



Dear Neighbor,

With the Coronavirus at the top of our minds each day, I thought it would be useful to provide everyone with a guide to the different resources that are available for the people of Kansas City/Jackson County.

The House will not be in session until Wednesday, April 8th. My office is still available to assist you with questions you may have about state government or legislative issues via email. Please be patient with our response time as we are experiencing an influx of emails due to the concerns about COVID-19. If you are unable to reach me, my assistant Brian Farmer is ready to help you.

Feel free to forward this email to your friends and family who want to know the latest information about what is happening in the Capitol and how it will impact Missourians. Be safe and God bless.

Yours in Service,
Mark A. Sharp

**MY LETTER TO GOVERNOR PARSON
URGING HIM TO ISSUE A STATEWIDE STAY
AT HOME ORDER**

CAPITOL OFFICE
Room 109G • State Capitol
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: 573-751-9469

E-Mail: mark.sharp@house.mo.gov



Committees

**House Committee on Workforce
Development**

**House Committee on Downsizing
State Government**

**House Special Committee on
Urban Issues**

Mark Sharp
State Representative
District 36

April 3, 2020

The Honorable Governor Michael L. Parson
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Governor Parson:

To minimize the continuing spread of the coronavirus, I implore you to immediately issue a statewide stay at home order for Missouri residents requiring them to stay in their residences unless their work is essential or they need to leave home to get food or other essential household items for themselves or others or they are engaged in outdoor physical activity while maintaining proper social distance.

I also urge you to order the closing of non-essential businesses and offices until this crisis has passed, and not to override local stay at home and/or business closure orders that are stricter than a statewide order.

The latest report I saw from the Department of Health & Senior Services showed 2,113 persons have tested positive for coronavirus in Missouri, and these cases cover a majority of Missouri counties. The report also indicated that 19 deaths have been attributed to the virus.

Please listen to the pleas of all the major statewide medical associations in Missouri and of business leaders representing Chambers of Commerce in Kansas City, Springfield, St. Louis and other areas, and issue a strong stay at home order and a closure order for non-essential businesses immediately to save lives and to help bring this pandemic to a halt as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark Sharp".

Mark Sharp
State Representative
District 36

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2020

**Governor Parson Issues Statewide "Stay Home Missouri" Order to Control,
Contain, and Combat COVID-19**

(JEFFERSON CITY, MO) – Building on Missouri's efforts to control, contain, and combat COVID-19, Governor Mike Parson today issued a statewide **"Stay Home Missouri"** Order effective beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2020, until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2020.

The Order explicitly states that individuals currently residing within the state of Missouri shall avoid leaving their homes or places of residence unless necessary.

"First and foremost, I want everyone to know that I love this state and the people of this state," **Governor Parson** said. "The people of this great state clearly define who we are in Missouri, and as Governor, I have no greater responsibility than to protect the health, well-being, and safety of all Missourians."

In order to protect public health and prevent the further spread of COVID-19, Governor Parson's Order includes specific guidance for staying home, social distancing, businesses and employees, schools, restaurants, firearm sales, and state government buildings.

Among other guidelines, the Order requires the following:

- Individuals currently residing within the state of Missouri shall avoid leaving their homes or places of residence.
- All individuals in the state of Missouri shall avoid social gatherings of more than ten (10) people.
- All public and charter schools must remain closed for the duration of the Order.
- Any entity that does not employ individuals to perform essential worker functions, as set forth in guidance provided by the federal government, shall adhere to the limitations on social gatherings and social distancing.

Any entity that employs individuals to perform essential worker functions, and that is engaged in retail sales to the public, shall limit the number of individuals in any particular retail location as follows:

Twenty-five (25) percent or less of the entity's authorized fire or building code occupancy, as set by local authorities, for a retail location with square footage of less than ten thousand square feet (10,000 ft²);

Ten (10) percent or less of the entity's authorized fire or building code occupancy, as set by local authorities, for a retail location with square footage of ten thousand square feet (10,000 ft²) or more.

The Order does not prohibit Missourians from accessing essential services, such as grocery stores, gas stations, and banks, or engaging in outdoor recreation, provided that necessary precautions are taken and maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, including observing the social gathering and social distancing requirements set forth in the Order.

The Order shall be observed throughout the state and enforced by all local and state health authorities. Local public health authorities are directed to carry out and enforce the provisions of the Order by any legal means.

"There comes a time when we have to make major sacrifices in our lives. Many of us make sacrifices each and every day, but now more than ever, we must all make sacrifices," **Governor Parson** said. "This is not about anyone individual person. This is about our families, friends, neighbors, and the entire state of Missouri. For the sake of all Missourians, be smart, be responsible, and stay home, Missourians."

As of today, Missouri has 2,113 positive COVID-19 cases out of 24,727 tested in a total population of 6 million Missourians. This data shows that 8.5 percent of those tested have been positive.

Of the 8.5 percent of Missouri citizens who have tested positive, approximately 22 percent have required hospitalization. This means the remaining 78 percent are recovering at home or have already recovered.

Missouri has at least one positive case in 76 of Missouri's 114 counties. Over half of the total positive cases are in St. Louis region. Also as of today, Missouri has 19 COVID-19 related deaths. Based on the state's current data, Missouri's death rate is still below one percent.

To view the full "Stay Home Missouri" Order, please see attachment. For more information and resources regarding COVID-19, visit the CDC's website DHSS website www.health.mo.gov/coronavirus.

[Stay at Home Missouri Order.pdf](#)



Coronavirus Facts and Resources

Kansas City

If you would like to receive updates about what the City is doing in response to the coronavirus, **text COVIDKC to 888777**.

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is operating a [hotline](#) for residents and health care providers to call for information and guidance about COVID-19.

The statewide hotline number is **877-435-8411**. The hotline is being operated by medical professionals and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

During this urgent and unprecedented public health crisis, the United Way of Greater Kansas City wants to remind you of the referral services available through 211, a one-stop resource for community relief – food, financial help, utility assistance, tax services and more. Through 211, callers are connected to more than 8,000 programs run by nonprofit organizations and government agencies throughout the 23-county United Way 211 service area. For assistance, visit 211kc.org or dial 211.

Kansas City's website has a [page](#) dedicated to the coronavirus. It has the latest updates on the state of emergency proclamations, orders and [Changes in City Operations and Online Resources](#). The page includes resources such as a [Guide for Businesses and Organizations](#) and links to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [KCMO Health Department](#).

Kansas City, Missouri Health Department (KCHD)

- Call (816) 513-6008 for general help and information:
- Email at: health@kcmo.org.
- Visit in person, Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Kansas City, Mo. Health Department: 2400 Troost Ave. Kansas City, MO 64108

Jackson County Health Department

- <https://www.jacohd.org/> or call **(877) 435-8411**

[KMBC](#) has a good website that has a list of local resources and home preparedness fact sheets.

Please Visit KC City Hall website dedicated to COVID-19 for [Coronavirus FAQ's](#)

The City encourages everyone to watch public meetings [online](#) or on [Channel 2](#) and submit public comments by [email](#).

Grocery Stores and Local Businesses Hrs for Seniors

Hy-Vee: Between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., an hour which is now set aside for those 60 and older, pregnant women and those who consider themselves at high-risk for COVID-19.

Dollar General: First hour of business each day will be dedicated to Senior Customers

Hen House Markets: The first hour Hen House Markets are open are reserved for shopping by seniors and guests with disabilities. Normal store opening hours are still in place, but all stores around the Kansas City metro will close at 8 p.m

Target: They are reserving the first hour of shopping every Wednesday to allow elderly shoppers and those with underlying health concerns easier access to groceries and other household items in its stores

Whole Foods Market: Stores in the Kansas City and nationwide will service customers who are 60 and older one hour before opening to the general public, under the new adjusted hours posted on the store's web page. For example, if a store's new hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., customers who are 60+ can shop starting at 8 a.m.

Cosentino's Price Chopper: 7-8 a.m.

Meals on Wheels: Located in: [North Kansas City Hospital](#)

[Address:](#) 2800 Clay Edwards Dr, Kansas City, MO 64116

[Phone:](#) [\(816\) 691-5322](tel:8166915322)

Missouri State Resources

24 hour hotline: 877-435-8411

or <https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/>

Unemployment

Kansas City Claims Center: 816-889-3101 or

[Missouri Unemployment Website](#)

SCHOOL BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAMS

GO TO THE WEBSITES BELOW FOR INFORMATION ON BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAMS FOR AREA SCHOOL DISTRICTS DURING THE CURRENT CLOSURE.

CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.center.k12.mo.us

Click on COVID 19 and then click on MEALS.

GRANDVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.grandviewc4.net

Click on District COVID 19 Information, then click on GC-4 Meal Distribution Plan & GC-4 Meal Delivery Schedule.

HICKMAN MILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

www.hickmanmills.org

Click on District Announcements, then click on MEALS and then click on Meals Page.

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.kcpublicschools.org

Click on Food Distribution.

PLAYING IT SAFE!

PLAYGROUNDS & COURTS ARE CLOSED

PARKS & TRAILS REMAIN OPEN

PLEASE PRACTICE COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CDC:

DO NOT USE PARKS IF YOU FEEL SICK

MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING~KEEP 6' BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS & GATHER IN GROUPS OF 10 OR LESS

WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE / AFTER USE OF PARKS FACILITIES

SHARE TRAILS & SIDEWALKS~WARN OTHERS OF YOUR PRESENCE AS YOU PASS



Stimulus Package Takeaways

As I'm sure that many of you have heard, the federal government has passed a recent stimulus package that will provide assistance to people in need who are suffering through this economic crisis. While there are many components of the stimulus package, I just wanted to highlight a few key features of the bill. I do encourage everyone to read this New York Times [article](#) which answers many questions that you may have about your stimulus eligibility, unemployment benefits, student loans, and retirement. Also to get an

idea of what you could be receiving from the federal government, please review this [article](#) from Washington Post that has a stimulus payment calculator. Please reach out to my office if you have any questions.

Key Takeaways:

- Most adults would get a one-time payment of \$1,200, although some would get less. For every qualifying child age 16 or under, the payment would be an additional \$500.
- The amount varies based on certain criteria. Please see [article](#)
- You **DO NOT** need to apply to receive payment. IRS has your info and will Direct Deposit
- Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin [said](#) he expected most people to get their payments within three weeks. However, it could take up to 2 months.
- Those on Social Security, Disability and currently unemployed will also get a stimulus payment

Unemployment Benefits

- The new bill would wrap in far more workers than are usually eligible for unemployment benefits, including self-employed people and part-time workers
- Gig workers, freelancers, and independent contractors would be newly eligible
- If you have Covid-19 or care for a family member who does have, and are unemployed then your covered
- If your ordered by a health care provider to quarantine, then you would be covered
- If your employer has shut down due to the Coronavirus and you are unable to work, your covered
- This bill leaves out people who are able to work from home, currently receiving paid sick leave/family leave, new entrants to the workforce
- If your currently receiving unemployment benefits then those benefits would be extended 13 weeks
- If unemployment benefits have recently run out then you can reapply

Is there any relief for renters in the bill?

Yes. The bill would put a temporary, nationwide eviction moratorium in place for any renters whose landlords have mortgages backed or owned by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and other federal entities. This will last for 120 days after the bill passes, and landlords also can't charge any fees or penalties for nonpayment of rent.

Please see the [article](#) for more information

UNEMPLOYMENT

How to File?

If you're eligible, you'll need the following:

- Your Social Security number;
- Any amount you were paid in the past week, before taxes and deductions;
- The name and mailing address of each job you worked in the past 18 months;
- The dates you started and ended work at each of those jobs.
- If this is your first time filing for unemployment please watch [this video](#) on unemployment basics. Visit uinteract.labor.mo.gov, create an account and file your claim. If your job loss is related to coronavirus issues, make sure to check a box that says "COVID-19" in your application to waive a requirement to search for a new job amid the crisis.
- Missouri provides benefits for up to 20 weeks, which can be extended to 33 weeks under the federal provisions.
- The state will pay you up to \$320 per week, and the federal government will provide \$600 on top of whatever you get from the state for each week you're on employment prior to July 31.

- Benefits can be paid within 22 days unless there is an issue with your eligibility, which on average can take 4-6 weeks to resolve.
- You should continue filing weekly requests for payment even if you have not yet received benefits.
- Regional Claims Center representatives are available by phone Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM by calling:

Kansas City Claims Center: 816-889-3101 or visit

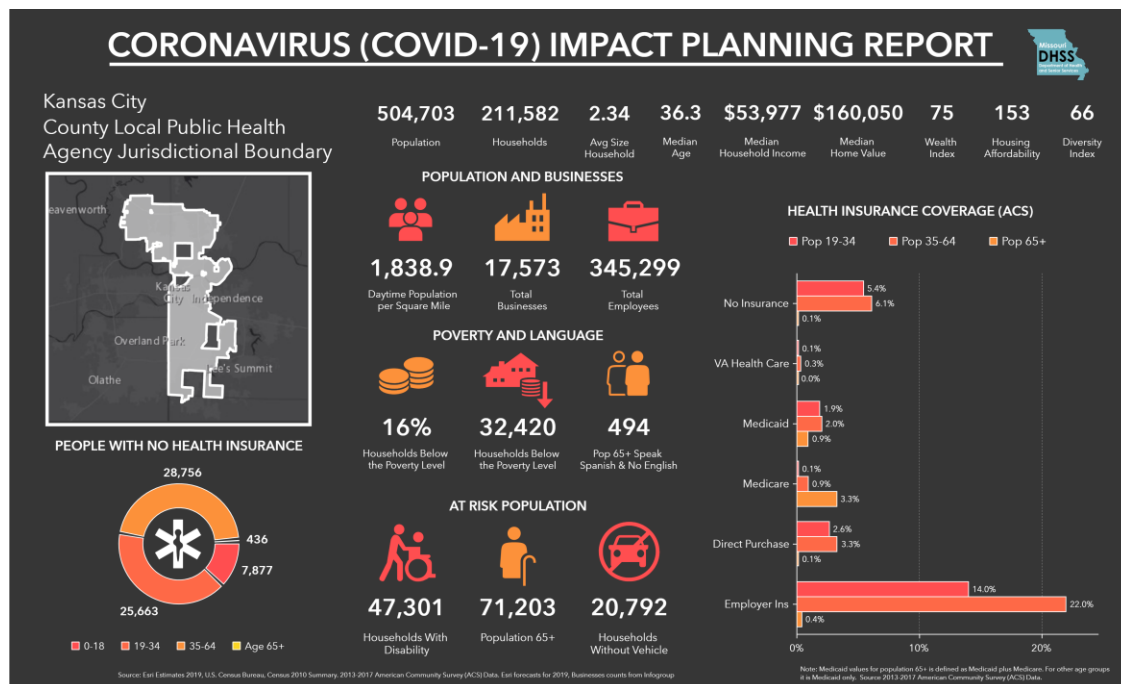
[Missouri Unemployment Website](#)

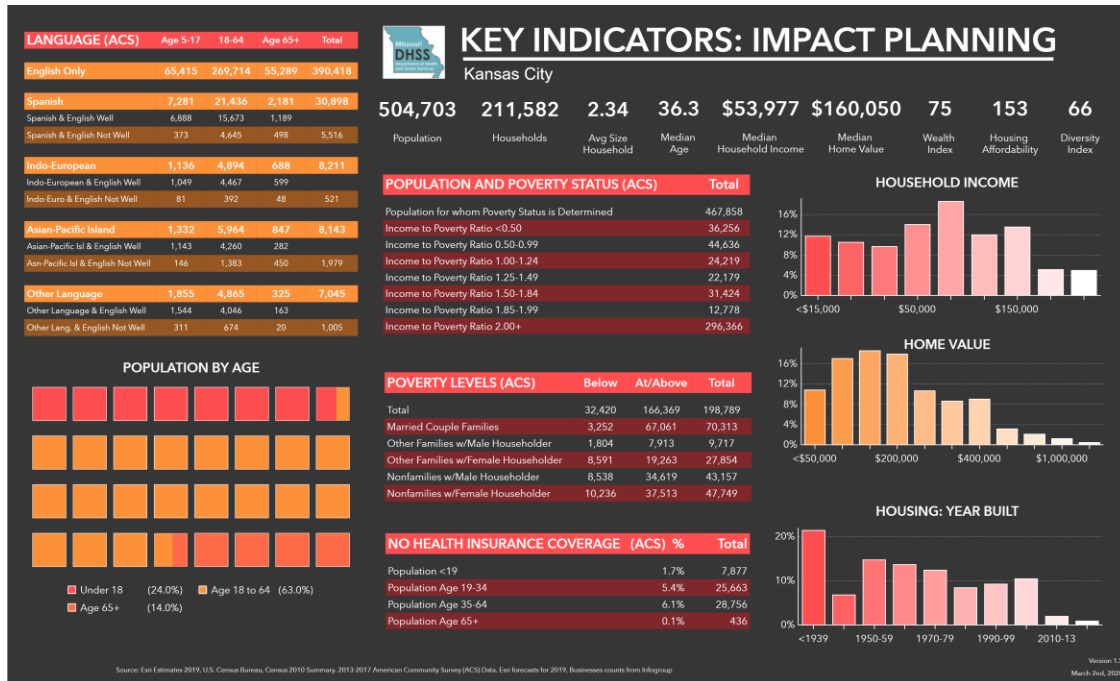
Please visit the Missouri Department of Labor's website for more information about COVID-19 FAQ's for Businesses and Workers: <https://labor.mo.gov/coronavirus>

US Department of Labor has a few sites dedicated to Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-employee-paid-leave>

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic/ffcra-questions>





ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH CENTER.....(816) 942-4400
1000 Carondelet, Kansas City 64114

Saint Luke's

4401 Wornall Rd, Kansas City 64111

Non-Emergency.....(816) 932-2000

Pharmacy(816) 932-2107

Nurse Line(816) 932-6220

Samuel Rodgers(816) 474-4920

2701 E 31st, Kansas City 64128

Truman Medical Center.....(816) 404-7000

7900 Lee's Summit Rd, Kansas City 64139

Transportation(816) 404-3375

Veterans Hospital Medical Center.....(816) 861-4700

4801 E Linwood Blvd, Kansas City 64128

The Family Health Care location at 300 Southwest Blvd. in Kansas City, KS, will offer testing from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Patients with a doctor's prescription can get tested for COVID-19. Call 913-722-3100 or by visiting www.sleefhc.org.



COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS vs. COLD vs. FLU vs. ALLERGIES

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19*	COLD	FLU	ALLERGIES
Fever	Common (measured at 100 F or higher)	Rare	High (100-102 F), can last 3-4 days	No
Headache	Sometimes	Rare	Intense	Sometimes
General aches, pains	Sometimes	Slight	Common, often severe	No
Fatigue, weakness	Sometimes	Slight	Common, often severe	Sometimes
Extreme exhaustion	Sometimes (progresses slowly)	Never	Common (starts early)	No
Stuffy nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
Sneezing	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
Sore throat	Rare	Common	Common	No
Cough	Common	Mild to moderate	Common, can become severe	Sometimes
Shortness of breath	In more serious infections	Rare	Rare	Common
Runny nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
Diarrhea	Sometimes	No	Sometimes**	No

* Information still evolving.

** Sometimes for children.

Sources: DHSS, CDC, WHO, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

Mark A. Sharp Weekly Capitol Report

Friday, April 3rd, 2020

PARSON CUTS \$180 MILLION FROM BUDGET DUE TO COVID-19

With a \$500 million revenue shortfall expected over the final three months of the current fiscal year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Republican Gov. Mike Parson on April 1 exercised his constitutional authority to unilaterally cut nearly \$180 million in spending authority from the state operating budget. Parson said he is hopeful \$315 million from the recently approved federal stimulus package will fill the rest of the revenue gap for the 2020 fiscal year, which ends June 30, but warned additional cuts might be necessary.

"In the future, we may have to restrict even more depending on how extreme the impacts of COVID-19 become," Parson said during a press briefing announcing the cuts.

Budget cuts this large and this late in the fiscal year are unprecedented but to be expected given that much of Missouri's economy will be shut down for weeks, if not months, suddenly putting tens of thousands of Missourians out of work. With the current fiscal year already three-fourths over, Parson has few options for cutting large amounts of general revenue.

The Department of Higher Education is one of those agencies with a deep general revenue pool and is bearing the brunt of Parson's late-year cuts with an \$81.57 million budget hit. Of that amount, \$61.32 million will come from the operating budgets of public four-year colleges and universities, with community colleges losing \$11.6 million.

Other major midyear cuts include \$54.22 million for facilities maintenance, \$12.16 million from the Department of Natural Resources for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, \$7.13 million in "excess" spending authority in the state employee health

insurance plan and \$6.48 million from the Missouri Division of Tourism.

State Budget Director Dan Haug said the sharp drop in state revenue collections will continue into FY 2021, which begins July 1, and could even stretch into FY 2022. The legislature had been working on the FY 2021 state operating budget when it adjourned in mid-March to minimize the spread of COVID-19 among lawmakers. When they eventually return to the Capitol, lawmakers likely will need to scrap their previous budget plans and develop a far more austere spending blueprint.

STATE SUPREME COURT STRIKES DOWN PICKETING BAN

The Missouri Supreme Court on March 31 struck down part of a 2018 law banning all picketing by government employees, unanimously ruling that it unconstitutionally infringes on their free speech rights.

In an opinion written by Judge Zel Fischer, the court noted that under longstanding legal precedent, public workers in Missouri do not enjoy the right to strike or walk out on the job in protest. However, the court said the 2018 law is unconstitutionally overbroad by subjecting government workers to immediate termination for engaging in "picketing of any kind," including pickets conducted on their own time on matters of public interest.

"Public employees have a right to exercise their freedom of speech about matters of public concern when that speech does not impede the efficiency of the public services the state performs through its employees," Fischer wrote.

The case was brought by dispatchers with the Jackson County Sheriff's Office who are members of the Communication Workers of America Local 6360. Negotiations over a new contract with the sheriff's office are ongoing, and the dispatchers contended the picketing prohibition limits their right to picket about matters of public concern relating to the agreement.

The picketing ban is part of a larger measure, House Bill 1413, the Republican-controlled General Assembly enacted in an attempt to make it harder for public-sector labor unions to operate. One key provision prohibits government agencies from withholding union dues from workers' paychecks. The part of the bill is subject to a separate lawsuit that has been appealed to the Supreme Court.

LAWMAKERS TO RETURN TO PASS SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

The Missouri General Assembly is planning to briefly return to work in the coming days to pass a supplemental appropriations bill that will give the state the legal authority to spend incoming federal money to address the COVID-19 pandemic during the final three months of the 2020 fiscal year, which ends June 30.

Although the Capitol is typically bustling with legislative activity this time of year, lawmakers have suspended their annual session to avoid spreading the illness. Other than procedural sessions with only a handful of lawmakers present, the Senate hasn't met since March 12, while the House of Representatives has been out since March 18.

The House's last order of business before leaving was to pass a supplemental appropriations bill granting spending authority for various needs for the remainder of FY 2020. While the measure, House Bill 2014 includes \$33 million in emergency spending authority related to the pandemic, House Democrats argued that the amount is woefully inadequate to meet the needs caused by the crisis. Majority House Republicans dismissed those concerns.

When the Senate Appropriations Committee meets on April 7, it is expected to rewrite the HB 2014 to significantly bolster COVID-19 related spending. The full Senate is expected to convene the morning of April 8 to approve the bill, which would go back to the House later that day for the final passage.

Both chambers are taking steps to minimize interactions between lawmakers, including instructing most legislative staff to stay at home and asking that lawmakers remain

isolated in their offices except when voting. Since the Missouri Constitution requires legislative proceedings to be open, members of the public will be allowed in the House and Senate visitor galleries but no other areas of the Capitol, including member offices. Instead of attending in person, however, the public is encouraged to watch proceedings from home via live streams on the House and Senate websites.

In addition to HB 2014, the Senate is expected to grant the final passage to House Bill 2456, which would extend until 2022 a special tax that allows the state to leverage more federal Medicaid dollars. The tax is slated to expire in September and needs to be renewed to avoid a tremendous hit to state health care spending.

Once lawmakers wrap up business on April 8, it is unclear when the session will resume. Pursuant to the state constitution, this year's session ends at 6 p.m. on May 15, with the deadline for passing the FY 2021 a week earlier on May 8. If lawmakers aren't able to safely return, however, the governor could call a special session in June to finish the budget and consider any other priorities.

On a Lighter Note.....

My 5 Favorite Chiefs Players

With no live sports on TV, I've been watching highlights of the Chiefs from the past season and from a few years ago. I thought it would be interesting to share my favorite Chiefs players and links to some of their most memorable plays. Hope you enjoy.

- [Patrick Mahomes](#)
- [Priest Holmes](#)
- [Dante Hall](#)

- [Derrick Thomas](#)
- [Tony Gonzalez](#)
- [Hon Mention- Tyrann Mathieu](#)

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.



State Representative Mark A.Sharp

Missouri House of Representatives

Room 109G

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!