates issued under this section shall not be deemed to be an indebtedness of the state, the community college district, or any other political subdivision of the state, and the principal and interest on any certificates shall be payable only from the sources provided in subdivision (1) of subsection 4 of this section which are pledged in the agreement.
 - 13. Pursuant to section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:
- 232 (1) The [new] program authorized under sections 620.800 to 620.809 shall 233 [automatically sunset July 1, 2019, unless reauthorized by an act of the general

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assembly] be reauthorized as of the effective date of this act and shall expire on August 28, 2030; and

- (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under sections 620.800 to 620.809 shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization of sections 620.800 to 620.809; and
- 239 (3) Sections 620.800 to 620.809 shall terminate on September first of the 240 calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which a program 241 authorized under sections 620.800 to 620.809 is sunset.

620.2020. 1. The department shall respond to a written request, by or on behalf of a qualified company, for a proposed benefit award under the provisions of this program within five business days of receipt of such request. Such response shall contain either a proposal of benefits for the qualified company, or a written response refusing to provide such a proposal and stating the reasons for such refusal. A qualified company that intends to seek benefits under the 6 program shall submit to the department a notice of intent. The department shall respond within thirty days to a notice of intent with an approval or a rejection, 9 provided that the department may withhold approval or provide a contingent approval until it is satisfied that proper documentation of eligibility has been 10 provided. Failure to respond on behalf of the department shall result in the 11 notice of intent being deemed approved. A qualified company receiving approval 13 for program benefits may receive additional benefits for subsequent new jobs at the same facility after the full initial project period if the applicable minimum job 14 requirements are met. There shall be no limit on the number of project periods 15 a qualified company may participate in the program, and a qualified company 16 may elect to file a notice of intent to begin a new project period concurrent with 17 an existing project period if the applicable minimum job requirements are 18 achieved, the qualified company provides the department with the required 19 annual reporting, and the qualified company is in compliance with this program 20 and any other state programs in which the qualified company is currently or has 2122 previously participated. However, the qualified company shall not receive any further program benefits under the original approval for any new jobs created 23 after the date of the new notice of intent, and any jobs created before the new 2425 notice of intent shall not be included as new jobs for purposes of the benefit 26calculation for the new approval. When a qualified company has filed and 27received approval of a notice of intent and subsequently files another notice of intent, the department shall apply the definition of project facility under

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29 subdivision (18) of section 620.2005 to the new notice of intent as well as all previously approved notices of intent and shall determine the application of the 30 definitions of new job, new payroll, project facility base employment, and project 31 32 facility base payroll accordingly.

- 2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the benefits available to the qualified company under any other state programs for which the company is eligible and which utilize withholding tax from the new or retained jobs of the company shall first be credited to the other state program before the withholding retention level applicable under this program will begin to accrue. If any qualified company also participates in a job training program utilizing withholding tax, the company shall retain no withholding tax under this program, but the department shall issue a refundable tax credit for the full amount of benefit allowed under this program. The calendar year annual maximum amount of tax credits which may be issued to a qualifying company that also participates in a job training program shall be increased by an amount equivalent to the withholding tax retained by that company under a jobs training program.
- 3. A qualified company receiving benefits under this program shall provide an annual report of the number of jobs and such other information as may be required by the department to document the basis for program benefits available no later than ninety days prior to the end of the qualified company's tax year immediately following the tax year for which the benefits provided under the program are attributed. In such annual report, if the average wage is below the applicable percentage of the county average wage, the qualified company has not maintained the employee insurance as required, or if the number of jobs is below the number required, the qualified company shall not receive tax credits or retain the withholding tax for the balance of the project period. Failure to timely file the annual report required under this section shall result in the forfeiture of tax credits attributable to the year for which the reporting was required and a recapture of withholding taxes retained by the qualified company during such year.
- 59 4. The department may withhold the approval of any benefits under this program until it is satisfied that proper documentation has been provided, and 60 shall reduce the benefits to reflect any reduction in full-time employees or 62 payroll. Upon approval by the department, the qualified company may begin the 63 retention of the withholding taxes when it reaches the required number of jobs and the average wage meets or exceeds the applicable percentage of county

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- 65 average wage. Tax credits, if any, may be issued upon satisfaction by the 66 department that the qualified company has exceeded the applicable percentage 67 of county average wage and the required number of jobs.
- 5. Any qualified company approved for benefits under this program shall provide to the department, upon request, any and all information and records reasonably required to monitor compliance with program requirements. This program shall be considered a business recruitment tax credit under subdivision (4) of subsection 2 of section 135.800, and any qualified company approved for benefits under this program shall be subject to the provisions of sections 135.800 to 135.830.
 - 6. Any taxpayer who is awarded benefits under this program who knowingly hires individuals who are not allowed to work legally in the United States shall immediately forfeit such benefits and shall repay the state an amount equal to any state tax credits already redeemed and any withholding taxes already retained.
- 7. The maximum amount of tax credits that may be authorized under this program for any fiscal year shall be limited as follows, less the amount of any tax credits previously obligated for that fiscal year under any of the tax credit programs referenced in subsection 13 of this section:
- 84 (1) For the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2013, but ending on or before 85 June 30, 2014, no more than one hundred six million dollars in tax credits may 86 be authorized;
- 87 (2) For the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2014, but ending on or before 88 June 30, 2015, no more than one hundred eleven million dollars in tax credits 89 may be authorized; and
 - (3) For any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2015, no more than one hundred sixteen million dollars in tax credits may be authorized for each fiscal year.
 - 8. For tax credits for the creation of new jobs under section 620.2010, the department shall allocate the annual tax credits based on the date of the approval, reserving such tax credits based on the department's best estimate of new jobs and new payroll of the project, and any other applicable factors in determining the amount of benefits available to the qualified company under this program. However, the annual issuance of tax credits shall be subject to annual verification of actual payroll by the department. Any authorization of tax credits shall expire if, within two years from the date of commencement of operations, or

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101 approval if applicable, the qualified company has failed to meet the applicable 102 minimum job requirements. The qualified company may retain authorized amounts from the withholding tax under the project once the applicable minimum 103 104 job requirements have been met for the duration of the project period. No 105 benefits shall be provided under this program until the qualified company meets 106 the applicable minimum new job requirements. In the event the qualified 107 company does not meet the applicable minimum new job requirements, the 108 qualified company may submit a new notice of intent or the department may 109 provide a new approval for a new project of the qualified company at the project 110 facility or other facilities.

- 9. Tax credits provided under this program may be claimed against taxes otherwise imposed by chapters 143 and 148, and may not be carried forward, but shall be claimed within one year of the close of the taxable year for which they were issued. Tax credits provided under this program may be transferred, sold, or assigned by filing a notarized endorsement thereof with the department that names the transferee, the amount of tax credit transferred, and the value received for the credit, as well as any other information reasonably requested by the department. For a qualified company with flow-through tax treatment to its members, partners, or shareholders, the tax credit shall be allowed to members, partners, or shareholders in proportion to their share of ownership on the last day of the qualified company's tax period.
- 122 10. Prior to the issuance of tax credits or the qualified company beginning 123 to retain withholding taxes, the department shall verify through the department 124 of revenue and any other applicable state department that the tax credit 125 applicant does not owe any delinquent income, sales, or use tax or interest or 126 penalties on such taxes, or any delinquent fees or assessments levied by any state department and through the department of insurance, financial institutions and 127 128 professional registration that the applicant does not owe any delinquent 129 insurance taxes or other fees. Such delinquency shall not affect the approval, 130 except that any tax credits issued shall be first applied to the delinquency and 131 any amount issued shall be reduced by the applicant's tax delinquency. If the 132 department of revenue, the department of insurance, financial institutions and 133 professional registration, or any other state department concludes that a taxpayer 134 is delinquent after June fifteenth but before July first of any year and the 135 application of tax credits to such delinquency causes a tax deficiency on behalf of 136 the taxpayer to arise, then the taxpayer shall be granted thirty days to satisfy the

- deficiency in which interest, penalties, and additions to tax shall be tolled. After applying all available credits toward a tax delinquency, the administering agency shall notify the appropriate department and that department shall update the amount of outstanding delinquent tax owed by the applicant. If any credits remain after satisfying all insurance, income, sales, and use tax delinquencies, the remaining credits shall be issued to the applicant, subject to the restrictions of other provisions of law.
- 11. The director of revenue shall issue a refund to the qualified company to the extent that the amount of tax credits allowed under this program exceeds the amount of the qualified company's tax liability under chapter 143 or 148.
- 147 12. An employee of a qualified company shall receive full credit for the amount of tax withheld as provided in section 143.211.
- 149 13. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, beginning August 28, 2013, no new benefits shall be authorized for any project that had not 150 151 received from the department a proposal or approval for such benefits prior to August 28, 2013, under the development tax credit program created under 152 153 sections 32.100 to 32.125, the rebuilding communities tax credit program created under section 135.535, the enhanced enterprise zone tax credit program created 154 under sections 135.950 to 135.973, and the Missouri quality jobs program created 155 156 under sections 620.1875 to 620.1890. The provisions of this subsection shall not 157 be construed to limit or impair the ability of any administering agency to authorize or issue benefits for any project that had received an approval or a 158 159 proposal from the department under any of the programs referenced in this 160 subsection prior to August 28, 2013, or the ability of any taxpayer to redeem any such tax credits or to retain any withholding tax under an approval issued prior 161 to that date. The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to limit or 162 in any way impair the ability of any governing authority to provide any local 163 abatement or designate a new zone under the enhanced enterprise zone program 164 created by sections 135.950 to 135.963. Notwithstanding any provision of law to 165 166 the contrary, no qualified company that is awarded benefits under this program shall: 167
 - (1) Simultaneously receive benefits under the programs referenced in this subsection at the same capital investment; or
- 170 (2) Receive benefits under the provisions of section 620.1910 for the same 171 jobs.
- 172 14. If any provision of sections 620.2000 to 620.2020 or application thereof

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to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or application of these sections which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end, the provisions of sections 620.2000 to 620.2020 are hereby declared severable.

- 15. By no later than January 1, 2014, and the first day of each calendar quarter thereafter, the department shall present a quarterly report to the general assembly detailing the benefits authorized under this program during the immediately preceding calendar quarter to the extent such information may be disclosed under state and federal law. The report shall include, at a minimum:
- (1) A list of all approved and disapproved applicants for each tax credit;
- 183 (2) A list of the aggregate amount of new or retained jobs that are directly attributable to the tax credits authorized;
- 185 (3) A statement of the aggregate amount of new capital investment 186 directly attributable to the tax credits authorized;
 - (4) Documentation of the estimated net state fiscal benefit for each authorized project and, to the extent available, the actual benefit realized upon completion of such project or activity; and
- 190 (5) The department's response time for each request for a proposed benefit 191 award under this program.
 - 16. The department may adopt such rules, statements of policy, procedures, forms, and guidelines as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 620.2000 to 620.2020. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2013, shall be invalid and void.
 - 17. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:
 - (1) The provisions of the [new] program authorized under sections 620.2000 to 620.2020 shall [automatically sunset six years after August 28, 2013, unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly] be reauthorized as of the effective date of this act and shall expire on August 28, 2030; and
 - (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this

section shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of this reauthorization of sections 620.2000 to 620.2020; and

211 (3) Sections 620.2000 to 620.2020 shall terminate on September first of 212 the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the program 213 authorized under sections 620.2000 to 620.2020 is sunset.

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