

WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE Monday, Dec. 5, 2022

MO RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA LEGAL DEC. 8

Starting Dec. 8, recreational use of marijuana by adults age 21 and over will be legal in Missouri. However, it could be a few months before Missouri dispensaries will be able to sell marijuana to those who don't have a medical marijuana card.

With 53.1% support, Missouri voters ratified Amendment 3 on Nov. 8 to legalize recreational marijuana for adults. New amendments to the state constitution take effect 30 days after the ratification vote. The approval of recreational marijuana came just four years after voters authorized medical marijuana in 2018 with 65.6% support.

Under Amendment 3, those already licensed to cultivate, manufacture or sell medical marijuana can apply to convert their licenses into "comprehensive" licenses that also cover recreational marijuana. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, which regulates the state's marijuana industry, has up to 60 days to process conversion requests.

As a result, the department must act no later than Feb. 6 on conversion requests filed the first day Amendment 3 takes effect. However, the department has publicly stated it intends to process requests as quickly as possible, which could allow some dispensaries to begin selling recreational marijuana prior to Feb. 6.

Once adult recreational marijuana use and possession becomes generally legal, many restrictions will remain, including a ban on public consumption, with violations punishable by a maximum \$100 civil fine. Possession or use by minors also will be subject to a \$100 fine. Civil fines for possessing more than 3 ounces of marijuana will range from \$250 for a first offense to \$1,000 for a third or subsequent offense.

GOVERNOR NAMES NEXT ATTORNEY GENERAL

Gov. Mike Parson plans to appoint Andrew Bailey who currently serves as the top attorney in his office as Missouri's next attorney general when incumbent Eric Schmitt steps down in January after being elected to the U.S. Senate last month.

Parson announced his choice, which had been rumored for weeks, during a recent news conference.

Bailey, 41, has worked as an attorney in Parson's office

since 2019, including the past year as the governor's general counsel. Bailey graduated from the University of Missouri School of Law in 2012 after serving several years as a U.S. Army officer.

Bailey played a central role in Parson's decision to accuse a St. Louis Post-Dispatch reporter of criminal hacking in 2021 after the reporter discovered a flaw in a website maintained by Parson's administration that publicly exposed the Social Security numbers of thousands of Missouri teachers.

Government records subsequently obtained by news organizations revealed state officials originally intended to publicly thank the reporter before Parson ordered a shift in tone and demanded the reporter's prosecution.

Parson's accusations quickly became national news with technology experts widely mocking the governor's ignorance of how websites work. Not a single Republican elected official backed Parson's position in the matter, and the Cole County prosecuting attorney ultimately found no basis for criminal charges. When asked at the news conference about his role, Bailey maintained he still believes state law supported prosecution but acknowledged others reached the opposite conclusion.

Although Bailey said he intends to run for a full term as attorney general in 2024, given that he has never before campaigned for elected office and isn't widely known in political circles, he could face competition in a Republican primary from more established opponents. Parson said

Bailey will have his full backing in his election bid.

Parson will become just the second Missouri governor to twice fill a vacancy in the attorney general's office. The first was Gov. Samuel A. Baker who appointed replacements to the post in 1925 and 1928. Parson previously appointed Schmitt to the office in 2018 following Josh Hawley's election to the U.S. Senate.

HOUSE GOP LEADER RESIGNING EARLY

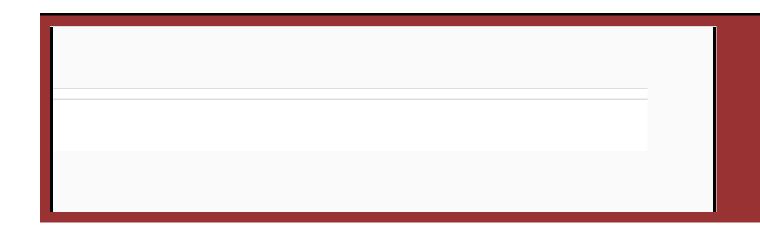
House Speaker Pro Tem John Wiemann, R-O'Fallon, will resign his legislative seat Dec. 4 to take a job as vice president for workforce and strategic initiatives at St. Charles Community College, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported on Nov. 18. Wiemann was already slated to leave office in January when his term ended.

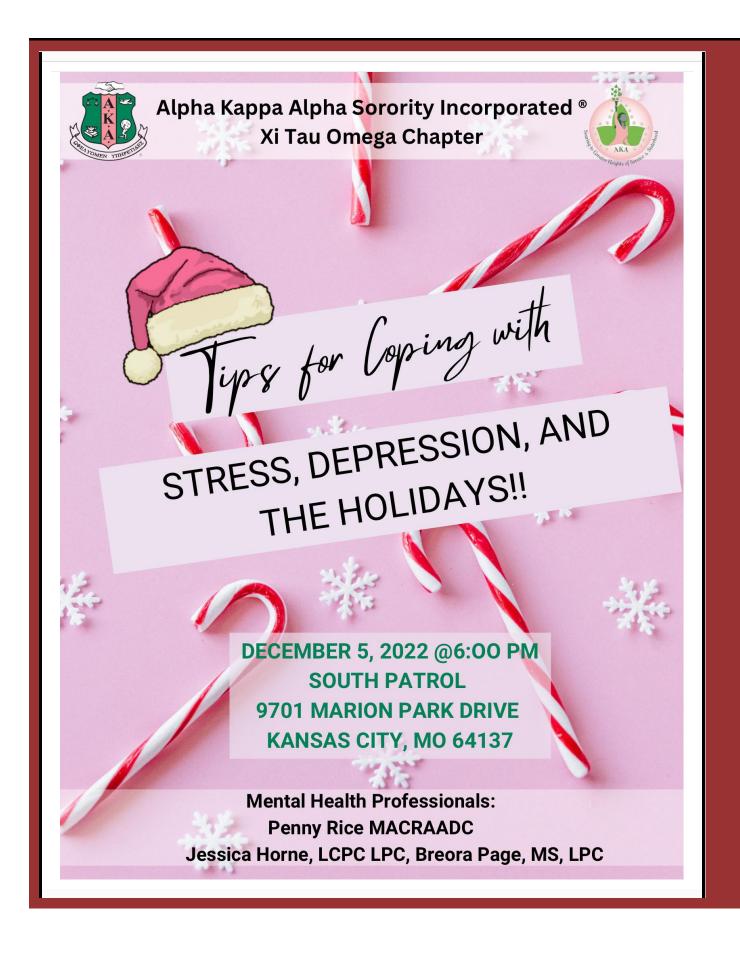
Weimann was first elected to the House in 2014 and served as speaker pro tem, the chamber's No. 2 position, during the 2021 and 2022 legislative sessions.

Term-limited in the House, he unsuccessfully sought election to the State Senate this year but lost in the Republican primary.



I explained bills I pre-filed for consideration in the 2023 session of the Missouri General Assembly at the December 2 legislative breakfast of the Grandview and South Kansas City Chambers of Commerce. I greatly appreciate the Chambers' continued support of Blair's Law which I prefiled December 1 to make discharging a firearm with criminal negligence inside or into city limits a state offense instead of just a city ordinance violation. Its goal is to help deter our high volume of celebratory and indiscriminate gunfire. It is named after Blair Shanahan Lane who was tragically killed here by such gunfire during the July 4 holiday in 2011 when she was 11.

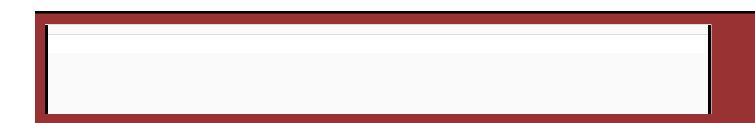






KCPD Chief of Police Finalists Forum The Board of Police Commissioners will be hosting a community forum with the KCPD Chief of Police Finalists on Saturday, December 10, 2022. The forum is being held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Robert J. Mohart Multipurpose Center, 3200 Wayne Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri.









Welcome Hunger Stoppers!

NO COST shopping for fresh produce, proteins, dairy, and nonperishables.

NOTE: DATE & TIME CHANGE TO NEW ZION/8129 PASEO LOCATION Check cor.org/hunger for inclement weather and date updates

DECEMBER 18, 2022

2 pm - 4 pm 7820 Prospect, KCMO 64132

Heavy Construction Laborer's Union Hall Parking Lot



DECEMBER 8, 2022

2 pm - 4 pm

8129 Paseo, KCMO 64132

New Zion Missionary Baptist Church Parking Lot

Formula Distribution!!



Cradlekc) Community

CHC and Cradle KC are a formula distribution site! We have a variety of infant formula available. If we do not have the type of formula you need, we can request it.

Scan the QR code to submit your request

contact us at 913-371-9298 if you have questions

Understanding and Accessing **MISSOURI MEDICAID**

More Missourians than ever now qualify for Medicaid expansion, including parents who have not qualified before, and adults without children. Learn to see if you qualify for Medicaid and how to apply.

Am I eligible?

Medicaid eligibility depends primarily on the size of your household and your gross **monthly** household ncome (before taxes and deductions). If your monthly income is lower than the number of people living in your home, **you may qualify**.

1	\$1,481
2	\$2,003
3	\$2,525
4	\$3,048
5	\$3,570
6	\$4,092

How do I apply?

GOOD NEWS!

Applying is easy, and there are several convenient and accessible ways to do it!

Online:

Visit **https://mydss.mo.gov/healthcare/apply** to apply quickly via the DHSS web portal

By Phone:

Call the Missouri Family Support Division at (855)-373-4636 or (855)-373-9994

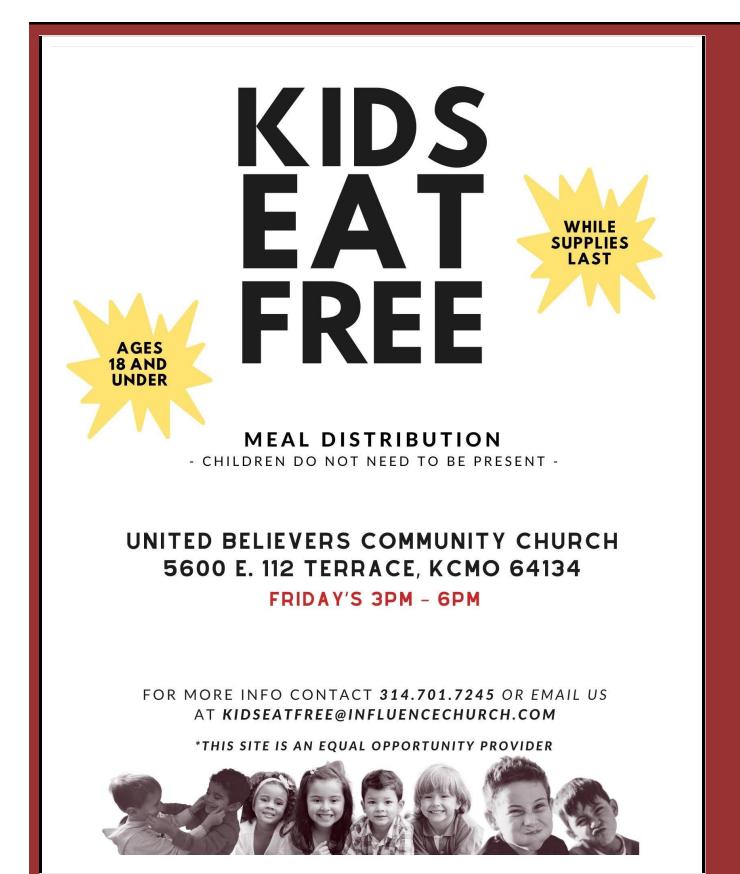
By Mail or Email:

Print and fill out an application provided at the web address listed above and mail to:

Family Support Division 615 E 13th St Kansas City, MO 64106

Or email to:

FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov



South KC Food Pantries

South Kansas City is fortunate to have several food pantries to help less-fortunate residents have enough healthy food to eat. These include:

Community Assistance Council, 10901 Blue Ridge Blvd. on the north end of the Ruskin High School campus, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Persons should call 816-763-3277, ext. 100, or email <u>info@cackc.org</u> for appointments or questions.

Red Bridge Area Food Pantry, 100 W. Red Bridge Rd. in the First Baptist Church of Kansas City, from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday each month. Persons must call 816-908-7800 for appointments by the prior Wednesday.

Harvesters (the community food network) brings the semi-truck that serves as its mobile food pantry to seven sites in south Kansas City monthly to distribute fresh produce and other healthy food to families in need. The sites are:

Center School District, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. as long as food is left on the first Saturday of the month. Persons should drive through the bus parking lot to the district warehouse. The event is sponsored by Three Trails Community church in partnership with the Center School District.

Center District Warehouse, 8701 Holmes Rd., from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the second Friday of each month. Persons should go to the entrance to the Center Administrative Office and drive through the bus parking lot to the warehouse where volunteers will load the food. Persons should take the Troost Ave exit. The event is sponsored by the Center Education Foundation in partnership with the Center School District.

Evangel Church, 1414 E. 103rd St., from 7 to 8:30 a.m. the second Saturday of the month. Persons may remain in their vehicles, and food will be brought to them.

United Believers Community Church, 5600 E. 112th Terr., with vehicles lining up at 8:30 a.m. and contactless food distribution running from 9 to 11 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month.

Ruskin High School, 7000 E. 111th St., from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. Vehicles should line up on Ruskin Way on the east side of the school, and staff and students will load the food when vehicles reach the school.

Colonial Presbyterian Church, 9500 Wornall Rd., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. and food distribution running from about 8:30 to 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month. Families are asked to bring two cardboard boxes for volunteers to put the food in.

Red Bridge United Methodist Church, 636 E. 117th St., from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the fourth Friday of the month in the church parking lot.





State Representative Mark A. Sharp

Missouri House of Representatives Room 102-BA 201 W Capitol Ave Jefferson City, Mo 65101 Phone 573-751-9469

Email

mark.sharp@house.mo.gov

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any feedback, questions or ideas!