



**Week of Jan. 17, 2022**

### **State of the State Address**

On Jan. 19, lawmakers from both the Missouri House of Representatives and Missouri Senate had the opportunity to hear the governor's priorities for the coming year during his annual State of the State address.

In his speech, the governor touted the strength of Missouri's economy. Businesses are investing all across our state and creating new jobs and new opportunities for Missourians. Unemployment, according to the governor, currently sits at 3.5%, which is below the national average and has returned to pre-pandemic levels. Overall, the governor struck an optimistic tone, saying "Missouri is strong today and will be even stronger tomorrow."

To build on that strength, the governor detailed a number of proposals aimed at making fundamental improvements to our state. With a focus on meeting the growing needs of today's workforce, he voiced continued support for workforce development programs which train and recruit the next generation of Missouri workers. He also proposed permanently establishing the [Missouri Fast Track program](#), \$31 million for colleges and universities through [MoExcels](#) and \$20 million for the state's 57 area career centers. The governor recommended investing in education by fully funding the Foundation Formula for our state's K-12 schools once again this year, increasing the base salaries for our hardworking teachers and spending nearly \$470 million on critical capital improvement projects for our state's public colleges and universities. Lastly, the governor called for additional funding for important infrastructure projects, including \$400 million for broadband expansion projects and a combined \$400 million for drinking water, wastewater and stormwater systems throughout the state.

To view a transcript of the governor's full State of the State address, please click [here](#).

### **Negro Leagues Baseball Museum Special License Plate**

During the 2021 legislative session, lawmakers passed [Senate Bill 189](#), which I was proud to sponsor. This legislation creates a special license plate for the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. Anyone interested in supporting this Kansas City gem can apply for the license plate by following these steps:

1. Make a \$10 donation to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.

- Donations can be made directly to the museum or by sending the museum a check upon submitting your application. Be sure to get a receipt for your contribution.
- 2. Complete the 1716 form to apply for the specialty license plate. This form can be found at [dor.mo.gov/motor-vehicle/plates/personalized-specialty.html](http://dor.mo.gov/motor-vehicle/plates/personalized-specialty.html).
  - When completing the form, select "other" and fill in that you are applying for the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum plate.
- 3. Send your application, along with your \$10 museum donation (or the receipt for your donation), and your \$15 standard plate application fee to the museum at 1616 E 18th St., KCMO, 64108.

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

As of April 9, 2021, anyone age 5 and up are eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Please contact your local pharmacy or health care provider for information on how best to receive one of the available vaccines. For more information about the vaccine in Missouri, please visit [covidvaccine.mo.gov](http://covidvaccine.mo.gov).

University Health is now providing Pfizer, Moderna and J & J booster shots for COVID-19. The CDC approved a booster shot for any adult who received their first two doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine at least six months ago, or for any adult who received a single dose of the J & J vaccine at least two months ago. If you are eligible, you can schedule an appointment by calling 816-404-CARE or walk in to University Health (2211 Charlotte St., KCMO 64108) or University Health Lakewood Medical Center (7900 Lee's Summit Road, KCMO 64139). The COVID-19 vaccine is available to children 5-12 at these two locations as well. Established patients may make an appointment with their child's provider at the Med/Ped's clinic at UHTMC or the Family Medicine Clinic at UHLMC. Additional vaccine information, including free transportation info, is available at [www.universityhealthkc.org/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/](http://www.universityhealthkc.org/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/).

The Jackson County Health Department also has numerous vaccine and testing clinics available. For more information, please visit [jacohd.org](http://jacohd.org).

The Center for COVID Recovery is open to treat patients who experience long-term effects from the virus. For more information, visit [universityhealthkc.org/covid-19/center-for-covid-recovery](http://universityhealthkc.org/covid-19/center-for-covid-recovery); please share this information with anyone who continues to struggle after a positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

Thank you for your vote of confidence to serve the people of the 9th District in the Missouri Senate. In an effort to keep you up-to-date with my legislation or other proposed measures, please feel free to visit my website at [senate.mo.gov/Washington](http://senate.mo.gov/Washington). I appreciate your active interest in your community and encourage your participation in the legislative process. Should you need assistance with state matters, please feel free to contact my office at (573) 751-3158.

[Senator Washington's Sponsored Legislation for 2022](#)

<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 717</u></a>	Authorizes a tax credit for urban farms located in a food desert	Second Read and Referred to Senate Economic Development Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 718</u></a>	Designates the third week of September as "Historically Black College and University Week" in Missouri	Second Read and Referred to Senate Progress and Development Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 719</u></a>	Authorizes a tax credit for the purchase of certain homes	Second Read and Referred to Senate Ways and Means Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 793</u></a>	Creates provisions relating to expungement for certain marijuana offenses	Second Read and Referred to Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 794</u></a>	Modifies provisions relating to medical marijuana program participants in family court matters	Second Read and Referred to Senate Seniors, Families, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 795</u></a>	Modifies provisions relating to law enforcement officer use of force	Second Read and Referred to Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 854</u></a>	Modifies provisions relating to reporting requirements of law enforcement agencies	Second Read and Referred to Senate Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 855</u></a>	Establishes the "Cronkite New Voices Act" to protect the freedom of press in school-sponsored media	Second Read and Referred to Senate Education Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 856</u></a>	Modifies provisions relating to the expungement of records	Second Read and Referred to Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 896</u></a>	Modifies provisions relating to probation and parole for certain offenders	First read in the Senate
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 897</u></a>	Authorizes a sales tax exemption for feminine hygiene products	First read in the Senate
<a href="#"><u>Senate Bill 898</u></a>	Allows a museum property tax levy to be used for certain museums	First read in the Senate

<b><u>Senate Bill 994</u></b>	Creates new provisions prohibiting discrimination based on hairstyles	First read in the Senate
<b><u>Senate Bill 995</u></b>	Modifies provisions relating to parole eligibility	First read in the Senate
<b><u>Senate Joint Resolution 42</u></b>	Places limits on increases of the assessment of certain properties	Second Read and Referred to Senate Ways and Means Committee
<b><u>Senate Joint Resolution 43</u></b>	Places limits on increases of the assessment of certain properties	Second Read and Referred to Senate Ways and Means Committee

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