



**THIS IS CHIEFS KINGDOM**

**Capitol Report**

**January 14, 2021**

[Email](#) | [Web Page](#) | [Bills Sponsored](#) | [District 27](#)

*Dear Neighbor,*

I was honored and humbled last week to take the Oath of Office for my third term serving in the Missouri House of Representatives as State Representative for District 27.

Our nation is at an historic moment. Two months ago, the voters of our nation chose a new course of direction and with that new course comes new challenges. We must not fear the future but embrace it.

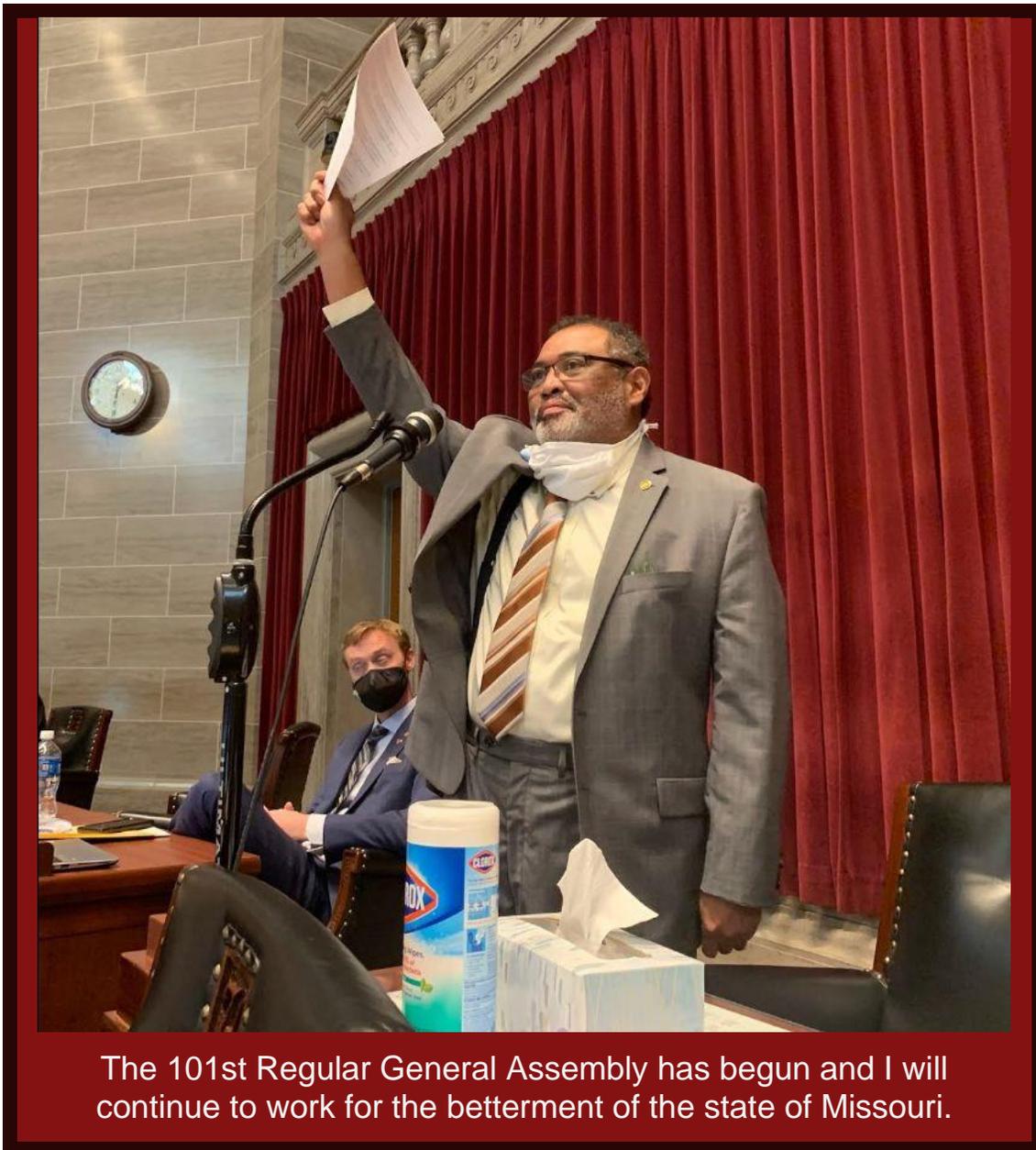
I hope as a new year begins, that together, we can work to make not only our District but our State a better place to live. I appreciate your input on the issues that affect your life. The future depends on good decisions and better decision making.

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*Yours in Service,*

*Rich*

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The 101st Regular General Assembly has begun and I will continue to work for the betterment of the state of Missouri.

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## House Legislative Dashboard



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## Missouri unveils new COVID-19 vaccine website

Missouri has launched a new vaccine website, which answers common questions and clarifies what it calls misinformation.

The new website is [mostopscovid.com](https://mostopscovid.com), and provides Missourians with information about the safety of the vaccines, research and production processes and when they could be eligible for vaccination.

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[Click here for the latest COVID-19 statistics for Missouri.](#)

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# Vaccine Distribution Timeline

Source: Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

## COVID-19 Vaccine Availability

### PHASE 1A

Long-Term care facility residents and staff

Healthcare workers (patient facing)

Emergency medical services (EMS)

### PHASE 1B

High-risk individuals (18-64) and individuals >65

First responders (see below)

Essential workers (see below)

### PHASE 2

Populations at increased risk (prisoners, homeless, etc.)

### PHASE 3

All Missouri residents

### Healthcare Workers

Healthcare personnel and staff who may have direct or indirect exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and are unable to work from home. This may include workers at:

- Skilled nursing facilities
- Long-term care facilities
- Assisted living
- Residential care
- Inpatient and outpatient facilities

### Essential Workers

- Public-facing healthcare
- First responders
- Childcare workers
- Teachers & education staff
- Energy workers
- Critical manufacturing workers
- Food & agriculture workers

### High Risk Populations

Those at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness, including those 65 years of age or older, may receive priority:

- BMI >30
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Hypertension
- Chronic heart disease



## Vaccine Survey Tool from Jackson County, MO

The Jackson County Health Department is following the [state of Missouri's COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan](#).

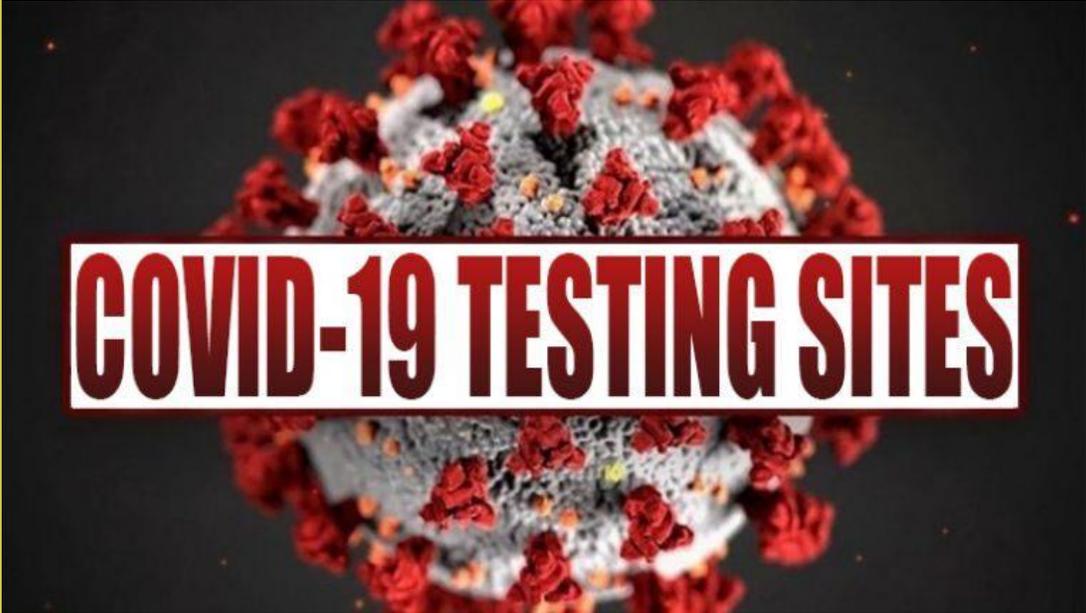
The time it takes to make a COVID-19 vaccine available to everyone who wants one is dependent on a few factors.

1. The supply of vaccine provided by the state of Missouri to administrators in our area.
  2. Where residents fall within the [phased distribution plan](#).
- The first phase focuses on (1A) long-term care facility residents and staff, patient-facing healthcare workers, and (1B) high-risk individuals, first responders, and essential workers.

- The state will not move to the next phase until the vaccine is made available to all individuals in the previous phase who want one.

The survey asks for contact information, occupation, and pre-existing medical conditions. Responses from the survey will help us determine which phase of the state's vaccination plan residents fall under. All individuals who live or work in Jackson County and are interested in receiving the vaccine are encouraged to fill out the survey [here](#).

You are eligible to take the survey if you live or work in Jackson County and can find the COVID19 Survey Tool at this website: <https://jaco hd.org/covid-vaccines>



# COVID-19 TESTING SITES

## FREE COVID 19 TESTING

**\*Tuesday, January 19 (This is not a drive-thru)**  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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[The View Community Center Register Here](#)  
[13500 Byars Road](#)  
[Grandview, MO 64030](#)

**\*Wednesday, January 20 (This is not a drive-thru)**  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
[Vesper Hall Register Here](#)  
[400 NW Vesper St.](#)  
[Blue Springs, MO 64014](#)

**Thursday, January 21 (This is a drive-thru)**  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
[Lee's Summit Register Here](#)  
[505 NW Blue Parkway](#)  
[Lee's Summit, MO 64063](#)

**Friday, January 22**  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
[Independence Register Here](#)  
[211 W. Truman Rd.](#)  
[Independence, MO 64056](#)

\*These are walk-in clinics. Limited individuals will be allowed in the facility at one time due to social distancing protocol. Clients may be required to wait outdoors under covering. Please dress appropriately.

Pre-registration is not required but HIGHLY encouraged. Due to increased demand, we can not guarantee openings for walk-ins. Testing Clinics are filling up quickly. Please pre-register to guarantee a testing appointment. We will not guarantee open spots for walk-ins.

**For a list of the Kansas City Health Department's testing sites [click here.](#)**

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**Truman Medical Centers has available services for Jackson County residents during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.**

If you are experiencing a fever, a new cough or new shortness of breath, you can call **404-CARE (2273)** and speak to a health care professional to be screened for COVID-19.



**MISSOURI HOUSE TO SKIP FULL SESSION JAN. 20  
DUE TO CONCERNS ABOUT VIOLENCE**

With right-wing extremists planning protests in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitols on presidential Inauguration Day and concerns their actions could turn violent, the Missouri House of Representatives will only hold a procedural session on Jan. 20 so

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that most lawmakers and legislative staff need not be present in the event violence does unfold.

Security officials in Missouri and elsewhere are on high alert after an insurrectionist mob incited by departing President Donald Trump and other Republican officials stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 in an attempt to stop Congress from certifying President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the Electoral College. Biden, a Democrat, won 306 electoral votes to handily defeated Trump, who won 232.

The U.S. House of Representatives on Jan. 13 voted to impeach Trump for incitement of insurrection in the Capitol attack, making him the only president in American history to be impeached twice. The Democratic-controlled House previously impeached Trump just over a year ago on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, but he subsequently was acquitted the Republican-controlled Senate.

The Senate, which is still Republican-led at the moment but which will soon switch to Democratic control, does not plan to conduct a trial on the latest article of impeachment before Trump leaves office when his term expires at noon on Jan. 20. Even though Trump will no longer be president, an impeachment trial is still expected to take place in the coming weeks. If convicted, Trump would be prohibited from ever again holding public office.

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## 2 Missouri legislators call U.S. Capitol riot an assault on democracy

By: [Cynthia Newsome](#)  
[KSHB.com](#)

Posted at 9:28 PM, Jan 06, 2021

and last updated 11:40 PM, Jan 06, 2021

KANSAS CITY, MO. — Two Missouri lawmakers expressed outrage over Wednesday's assault on the U.S. Capitol. But despite the political divide in the U.S., they believe there is a path to healing the nation.

Missouri Sen. Barbara Washington said the actions of rioters who breached police barricades and illegally walked into the U.S. capitol building an assault on democracy. She also said she believes race was a factor in the lack of police preparedness and slow response.

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"If these people [rioters at the U.S. Capitol building] were Black, they would be called thugs, criminals and terrorists; but what they are is terrorists and they are a threat to our democracy," Washington said.

**Rep. Richard Brown also was critical of the response from Capitol Police.**

"When they (police) came to the Black Lives Matter protest, there were plenty of police in place to stop that group of protesters," Brown said. "My question is, where was Capitol Police today to protect our nation's leaders?"

Both lawmakers said they are concerned that the violence in Washington D.C. could trickle down to state legislatures.

[Read More](#)

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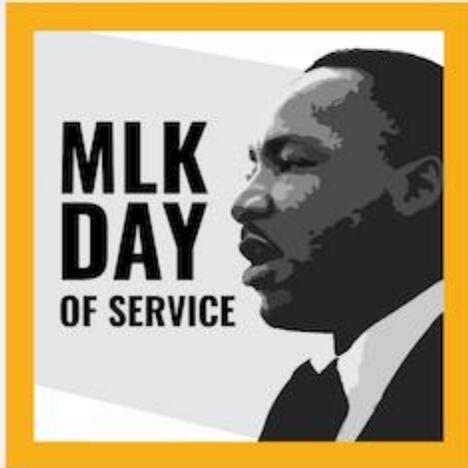
**SOME WANT THIS.    OTHERS WANT THIS.**



**I WANT THIS.**



made with mematic



**MAKE IT A DAY ON,  
NOT A DAY OFF**

JANUARY 18, 2021

Volunteer at [MLKDay.gov](https://MLKDay.gov)



Missouri saw deadliest year ever for  
gun violence in 2020, made worse by  
pandemic

By Kaitlin Washburn and Humera Lodhi | The Kansas City Star  
A Kansas City photographer who proudly documented first steps  
and graduations. A St. Louis high school freshman who loved to

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dance. A police officer killed while responding to a mass shooting at a Springfield gas station.

They were among 689 people shot and killed in Missouri in 2020, a year that will likely be recorded as the state's deadliest ever for gun violence.

The historic level of homicides was driven by the state's two largest cities, with more than 260 homicides in St. Louis and [161 in Kansas City](#). Both cities have for years ranked high among U.S. cities for gun violence. But Springfield, the state's third-largest city, saw its fatal shootings more than double, with 23.

By the end of the year, Missouri had the third-highest per-capita rate of gun deaths in the country, behind Louisiana and Mississippi.

"I would be shocked if it's not also the deadliest year in Missouri's history. We are seeing increases in three cities, how is it not possible for this to be the deadliest year," said Ken Novak, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

To understand the full scope of gun violence across the state, The Kansas City Star interviewed experts, gathered information about dozens of shooting victims from families and obituaries, and analyzed data from police and the [Gun Violence Archive](#), a nonprofit that tracks gun incidents across the country. Because no complete official record exists, the numbers are preliminary, sourced from thousands of media outlets and public agencies.

[Continue Reading](#)

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Representative Jerome Barnes and I are seated in the Missouri House chamber. We were both sworn into our third term in the Missouri House of Representatives last week.

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## Kansas City residents could get relief on water bills under new agreement with EPA

BY ALLISON KITE  
Kansas City Star

JANUARY 07, 2021 06:34 PM

Relief may be coming for residents whose water bills have skyrocketed over the last decade because of Kansas City's federally mandated sewer upgrades.

The improvements are meant to address sewage overflows and upgrade Kansas City's aging infrastructure — mandated in a consent decree signed in 2010 by the city, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Justice.

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But for years the upgrades have forced steep increases to residents' water rates.

Now it appears City Hall has reached a tentative agreement with the federal government that might ease that burden. City Council members voted unanimously Thursday to allow the city to execute that amended agreement. Officials in the EPA and DOJ would need to approve it.

The legislation doesn't provide details, but says the amended agreement "sets achievement of specific performance criteria on a schedule that recognizes the financial capabilities of the city and its ratepayers," indicating it might ease the expense of the program.

The EPA did not immediately return a request for comment.

Mayor Quinton Lucas saw it as a win and commended city staff and members of Missouri's congressional delegation who helped push the effort along.

"We have worked long and worked hard to bring more fair rates to the many who are struggling to keep up with their water bills and to add climate-sustaining green infrastructure to our water upgrade program," Lucas said in a statement. "I've met personally with EPA leadership in Washington, Kansas City, and anywhere we could share the story of our City's renewed commitment to do right by our people and our environment."

City officials have been working to reach a revised consent decree for years as they struggled to keep residents' water and sewer rates more manageable.

Before the consent decree, the average Kansas City water bill was just over \$48. In 2019, it was over \$100. Updated figures were not immediately available Thursday afternoon.

As the city and the EPA were negotiating the original agreement, double-digit rate increases were deemed affordable because

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incomes in Kansas City historically had risen by nearly 3% per year. But when the Great Recession hit, income levels suffered. The EPA did not immediately return a request for comment.

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Need food and hygiene items, emergency rent or utilities assistance, diapers or pull-ups, help with medicines and medical devices?

**CAC may be able to help.**

Click [HERE](#) for more information

**Harvesters Community Food Network**

Click [HERE](#) to find service in your area

**Spire - Natural Gas Assistance**

Click [HERE](#)

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During the Inauguration ceremony this week, several members of the Kansas City Delegation and former elected officials posed for a photo. From left to right are Rep. Michael Johnson, myself, former State Sen. Kiki Curls, former KCMO City Councilman Jermaine Reed, Rep. Mark Sharp and Rep. Jerome Barnes.



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As of the time I have sent this mailing, there have been  
9 homicides in the Kansas City metro area in 2021.

*In Kansas City, Missouri, 7 people have been killed.*

[Click here for the Homicide Tracker.](#)



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## COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

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**Are You Ready For Some Chiefs Football?  
This is our Kingdom!**

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The reward has been raised to  
**\$30,000** for Dominic

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**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**

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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](http://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](http://www.KCcrimestoppers.com)**

**Free Mobile App**

**[www.P3Tips.com](http://www.P3Tips.com)**

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\* A program of the KC Metropolitan Crime Commission

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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, Donna Gentsch is ready to help you. If you are in Jefferson City, come by my Capitol office in room 130 DB, 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.](#)



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## Rep. Richard Brown

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MO House of Representatives  
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573-751-7639  
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