



WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Monday, November 14th, 2022

VOTERS SPEAK ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Missouri voters on Nov. 8 said “yes” to legalizing recreational marijuana, imposing police-related unfunded mandates on Kansas City and elevating the Missouri National Guard to departmental status but “no” to relaxing constitutional restrictions on state investments and calling a special convention to rewrite the state constitution.

Amendment 3 legalizes adult marijuana use and possession, provides for automatic expungement of most past non-violent marijuana convictions and establishes industry regulations. It was one of the most controversial of the five statewide ballot measures, with even some recreational marijuana supporters opposing it because it constitutionally favors existing medical

marijuana license holders for initial recreational marijuana licenses. In the end, though, 53.1% of voters ratified it.

Voters were more supportive of Amendment 4, which creates a four-year window during which the General Assembly can force Kansas City to increase police funding. Missouri's tax-limiting Hancock Amendment currently prohibits lawmakers from imposing unfunded mandates on local governments, but Amendment 4 carves out a loophole to that limit on legislative power. Even though 61.4% of Kansas City voters opposed Amendment 4, it won ratification anyway with 63.2% statewide support.

Amendment 5 which creates a new Missouri Department of the National Guard also won strong support, with 60.2% of voters favoring ratification. However, it likely will have little practical impact since the governor already has direct constitutional control over the Guard.

Voters had far less enthusiasm for Amendment 1, which sought to grant lawmakers the power to statutorily override existing constitutional restrictions on how the state treasurer can invest taxpayer funds in an effort to increase interest income on investments. It failed with only 45.7% in favor.

And voters resoundingly rejected calling a convention to overhaul or replace the Missouri Constitution, with only 32.3% in support. The constitutional convention question automatically goes on the statewide ballot every 20 years. This year's result is similar to the outcomes the previous three times voters decided the question, in 1962, 1982 and 2002. Missouri voters last authorized a convention in 1942. That convention

produced the current Missouri Constitution which has been in use since 1945.

DEMOCRATS GAIN THREE HOUSE SEATS

Democrats made a net gain of three seats in the Missouri House of Representatives on Nov. 8, while the partisan breakdown remained unchanged in the Senate as Republicans will retain veto-proof supermajorities in both chambers when the 2023 legislative session begins Jan. 4. Republicans are set to outnumber Democrats 111-52 in the House and 24-10 in the Senate.

Topping the ticket in Missouri, Attorney General Eric Schmitt won election to replace U.S. Sen. Roy Blunt, who is retiring after two terms. Schmitt's win keeps in Republican hands a Senate seat the party has held since Democrat Thomas Eagleton retired in 1986.

Republicans also completed their sweep of Missouri's six statewide executive branch offices when voters elected State Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick as state auditor. Fitzpatrick will replace Democrat Nicole Galloway who didn't seek re-election to a third term. Galloway had been the only remaining statewide Democrat office holder since 2016, when Republicans claimed the other five posts which weren't on the ballot this year.

With Schmitt and Fitzpatrick moving on, Gov. Mike Parson will appoint replacements to serve the remainder of their terms as attorney general and state treasurer which run through 2024.

PARSON APPOINTS COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE

Gov. Mike Parson on Nov. 4 appointed Ginger Gooch to the Springfield-based Missouri Court of Appeals Southern District. Gooch, a 2000 graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law, is a partner with the Husch-Blackwell law firm.

Gooch was one of three finalists for the post selected by the Missouri Appellate Judicial Commission. The others were Camden County Circuit Judge Matthew Hamner and Jasper County Associate Circuit Judge Joseph Hensley. Gooch replaces Judge William Francis Jr. (an appointee of former Gov. Jay Nixon) who retired in July after more than 12 years on the appellate bench.

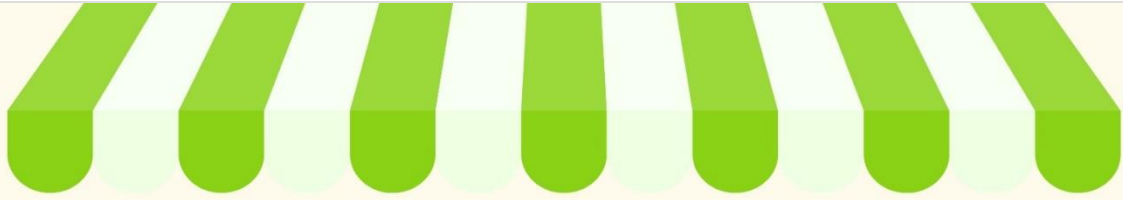
With the latest appointment – Parson’s third to the Court of Appeals since September – the 32-member court is split evenly between Democratic and Republican appointees. The court is divided into three districts, with the others based in Kansas City and St. Louis. Parson and Nixon currently stand tied with most sitting judges on the Court of Appeals with 13 appointees each.

LAWMAKER PICKED TO HEAD AGENCY

Gov. Mike Parson on Nov. 7 appointed departing state Rep. Allen Andrews as director of the Missouri Division of Employment Security which oversees the state’s

unemployment insurance program. Andrews can begin serving right away but faces Senate confirmation when the legislature reconvenes in January.

Andrews of Grant City was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2014 and represented the northwesternmost corner of the state. He couldn't seek re-election this year due to term limits. His seat will remain vacant until January when his newly elected replacement takes office.



FREE MEALS

Breakfast & lunch

MONDAY - FRIDAY
UNITED BELIEVERS COMMUNITY CHURCH
5600 E. 112TH TERR
KANSAS CITY, MO 64134

BREAKFAST SERVED
@9AM DAILY
LUNCH SERVED
@11AM DAILY
AGES K-18




APPETITE 4 HUMANITY



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?		How do I apply?
<p>Medicaid eligibility depends primarily on the size of your household and your gross monthly household income (before taxes and deductions). If your monthly income is lower than the number of people living in your home, you may qualify.</p>		<p>GOOD NEWS!</p> <p>Applying is easy, and there are several convenient and accessible ways to do it!</p> <p>Online:</p> <p>Visit https://mydss.mo.gov/healthcare/apply to apply quickly via the DHSS web portal</p> <p>By Phone:</p> <p>Call the Missouri Family Support Division at (855)-373-4636 or (855)-373-9994</p> <p>By Mail or Email:</p> <p>Print and fill out an application provided at the web address listed above and mail to:</p> <p>Family Support Division 615 E 13th St Kansas City, MO 64106</p> <p>Or email to: FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov</p>
		
1	\$1,481	
2	\$2,003	
3	\$2,525	
4	\$3,048	
5	\$3,570	
6	\$4,092	

KIDS EAT FREE



MEAL DISTRIBUTION

- CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT -

**UNITED BELIEVERS COMMUNITY CHURCH
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FRIDAY'S 3PM - 6PM

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT **314.701.7245** OR EMAIL US
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****THIS SITE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER***



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 info@cackc.org 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.



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KcCrimestoppers.com



FREE MOBILE APP

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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!**