

## GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI

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Jefferson City 65102

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON

GOVERNOR

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HOPEN TO STATE

January 29, 2010

## REORGANIZATION PLAN NO. 2 2010

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Missouri, including the Omnibus State Reorganization Act of 1974 and Sections 26.500 through 26.540, RSMo, I hereby transmit Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 2010, by Executive Order 10-16, to transfer the scholarship portion of the A+ Schools Program from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and assign it, and all of its responsibilities and functions, to the Department of Higher Education. The A+ Schools Program will retain all functions and authority as provided by law. The Missouri Department of Higher Education shall furnish administrative support and staff as is necessary for the effective operation of the scholarship portion of the A+ Schools Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon

Governor

## EXECUTIVE ORDER 10-16

WHEREAS, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is established by Chapter 161, RSMo; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Higher Education is established by Article IV, Section 52 of the Missouri Constitution, and Chapter 173, RSMo; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri has many higher education grant and scholarship programs administered by several government agencies; and

WHEREAS, this causes difficulty for Missouri students and parents trying to determine how much state aid is available to assist them with higher education expenses; and

WHEREAS, the A+ Schools Program is established by Section 160.545, RSMo, and is currently administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

WHEREAS, the A+ Schools Program (1) provides a mechanism to improve public schools in Missouri and (2) grants scholarships to qualifying Missouri students at community colleges and vocational or technical schools; and

WHEREAS, the functions of executive departments may be reassigned using the procedure set forth in Sections 26.500 through 26.540, RSMo; and

WHEREAS, the public school improvement portion of the A+ Schools Program should continue to be administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Higher Education currently administers the vast majority of state educational grants and scholarships and has significant expertise in all areas of higher education funding; and

WHEREAS, centralizing state grant and scholarship programs in the Department of Higher Education simplifies the process for parents and students applying for various types of financial aid and seeking information about post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, I am committed to promoting new pathways to higher education and consolidating executive branch operations to ensure that the state delivers vital services as efficiently and effectively as possible.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Missouri, do hereby order the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Higher Education to cooperate to:

- 1. Transfer all the authority, powers, duties, functions, records, personnel, property, contracts, budgets, matters pending, and other pertinent vestiges of the scholarship portion of the A+ Schools Program from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to the Department of Higher Education, by Type I transfer as defined under the Reorganization Act of 1974.
- 2. Develop mechanisms and processes necessary to effectively transfer the scholarship portion of the A+ Schools Program to the Department of Higher Education;
- 3. Transfer the responsibility for staff support for the scholarship portion of the A+ Schools Program from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to the Department of Higher Education;
- 4. Ensure the continued administration of the school improvement portion of the A+ Schools Program by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

5. Take the steps necessary to maintain compliance with federal requirements, so as not to jeopardize federal financial participation.

This Order shall become effective August 28, 2010, unless disapproved within sixty days of its submission to the Second Regular Session of the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon

Governor

ATTEST:

Robin Carnahan Secretary of State