



Mark A. Sharp Weekly Capitol Report

Friday, March.13th, 2020

COVID-19 PANDEMIC SHAKES UP LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE

The Missouri Senate is starting its spring recess a week earlier than planned, while the House of Representatives is expediting the state budget process amid concerns about the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Legislative leaders are urging visitors – and especially large groups – to postpone visiting the Missouri Capitol until the situation, and its related public health implications become clearer.

The legislature traditionally takes a week off from its legislative session in March, with this year's break scheduled run from March 20 to March 30. However, the Senate instead started its break at the close of business on March 12.

Meanwhile, the House will hold procedural sessions that don't require the attendance of all members from March 15-17 so that the House Budget Committee can finish its version of the \$30.9 billion state operating for the 2021 fiscal year, which begins July 1. The full House is then scheduled to meet March 18-19 to pass the various appropriations bills that make up the budget. Only those House employees necessary to conduct business will be required to show up to work, with the rest granted administrative leave.

Once the budget bills clear the House, the Senate can take them up upon its return. But whether the session actually resumes on March 30 remains uncertain and will be largely dictated by how events related to the virus unfold in the next two weeks.

Since the legislature's only constitutional duty is to pass the state budget, it's possible that lawmakers return at some point just to finish that task, and perhaps a couple of other time-sensitive matters, before adjourning for the year. The constitutional deadline for granting the final passage to the state budget is May 8. The last day of the 2020 legislative session is May 15 and, pursuant to the state constitution, cannot be extended.

HOUSE ENDORSES CREATING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The House of Representatives on March 9 voted 117-30-1 in favor of a proposed constitutional amendment to create a new state Department of Defense. The proposed new department would oversee the Missouri National Guard, which currently is part of the Department of Public Safety.

The Republican sponsor of House Joint Resolution 103, state Rep. Adam Schnelting of St. Charles, said his purpose in placing the National Guard under its own state department is to streamline the chain of command by having the state adjutant general report directly to the governor instead of the public safety director.

However, under an existing constitutional provision, as well as state law, the adjutant general already reports directly to the governor. The Guard is statutorily housed under public safety strictly for organizational purposes, with the DPS director having no authority over it. As a result, it is unclear what practical purpose of creating the new Department of Defense would serve.

If the measure also clears the Senate, it automatically would go on the Nov. 3 statewide ballot for voter ratification. At present, there are 16 executive branch departments.

HOUSE APPROVES BARRING LOCAL POLICE RESIDENCY RULES

After following a winding path, the House of Representatives on March 9 voted 105-41-3 to advance legislation to the Senate that would prohibit municipalities statewide from requiring their police officers to live in the city in which they work. The bill also would lift residency rules for all St. Louis city municipal employees, not just police.

House Bill 1604 originally was limited to allowing just St. Louis city police officers to live elsewhere, but it was amended in committee to take the police residency rule prohibition statewide. However, the expansion prompted opposition from other municipalities, particularly Kansas City, and the bill was sent back to its original committee to have the statewide amendment stripped out. But when the bill finally came before the full House for debate, the statewide police residency rule prohibition was added back in as an amendment.

The bill's supporters say allowing officers to live where they want will increase the applicant pool and make it easier for cities to recruit qualified officers. Opponents maintain that officers who don't live in the community they serve are less understanding of and responsive to local residents.

BIDEN WINS MO DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Former Vice President Joe Biden of Delaware handily defeated U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont to win Missouri's Democratic presidential preference primary on March 10.

Biden beat Sanders by more than 25 percentage points.

Biden, who served as vice president from 2009 to 2017 after a long career in the U.S. Senate, captured 60.1 percent of the Democratic vote in Missouri, compared to 34.6 percent for Sanders, according to final, but unofficial, results reported by the Secretary of State's Office.

President Donald Trump received 96.8 percent of the Republican primary vote in Missouri against token opposition. With essentially no competition on the GOP side, Democratic Missouri primary voters outnumbered Republican voters by more than 2 to 1.

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For more information contact:

Rep. Crystal Quade at (573) 751-3795

crystal.quade@house.mo.gov

House Democrats offer proposals for COVID-19 response

State must consider immediate health concerns plus economic impact on families

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – House Minority Floor Leader Crystal Quade today outlined proposals House Democrats are recommending for consideration as the state formulates a plan to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus and assist Missourians whose lives are affected by the pandemic.

"In a rapidly evolving situation, state government must act swiftly and decisively but with the flexibility to adapt to ever-shifting facts," said Quade, D-Springfield. "First and foremost, we must take every possible step to protect the well-being of all Missourians. That goes beyond addressing the immediate public health concerns and includes

ensuring everyone retains access to food, shelter and basic utilities, even if they are unable to work due to economic disruptions.

"As we move forward in the coming weeks, it is vital that we look out for one another, particularly the most vulnerable among us. Life may be a bit different for a while, but we will get through this and be stronger for it."

Chief among the proposals Quade discussed is requesting the governor call a state of emergency under Article IV, Section 27a, so that the General Assembly can access the Budget Reserve Fund for the emergency financial resources necessary to respond to this public health crisis.

Other proposals include:

- Providing state funding to reimburse medical providers for treatment provided to non-insured individuals over the next month.
- Providing additional funding to county health departments.
- Authorizing mandatory paid sick leave for companies with 50 or more employees, with a six-month sunset provision.
- Providing additional funding for non-profit organizations that provide food to children in the event schools are closed.
- Furloughing non-violent prisoners from the Missouri Department of Corrections to mitigate the impact of the virus' spread in tightly confined prisons.
- Implementing an emergency rule authorizing the Missouri Department of Commerce and Insurance to require insurance providers to cover COVID-19 testing.
- Providing economic protections to hourly state employees whose work schedules might be reduced due to the closure of state facilities.

- Implementing an emergency rule authorizing the Department of Health and Senior Services to erect temporary hospitals and quarantine facilities as necessary to respond to changing conditions.
- Providing additional funding for mobile testing units.
- Directing the Missouri Department of Social Services to refrain from implementing new SNAP rules that are set to take effect April 1 and make it more difficult for many families to afford food.
- Implementing an emergency order suspending utility services from being shut off.
- Implementing an emergency order suspending home evictions.
- Canceling plans to impose Medicaid rate cuts for hospitals and other health care providers.

In addition to accessing money from the state Budget Reserve Fund, the state also could use \$174 million in unencumbered funds reimbursed to the state by the federal government for previously provided services.



Legislative Update

This week, [Blair's Law](#) was passed out of the General Laws Committee by a vote of 12-1. My version of Blair's Law was merged similar bills filed by fellow Representatives, Nick Schroer and Rory Rowland. Blair's Law which will now be carried by Rep. Schroer heads to the House Rules Committee for a final committee vote. I am confident that this legislation will head to the House Floor at some point in the next few weeks for debate.

Blair's Law is a bipartisan bill that aims to deter people from wanting to celebrate in Missouri by shooting their gun into the air. Fellow members of the legislative body realized the sense of urgency when it comes to celebratory gunfire. My bill will essentially create a much stiffer penalty than current city ordinances have across the state. Ideally, once this bill is signed by Gov. Parson, there will need to be a strong public education campaign to inform people that law has changed. This will involve community leaders, the faith community, the school system and everyone in neighborhoods speaking out against celebratory gunfire.

I know firing a weapon into the air seems harmless, I know it is a tradition in Kansas City especially. However, the truth is that this has gone on long enough. The culture needs to shift on how we celebrate in our city and our state as a whole. Please support this bill.

Important Medical Information

CHILDREN'S MERCY HOSPITAL234-3000
2401 Gillham Rd, Kansas City

RESEARCH BELTON HOSPITAL348-1200
17065 S US 71, Kansas City

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH CENTER.....942-4400
1000 Carondelet, Kansas City

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL OF KANSAS CITY932-2000
4401 Wornall Rd, Kansas City

TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTER.....404-1000
2301 Holmes, Kansas City

VETERANS HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER..... 861-4700
4801 E Linwood Blvd, Kansas City



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Dear Neighbor ,

My name is Mark A. Sharp and I am the newly elected State Representative for District 36th. I wanted to present to you my new weekly "Capitol Report" which will include the latest news and legislative updates about major developments here at the state capitol. As a new member of The 100th General Assembly, 2nd Session, I am proud to serve the people of South Kansas City.

My office in Jefferson City is available to assist you with questions you may have about state government or legislative issues. Please call, email or write anytime. If you are unable to reach me, my assistant [Brian Farmer](#) is ready to help you. If you are in Jefferson City, come by my Capitol office in room [109-G](#), and introduce yourself. The door is always open and I encourage you to visit.

Please forward this email to your friends and family who want to know how what is happening in Jefferson City will impact them here at home.

Yours in Service,
Mark A. Sharp



My Legislation

[HB2107](#)- Modifies residency requirements for the A+ Schools Program

[HB2169](#)- Establishes Blair's Law, which creates the offense of unlawful discharge of a firearm for discharging a firearm within or into the limits of a municipality with criminal negligence

[HB 2635](#) - Provides that the period of detention on arrest without a warrant is 48 hours for criminal offenses involving a dangerous felony or deadly weapon

[HB 2636](#) - Modifies provisions regarding the expungement of records

[HB 2690](#) - Establishes a Negro Leagues Baseball Museum special license plate

Update: [HB2169](#) was passed out of General Laws Committee by a vote of 12-1. The bill has moved to the Rules Committee.

THE BANKER

FILM SCREENING and PANEL

Sunday, March 15th
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM



Glenwood Arts Theater
3707 West 95th Street
Overland Park, KS 66206

Moderator:
Emmet Pierson
President and CEO
Community Builders of Kansas City

Panelists:
Herb Hardwick
Managing Partner
Hardwick Law Firm

Jackson Winsett
Assistant Vice President
Federal Reserve

Willie Lanier
Managing Partner
Lanier United



FREE tickets required
Visit www.thebankerfilm.eventbrite.com

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS





Please join us for the

Hickman Mills School Board
Candidate Forum

Tuesday, March 24

6:30 p.m.

Activity Room in Smith-Hale Middle School

(front entrance)

9010 Old Santa Fe Rd., Kansas City, Mo., 64138



League of Women Voters

Kansas City/Jackson/Clay/Platte Counties

GREATER KANSAS CITY CRIME STOPPERS

816-474-TIPS HOTLINE

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: Det. Kevin Boehm, Crime Stoppers Coordinator

SUBJECT: Reward Increase – 9 Year Old Dominic Young Homicide

KANSAS CITY, MO --- The Kansas City, Missouri Police Department and the Greater KC Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline continue to seek information in the January 20, 2018 homicide of 9 year old Dominic Young Jr. at 71 Highway and Emanuel Cleaver II Blvd.

Dominic Young Jr. was apparently hit by a stray gunshot while occupying a vehicle driven by his father and died as a result of his injuries. Dominic, his father and brother were en route to Grandview at the time. The vehicle driven by Dominic's father was hit by gunshots from other vehicles apparently engaged in a gunfight according to statements.

KCPD found a possible crime scene near the intersection where the father said the shooting happened. When the father arrived home in Grandview, Dominic was not responsive. Grandview police initially responded to the father's home and found the boy in critical condition. He was later pronounced dead at a hospital.

A number of community leaders and organizations including State Representative Richard Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McManus, former City Councilmen Scott Taylor, Scott Wagner, John Sharp; the City of KCMO and Concord Fortress of Hope Church (Pastor Ron Lindsay) have come forward to increase the existing reward in the case up to \$30,000.00. Those leaders are available for comment in regard to the case.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers Greater Kansas City TIPS Hotline at 816-474-TIPS (8477), TIPS may also be submitted electronically at www.KCcrimestoppers.com, or by downloading our NEW mobile app, P3TIPS, on Google Play or the Apple iOS stores for FREE. Information leading to an arrest and/or filing of charges could be eligible for up to \$30,000.00 in reward money. ALL INFORMATION IS ANONYMOUS.



Remain Anonymous • Receive Cash Rewards

Tips Hotline

816-474-8477

Web Tips

www.KCcrimestoppers.com

Free Mobile App

www.P3Tips.com



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