Be it resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the Constitution be amended:

Article IX of the Constitution is revised by amending Section 3(a), and adopting 1 new section to be known as Article IX, Section 2(c) to read as follows:

Section 2(c). The board shall implement and supervise a uniform method of evaluation and accreditation that shall apply to all public elementary and secondary schools receiving their funding under Section 3(a) of this Article.

Section 3(a) All appropriations by the state for the support of free public schools and the income from the public school fund shall be paid at least annually and distributed according to law. In order to effectuate the purposes of Section 1(a) of this article, and to preserve available general revenue for the education of students in public schools, the state shall not appropriate or pay public funds for any program, nor authorize or implement vouchers or tax credits, with the purpose or effect of providing tuition subsidies or subsidizing other costs of student attendance or employment at non-public elementary or secondary schools, including implementing any program authorized by legislation previously enacted. This section does not prohibit:

i) income tax deductions or exclusions from adjusted gross income that, pursuant to state taxation law, merely duplicate federal income tax deductions, including charitable deductions, or exclusions from adjusted gross income;

ii) any state income tax credit, deduction, or exclusion from adjusted gross income that does not have the purpose or effect of providing tuition subsidies or subsidizing other costs of student attendance or employment at non-public elementary or secondary schools;

iii) payment of the state’s costs related to the placement of a special education student in a private facility as mandated by federal law;

iv) payments made pursuant to a voluntary contract between a public school district and a non-public elementary or secondary school under which the non-public entity provides services to the public school district for the benefit of a student concurrently enrolled in the district; or

v) payment of costs related to the education of wards of the state, children in foster care or pursuant to court order.

The term “tax credit” as used herein includes a tax incentive which allows eligible taxpayers to subtract the amount of the tax credit they have accrued from taxes owed to the state. The term “voucher” as used herein includes government funding for students to attend nonpublic elementary or secondary schools.