
MISSOURI EMPLOYMENT FIRST

State Representative Melanie
Stinnett

District 133

Missouri as a Model Employer Initiative



- Executive Order 19-16 signed by Governor Parson
- Recognized disparities regarding employment and poverty
- State to set annual goals for increasing employment for individuals with disabilities
- Office of Administration to complete an annual report
- State Disability Employment Coordinator
- Disability awareness trainings
- Human Resources trainings
- Accessibility of web-based hiring portals
- Each State Department should have an employee designated to oversee these new systems put in place.

Missouri Employment First Act HB971

This language deal with State employees.

Reporting requirements on specific metrics to help determine how the State is addressing and improving access to competitive, integrated employment.

Analyzing barriers to recruiting, hiring, advancing, and retaining employees with disabilities.

Defines several terms including “competitive integrated employment” and ”customized employment”.

Sets standards for state agencies that provide employment related services or supports.

Ticket to Work Health Assurance Program


HB970

Lessens the complexity of the income guidelines.

Increases the income upper limit and bases this off the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

Retirement accounts are not included in the asset limit.

First \$50,000 of a spouse's income is disregarded.



How did these bills get passed?

- Bills heard in Healthcare Reform committee.
 - Healthcare Reform committee voted Do Pass to 970 & 971 as a single bill.
 - New bill went to Rules Committee and Fiscal Review. Both voted Do Pass.
 - Next stop was the House floor for debate - voted out unanimously.
 - Traveled to the Senate Emerging Issues committee for a hearing.
 - Emerging Issues voted Do Pass and then it sat on the Senate calendar.
 - Amendments were offered to place this language on Senate bills.
 - The language was amended and Truly Agreed and Finally Passed on Senate Bill 45&90, as well as Senate Bill 106.
 - The Governor signed both bills in July.
 - The language goes into effect on August 28th.
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