



Senator Barbara Anne Washington's Legislative Column for July 15, 2025

Hello, Jackson County neighbors and friends. I hope everyone enjoyed the Independence Day weekend and made some lasting memories with your family. Seeing the utter loss and devastation from the flooding in Texas is a good reminder of how important time with family is. Please join me in extending your thoughts and prayers to those affected and the selfless volunteers who are helping with recovery and cleanup efforts.

Missouri CROWN Act Signed into Law

I was happy to make the drive to Jefferson City on July 10 to witness the governor sign my Missouri Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair, or CROWN Act, into law as a provision of [Senate Bill 160](#). I have filed this legislation since taking the oath of office because I have witnessed first-hand, with my own grandson, how others perceive and mistreat a child for the way they were born or wear their natural hair. Eliminating hair-based discrimination in elementary and secondary schools sends a strong message to Missouri children of the African diaspora that they are welcome and belong, regardless of how they wear their hair.



Senator Washington and her family watch the governor sign SB 160 into law.

In addition to helping Black children embrace their heritage, SB 160 enacts Danny's Law, named for a former Mizzou student who suffered life-altering damage from hazing several years ago, which strengthens hazing laws on college campuses and provides safeguards for those who try to intervene. The law also provides added protections for student associations at universities.

Defending Diversity

During the interim, I have been appointed to serve on the Senate Select Committee on Equal Protection and DEI. Throughout my tenure in the Legislature, I have been quite boisterous about the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion programs, and their intended purpose to prevent discrimination in employment and across systems. I still haven't heard a reasonable explanation for the nationwide attacks on DEI programs, so my focus on this committee will remain on equal treatment for all. I am proud to represent one of the most diverse senatorial districts in the state, so if you have a story to share about how cuts in funding or assaults on DEI have impacted your family, please send them my way.

Arts Asylum and Zou B Art Center Gallery at the Capitol

Throughout the 2025 legislative session, my Senate office has doubled as an annex gallery for some talented artists from the Arts Asylum and Zhou B art Center. If you are interested in exhibiting your artwork next year, please contact my team.

News for the 9th

AKA Black Dollars Expo a Smashing Success

Thanks to everyone who attended the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated's 2nd Annual Black Dollars Expo. The event promotes Black-owned businesses and showcases their wares. This year, there were twice as many vendors as last, demonstrating the strength of our community and its growing support for local small businesses and entrepreneurs.



Save the Date for the 12th Annual Minority Mental Health Awareness Event

Please mark your calendar for July 26 and plan to attend my annual mental health awareness event, Brunch with Bebe's Sisters. This year's forum will focus on youth mental health and building resilience in young hearts. More info to follow!

The flyer is framed by a decorative border of green and pink triangles. At the top, logos for Senator Barbara Anne Washington, the Metropolitan Leadership Institute, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. are displayed. Below these, the text reads: "SENATOR BARBARA ANNE WASHINGTON, METROPOLITAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE AND ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC., MU OMEGA CHAPTER PRESENT". A pink banner states "12TH ANNUAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS EVENT". The main title "Brunch With Bebe's Sisters" is in a large, pink, cursive font. The date and time "SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2025, 9:30 A.M." and location "MCC-PENN VALLEY EDUCATION CENTER" are prominently displayed. The address "3201 SW TRAFFICWAY, KANSAS CITY, MO 64111" is listed below. The featured panel discussions are "MIND MATTERS: BUILDING RESILIENCE AFTER TRAUMA". Community partners include the University of Missouri, Home State Health, NG, Total Way, University Health, and Metropolitan Community College. On the left, a photo of Dawn Harper-Nelson is shown with the text "FEATURING: DAWN HARPER-NELSON US OLYMPIC MEDALIST INVITED". On the right, a photo of Senator Washington is shown with the text "SENATOR WASHINGTON". At the bottom, the RSVP information is provided: "To RSVP, please email brian.farmer@senate.mo.gov or call 573-751-3158."

SENATOR BARBARA ANNE WASHINGTON, METROPOLITAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE AND ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC., MU OMEGA CHAPTER PRESENT

12TH ANNUAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS EVENT

"Brunch With Bebe's Sisters"

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2025, 9:30 A.M.
MCC-PENN VALLEY EDUCATION CENTER
3201 SW TRAFFICWAY, KANSAS CITY, MO 64111

FEATURING PANEL DISCUSSIONS:
*MIND MATTERS: BUILDING RESILIENCE AFTER TRAUMA

COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

FEATURING:
DAWN HARPER-NELSON
US OLYMPIC MEDALIST
INVITED

SENATOR WASHINGTON

To RSVP, please email brian.farmer@senate.mo.gov or call 573-751-3158.

Please share the community event flyers below.



Free Event!
Open to the Public

July
19th
11-2pm

2025 IVANHOE PARK CELEBRATION

Join the Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council
for a free, fun filled, family friendly
celebration of Ivanhoe Park.

- 🐎 Free horseback rides
- 🎨 Free Face painting
- 🎵 Live music from Osezua Reggae
- 🌭 Free hot dogs & hamburgers
- 🏠 2 bounce houses

4300 Brooklyn Avenue KCMO 64130



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 [@IVANHOENCMO](https://www.instagram.com/IVANHOENCMO)

 [FACEBOOK.COM/INCTHRIVES](https://www.facebook.com/INCTHRIVES)



ROOTED ON PROSPECT

PROSPECT UNITED CLEAN UP

Join us to kick off the summer with a hands-on community cleanup showing pride, care, and power on Prospect Avenue.

Saturday, July 19th
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Meet at: Kansas City G.I.F.T. (5008 Prospect Ave)
Cleanup Route: 7444 Prospect Ave → Kansas City G.I.F.T.

Wear bright colors and dress for the weather
All cleaning materials will be provided
Snacks and water will be available throughout the route

Contact Info:
madisonglyman@gmail.com

Scan QR
Code To
Register





Senator Washington's Sponsored Legislation for 2025

Bill Number	Description	Status
Senate Bill 37	Authorizes a sales tax exemption for feminine hygiene products.	Truly agreed as a provision of HB 594
Senate Bill 38	The Missouri CROWN Act prohibits hair-based discrimination in publicly-funded educational institutions.	Signed into law as SB 160
Senate Bill 39	Expands and diversifies the Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Board.	Referred to Government Efficiency
Senate Bill 127	Creates the offense of unlawful possession of a handgun for a minor.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety

<u>Senate Bill 128</u>	Modifies provisions relating to the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development	Passed 3.12 Economic and Workforce Development
<u>Senate Bill 129</u>	Authorizes a tax credit for qualified providers of employment, employment services or housing for homeless persons.	Referred to Economic and Workforce Development
<u>Senate Bill 205</u>	Authorizes a tax credit for providing housing assistance to victims of domestic violence.	Passed 2.25 Progress and Development Committee
<u>Senate Bill 206</u>	Modifies provisions relating to emergency medical services	Hearing conducted 3.25 Emerging Issues
<u>Senate Bill 207</u>	Creates the offense of community endangerment due to unsafe storage of a firearm.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<u>Senate Bill 258</u>	Establishes the Cronkite New Voices Act to protect the freedom of press in school-sponsored media.	Referred to Education
<u>Senate Bill 259</u>	Modifies provisions relating to offenses against employees of election authorities.	Referred to Local Government, Elections and Pension
<u>Senate Bill 260</u>	Enacts provisions relating to health insurance coverage of maternity services to include midwifery.	Referred to Insurance and Banking
<u>Senate Bill 303</u>	Designates every Feb. 20 as John Donaldson Day to honor Missouri native and Negro Leagues Baseball star pitcher.	Signed into law as SB 348
<u>Senate Bill 304</u>	Establishes May 8 each year as Amyloidosis Awareness Day in Missouri.	Signed into law as SB 348

<u>Senate Bill 305</u>	Modifies provisions relating to the offense of filing false documents.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 342</u>	Requires public and charter schools to provide free feminine hygiene products to female students in grades 4-12.	Referred to Education
<u>Senate Bill 343</u>	Creates provisions relating to lactating public and charter school students.	Referred to Education
<u>Senate Bill 344</u>	Requires schools that receive state funds to give excused absences for attending scheduled elections with their parents.	Hearing conducted 3.4 Education
<u>Senate Bill 375</u>	Requires school districts and charter schools to offer students who are 17 and ½ years the opportunity to register to vote.	Hearing conducted 3.4 Education
<u>Senate Bill 376</u>	Creates a health advocate program at the Department of Health and Senior Services for eligible pregnant patients.	Referred to Families, Seniors and Health
<u>Senate Bill 377</u>	Modifies provisions relating to restitution for individuals who are actually innocent and exonerated based on evidence other than DNA.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 403</u>	Modifies provisions relating to use of marijuana by family court participants.	Referred to Families, Seniors and Health
<u>Senate Bill 404</u>	Authorizes a tax credit for first time home buyers to purchase eligible blighted property.	Referred to Economic and Workforce Development
<u>Senate Bill 405</u>	Provides that no person, corporation, or other entity in Missouri shall manufacture, import, possess, purchase, sell or transfer any assault weapon or large capacity magazine.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety

<u>Senate Bill 422</u>	Designates Officer James Muhlbauer K-9 Officer Champ Memorial Bridge in Jackson County.	Truly agreed and finally passed
<u>Senate Bill 423</u>	Modifies provisions relating to closed criminal records.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 424</u>	Creates that eligible offenses be automatically expunged without petition.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 432</u>	Modifies provisions relating to earned discharge from probation.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 433</u>	Designates every Nov. 9 as Links, Incorporated Day in Missouri	Signed into law as SB 348
<u>Senate Bill 434</u>	Creates a DWI diversion program.	Hearing conducted 2.26 Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 438</u>	Creates provisions relating to parole eligibility after serving 30 years or more of a sentence.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 439</u>	Reduces the term of probation for a misdemeanor violation from 2 years to 18 months and removes the drug and alcohol screening for certain offenses.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Bill 440</u>	Modifies provisions relating to legal representation for certain court proceedings involving children.	Referred to Families, Seniors and Health
<u>Senate Bill 444</u>	Prohibits removing registered voters from the Missouri Voter Registration System unless the voter has not voted in the previous five calendar years or met other criteria.	Referred to Local Government, Elections and Pensions
<u>Senate Bill 445</u>	Includes CLASS EA – esthetics and manicuring as a new classification for licensure for cosmetologists.	Referred to Emerging Issues and Professional Registration

<u>Senate Bill 446</u>	Creates new provisions relating to state contracts for minority and women's business enterprises.	Referred to Government Efficiency
<u>Senate Bill 450</u>	Prohibits carrying concealed firearms in public libraries.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<u>Senate Bill 818</u>	Modifies continuing education requirements for peace officers.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<u>Senate Bill 819</u>	Authorizes a sales tax exemption for feminine hygiene product for all purchases made by qualifying organizations.	Referred Economic and Workforce Development
<u>Senate Bill 820</u>	Designates the Kansas City Chiefs as the official professional football team of Missouri.	Hearing conducted 4.1, Progress and Development
<u>Senate Bill 821</u>	Temporarily extends the hours which liquor may be sold by the drink during the 2026 FIFA World Cup tournament.	Referred to General Laws
<u>Senate Bill 822</u>	Establishes the Missouri Entertainment Facility – Capital Assistance Program	Referred Economic and Workforce Development
<u>Senate Bill 823</u>	Requires the agriculture education pilot program to be implemented at all elementary schools statewide	Referred to Agriculture, Food Production and Outdoor Resources
<u>Senate Joint Resolution 12</u>	Places limits on increases in the assessment of certain properties, pending voter approval.	Referred to Judiciary
<u>Senate Joint Resolution 13</u>	Eliminates the statute of limitations for civil actions based on certain sexual offenses.	Referred to Judiciary

It is an honor representing the great people of Jackson County's 9th Senatorial District. If you need assistance navigating state government or understanding the legislative process, please contact me by calling 573-751-3158 or emailing Barbara.Washington@senate.mo.gov. My team is here for you!

Brian Farmer

Chief of Staff

Senator Barbara Anne Washington

Ninth Senatorial District

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