



WEEKLY CAPITOL UPDATE

Monday, September 19th, 2022

HEARINGS TODAY ON URBAN FARM INCENTIVES

Hearings on proposed tax incentives to benefit Missouri agriculture including urban farms are scheduled today in both the Missouri House of Representatives and Senate during the current special legislative session called by Governor Mike Parson to consider income tax credits to benefit agriculture and major income tax cuts. .

Income tax credits to benefit agriculture were included in House Bill 1720 passed during this year's regular legislative session that the governor vetoed because it required the credits to be reauthorized after only two years which he said was too short a time to effectively boost agricultural investments.

HB 1720 included new income tax credits for establishing or improving urban farms similar to language I proposed in House Bill 1570 during this year's regular session, but required the credits to be reauthorized after only two years instead of after six years as I proposed.

In calling the special session, the governor specified that new income tax credits for establishing or improving urban farms equal 50% of a taxpayer's eligible expenses for up to \$5,000 for any urban farm and that the total tax credits allowed for all taxpayers for any urban farm not exceed \$25,000. He specified that the total amount of urban farm tax credits not exceed \$200,000 in any calendar year.

House Bill 3 to extend current income tax credits and create new tax credits that benefit agriculture including the urban farm tax credits will be heard and possibly voted on today in the House Agricultural Policy Committee.

Its provisions specify that the term "urban farm" shall include community-run gardens but not include residential lots for personal use. It also specifies that the term "eligible expenses" not include any expense to grow medical marijuana or industrial hemp. It provides that the urban farm tax credits will remain in force for six calendar years before reauthorization is required.

Senate Bills 2, 4, 8 & 19 which all include urban farm tax credits as well as other tax credits to benefit agriculture will be heard and possibly voted on today in the Senate Appropriations Committee along with nine other bills concerning other agricultural tax credits and

general income tax reductions.

Also scheduled for a hearing and possible vote today in the House Emerging Issues Committee is House Bill 4 to legalize sports wagering in Missouri. Since the Missouri constitution prohibits lawmakers from passing legislation during a special session not authorized by the governor for them to consider, the bill would be unconstitutional if it were to pass unless the governor expands the scope of the special session to include it.

If House Bills 3 and 4 are recommended for passage today at their initial hearings, the House Rules-Administrative Oversight Committee is scheduled to vote later today on advancing them for consideration by the entire House.

LAWSUIT TO HALT MARIJUANA VOTE REJECTED

Amendment 3 seeking to legalize recreational marijuana use by adults will remain on the Nov. 8 statewide ballot after a state appellate panel rejected a lawsuit seeking to block the measure, and the Missouri Supreme Court declined to review the case.

The lawsuit, brought by an anti-drug activist, argued Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft failed to follow normal procedures in determining the initiative petition had sufficient signatures from registered Missouri voters to qualify for the ballot. The lawsuit also claimed the measure contains multiple subjects in violation of constitutional limitations.

Cole County Circuit Judge Cotton Walker dismissed the case Sept. 9, saying the plaintiff failed to prove she had legal standing to bring it.

Although a three-judge panel of the Missouri Court of Appeals Western District on Sept. 12 said the lower court erred in determining the plaintiff lacked legal standing, it ruled against her on the merits of the case.

The appellate court ruling found that while Amendment 3 contains a large number of provisions, they all relate to the single subject of marijuana legalization and regulation. The judges also said Ashcroft acted well within his authority in certifying Amendment 3 for the ballot.

The following day, the state Supreme Court declined to take the case and let the appellate ruling stand.

The case is *Joy Sweeney v. Jay Ashcroft*.

COURT SAYS COUNTIES WAITED TOO LONG

Jackson County and four other counties seeking to appeal a Cole County judge's controversial ruling striking down four state health department regulations last year waited too long to intervene in the case, a unanimous three-judge panel of the Missouri Court of Appeals Western District ruled Sept. 13.

Last November, Cole County Circuit Judge Dan Green declared four Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services regulations authorizing local officials to respond

to public health emergencies unconstitutional.

Although the department wanted to appeal, Attorney General Eric Schmitt, whose office was representing it, refused.

Schmitt subsequently used Green's limited ruling to challenge mask mandates and other efforts by school districts and other local governments to limit the spread of COVID-19, including those based on authority derived from state laws not impacted by Green's decision.

St. Louis and Jackson counties, joined by the public health agencies in Cooper, Jefferson and Livingston counties, sought to intervene in the case in December in order to appeal Green's decision following Schmitt's refusal to do so.

However, Green said the counties had ample opportunity to join the case prior to his ruling but chose not to. The appellate panel agreed, holding that the fact the counties had assumed the attorney general would adequately represent their legal interests prior to him refusing to appeal Green's ruling doesn't justify their failure to protect their interests earlier in the litigation.

The appellate ruling did not uphold Green's underlying decision nor Schmitt's subsequent actions.

The counties could still appeal the case, *Shannon Robinson, et al., v. Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, et al.*, to the state Supreme Court.

PARSON APPOINTS COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE

Gov. Mike Parson on Sept. 12 appointed Greene County Circuit Judge Becky Borthwick to the Missouri Court of Appeals Southern District.

Borthwick replaces Judge Gary Lynch, who served more than 16 years on the Springfield-based appellate bench.

Borthwick was one of three finalists the Missouri Appellate Judicial Commission selected to fill the vacancy. The others were Ginger Gooch of Springfield, a partner at the Husch Blackwell law firm, and Raymond Williams of West Plains, owner of Williams Law Offices in West Plains and Eminence.

With a second Southern District vacancy still to be filled, the commission is expected to follow its usual practice in such situations and resubmit Gooch and Williams as finalists, while adding a yet-to-be-determined candidate in the third spot.

Under the Missouri Constitution, the governor must appoint one of the three finalists or forfeit the decision to the commission.



My friends (from left) William Brown, James Watts and State Representative Michael Johnson joined me on September 9 at Jackson County's Fred Arbanas Golf Course in south Kansas City to participate in the 6th annual Frank White, Jr., Invitational Golf Tournament that raises money for local charities. This year's tournament raised \$23,000 for FosterAdopt Connect headquartered in Independence that provides services to foster and adoptive

children and youth and their families.



Please join us for
 Coffee and Conversations
 with the Kansas City
 Police Department



Thursday, September 22, 2022
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.



Coffee
 With A Cop



Crow's Coffee
 535 E Red Bridge Road
 Kansas City, MO 64131



Together, let's create opportUNITY

Join us in supporting small businesses and helping advance minority- and women-owned companies by participating in the Hy-Vee OpportUNITY Inclusive Business Summit this fall.

During the summit, Hy-Vee will host a pitch competition that will give local minority- and women-owned businesses the chance to win up to \$30,000. In total, Hy-Vee will award \$50,000 to companies across various business sectors.

TWO WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMIT:

1) Do you represent a minority- or women-owned business?

Apply to pitch your products or services at the summit for the chance to win up to \$30,000!

2) Are you seeking professional development?

Register to attend this free event which will include an expo with resources for small businesses, learning opportunities through presentations and panel discussions, the chance to be inspired by others and more. Plus, watch companies participate in a pitch competition for the chance to win up to \$30,000!

HY-VEE OPPORTUNITY INCLUSIVE BUSINESS SUMMIT

Tuesday, Sept. 27

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium

Kansas City, MO



Hy-Vee
OpportUNITY
Inclusive Business Summit

hy-veeopportunitysummit.com

#HyVeeOpportUNITY

Event space courtesy of the Kansas City Chiefs.





HY-VEE OPPORTUNITY INCLUSIVE BUSINESS SUMMIT

Tuesday, Sept. 27
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
GEHA Field at Arrowhead Stadium
Kansas City, MO

MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES

Hy-Vee is awarding \$50,000 to local businesses. You could be one of them!

STEP 1: APPLY TO PITCH YOUR PRODUCTS OR SERVICES

Visit the summit website to apply by 11:59 p.m. (CDT) on Sept. 1, 2022.

STEP 2: PARTICIPATE IN A PITCH COMPETITION AT THE SUMMIT

Selected applicants will provide a short presentation at the summit for a panel of judges.

STEP 3: WIN!

Businesses will participate in one of three pitch categories for the chance to win the grand prize of \$30,000! Plus one business from each category will earn \$5,000. Additional cash investments will be awarded.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEEKERS

Enjoy an expo with resources for small businesses, learning opportunities through presentations and panel discussions, the chance to be inspired by others and more. Plus, watch companies participate in a pitch competition for the chance to win up to \$30,000!

STEP 1: ATTEND THE SUMMIT!

Visit the summit website to register by 11:59 p.m. (CDT) on Sept. 20, 2022. Check back frequently for updates to the event agenda and list of featured speakers and panelists.

STEP 2: PROMOTE THE SUMMIT!

Invite colleagues, local organizations and other community members to attend this free networking and professional development event.

STEP 3: TALK ABOUT THE EXCELLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES!

Post on social media during or after the summit using #HyVeeOpportUNITY.



hy-veeopportunitysummit.com

#HyVeeOpportUNITY

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babies, men, women, teens & kids!

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you shop.

- arts and crafts
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- soft play for babies
and more!

OPERATION BREAKTHROUGH

3039 TROOST KCMO 64109

OCTOBER 22ND 11AM-3PM



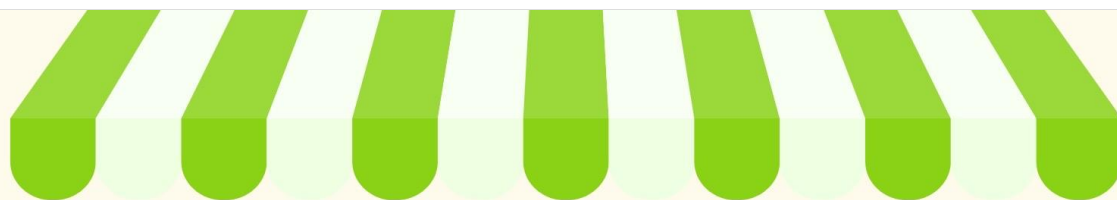
Shiloh M.B.C



Urban Success

Thank you to all of our sponsors!





FREE MEALS

Breakfast & lunch

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

BREAKFAST SERVED

@9AM DAILY

LUNCH SERVED

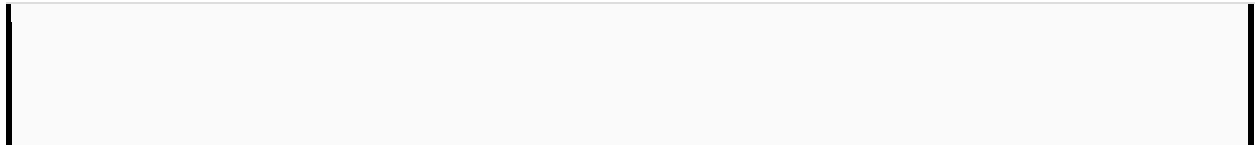
@11AM DAILY

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?

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**.



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

KIDS EAT FREE



MEAL DISTRIBUTION

- CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT -

**UNITED BELIEVERS COMMUNITY CHURCH
5600 E. 112 TERRACE, KCMO 64134**

FRIDAY'S 3PM - 6PM

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT 314.701.7245 OR EMAIL US
AT KIDSEATFREE@INFLUENCECHURCH.COM

**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 913-313-0250 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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816-474-8477



WEB TIPS

KCcrimestoppers.com



FREE MOBILE APP

P3Tips.com



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!**