



Capitol Report

September 17, 2020

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Dear Neighbor,

Wednesday, the General Assembly met for veto session, which is constitutionally required.

The Governor vetoed just two of the 29 non-appropriations bills the General Assembly sent to him during the truncated 2020 legislative session. The two bills were HB 1854 (Omnibus local government) and SB 718 (Omnibus military affairs). He also made 196 line-item budget vetoes to eliminate about \$11 million in total spending from the FY 2021 budget.

Under the constitution, veto session can last up to 10 calendar days but typically are over in just a few hours.

The Missouri House of Representatives voted 138-6 on Sept. 16 to override the Governor's line-item budget veto of \$140,000 in authorized spending for tax refunds. However, the Senate didn't take up the override motion, thus sustaining the governor's veto. No other override attempts were made in either legislative chamber during the annual veto session.

The House then went immediately back into special session due to Senate changes, the House still had to take final votes on HB 2(Witness Testimony/STL Prosecutor), HB 11 (Child Endangerment) and HB 16 (Weapons) in order to send them to the governor. The House couldn't amend any of these 3 bills at this point in the process.

Much to my surprise and my colleagues, the special session ended unexpectedly when the House voted to adjourn without taking up three of the session's five crime bills Wednesday afternoon.

The Senate had already Truly Agreed and Finally Passed HB 46 (STL Police Residency) and HB 66 (Witness Protection Fund) .

Please continue to take care of yourself and your family. I encourage you to follow the recommendations of wearing masks, practice social distancing and use good hygiene; especially hand washing.

Yours in Service,

Rich

VETO SESSION PROCESS

Under Article III, Section 32 of the Missouri Constitution, a September veto session automatically is triggered if the governor issues any vetoes during the last week of the regular legislative session or after the session has ended. Vetoes made earlier in session don't trigger a veto session as they can be dealt with during regular session.

A successful override requires the support of two-thirds majorities in both legislative chambers – 23 votes in the Senate and 109 in the House of Representatives.

Override efforts begin in a given bill's chamber of origin. If the originating chamber doesn't override, the other chamber can take no action on it. This year, one of the vetoed measures was a House bill and one was a Senate

bill. All line-item vetoes are to House bills. Pursuant to RSMo. 21.250, a successfully overridden bill takes effect 30 days after the date of override, unless the bill provides otherwise.



The General Election will be here before we know it. I hope everyone will vote. Democracy is not something we should stand by and watch. If we do not participate in the democratic process, then democracy is not going to prosper.

Kansas City Board of Election Commissioners: (816) 842-4820
Residents of Kansas City information and voting
location: <https://www.kceb.org/>

Jackson County Election Board: (816) 325-4600
Information and voting location: <https://www.jcebmo.org/election-information/voting-locations/>

Missouri State General Election - November 3rd Deadlines

In-Person Absentee Voting: September 22 - November 2, 2020

Last Day to Register to Vote in the General Election is October 7

Deadline to Request an Absentee Ballot is October 21, 2020 5:00PM

Deadline to Return Completed Absentee Ballot: Tue November 3, 2020
7:00PM

November 3 ELECTION DAY. Polls are open from 6 a.m.-7 p.m. If you are in line by 7 p.m., you can vote.

With all the controversy going on with the US Postal Service, it is recommended that everyone mail back their completed ballots early.

Two Amendments will be on the November 3rd Ballot.

[Amendment 1 - Term Limits for Statewide Offices](#)

[Proposed by 100th General Assembly \(First Regular Session\) SS SCS
SJR 14 & 9](#)

Overview

Amendment 1 asks voters to impose a limit of two four-year terms, with partial terms of less than two years exempted, on the offices of lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state auditor and attorney general. Amendment 1 will appear on the Nov. 3 general election ballot.

Although only about a dozen people have served more than eight years in any of those offices throughout Missouri history, Amendment 1 supporters say it would create uniformity with the offices of governor and state treasurer, which have been subject to a two-term limit since the 1960s. Opponents say leaving it to voters to decide how long a particular person

stays in office has worked well for a long time and there's no compelling reason to limit their choices.

Official Ballot Title:

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to extend the two term restriction that currently applies to the Governor and Treasurer to the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor and the Attorney General?

State and local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings from this proposal.

Fair Ballot Language:

A “yes” vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to impose a two term restriction on all statewide elected officials, which currently only applies to the Governor and Treasurer.

A “no” vote will leave the terms that statewide elected officials may serve unchanged.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

[Amendment 3](#)

[Proposed by 100th General Assembly \(Second Regular Session\) SS3 SJR 38](#)

Second Court Declares Amendment 3 Language Unfair

For the second time, a Missouri court has declared ballot language crafted by the majority party in the legislature for a measure seeking to repeal the Clean Missouri redistricting reforms voters enacted in 2018 to be “insufficient and unfair” by ignoring any mention of the proposal’s main purpose.

The latest decision concerning the Amendment 3 ballot language, which will go before voters Nov. 3, came on Aug. 31 from a three-judge panel of

the Missouri Court of Appeals Western District. The appellate court agreed with Cole County Circuit Judge Patricia Joyce that the original ballot language needed to be rewritten but differed as to how it should be reworded. Joyce struck down the original language on Aug. 17.

Although the measure's primary purpose is to repeal the new redistricting procedures, the ballot language the majority party drafted into SJR 38 made no mention of it. Both the Western District and Judge Joyce that omission would mislead voters as to Amendment 3's impact.

The new ballot language ordered by the Western District provides greater detail than Joyce's version on the proposed redistricting changes, as well of making different wording choices regarding other provisions.

The new redistricting system is slated to be used for the first time during next year's redistricting cycle.

Official Ballot Title As it Stands Now:

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

Ban gifts from paid lobbyists to legislators and their employees;

Change the redistricting process voters approved in 2018 by: (i) transferring responsibility for drawing state legislative districts from the Nonpartisan State Demographer to Governor-appointed bipartisan commissions; (ii) modifying and reordering the redistricting criteria.

State governmental entities expect no cost or savings. Individual local governmental entities expect significant decreased revenues of a total unknown amount.

Fair Ballot Language:

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to reduce the limits on campaign contributions that candidates for state senator can accept from individuals or entities by \$100 per election. There is no change for candidates for state representative.

The amendment prohibits state legislators and their employees from accepting a gift of any value (which is currently \$5) from paid lobbyists or the lobbyists' clients.

The amendment modifies the criteria for redrawing legislative districts and changes the process for redrawing state legislative district boundaries during redistricting by giving redistricting responsibility to a bipartisan commission, renames them, and increases membership to 20 by adding four commissioners appointed by the Governor from nominations by the two major political party's state committees.

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding campaign contributions, lobbyist gifts, and the process and criteria for redistricting.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Reduce legislative campaign contribution limits;

Shared Work Program

The Shared Work Unemployment Compensation Program is an alternative to layoffs for employers faced with a reduction in available work. It allows an employer to divide the available work among a specified group of affected employees instead of a layoff. These employees receive a portion of their unemployment benefits while working reduced hours. To participate, an employer must complete an application for the affected unit within the company, and submit it to the Division of Employment Security (DES) for approval.

The link to the information page on the Shared Work program is:

<https://labor.mo.gov/shared-work>

It has an explanation and a link to click for very specific criteria. If the employer clicks on the “request information” they can fill out a form and the department will then contact them to begin the process of shared work.

To encourage participation in Missouri’s Shared Work Unemployment Compensation program and to lessen the burden on businesses struggling to reopen, the Missouri Department of Labor’s (DOLIR’s) Division of Employment Security (DES) today announced that through December 26, 2020, the unemployment accounts for businesses participating in the Shared Work program will not be charged.

While Missouri has had a Shared Work program for more than 30 years, the program is well suited for businesses transitioning to full operations after COVID-19. The program can help transition employees safely back to work while observing social distancing and providing flexible scheduling. Beneficial to both large and small businesses, Shared Work allows employers to reduce labor and turnover costs while retaining skilled employees for when they anticipate return to full operations. Workers keep their jobs, receive prorated unemployment benefits to supplement lost earnings, and maintain their employee benefits.

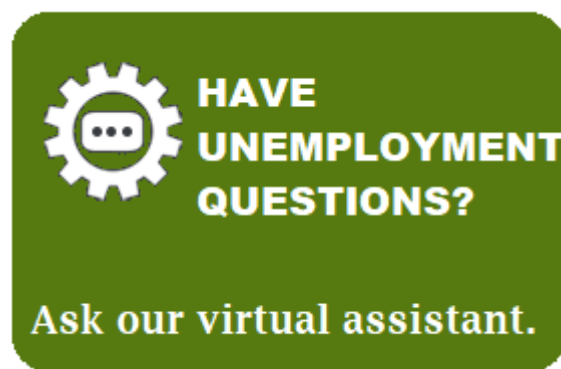
The Shared Work program allows an employer the flexibility to reduce its workforce as a precautionary health measure but also to continue to operate on a reduced schedule. Shared Work can be particularly helpful in bringing employees back to work as businesses reopen at less than full capacity. Shared Work employers divide available work among a group of employees that continue to work a reduced schedule. Because a Shared Work employer retains its skilled employees, the business has the flexibility to ramp up and scale down its workforce based on business needs and health concerns.

The newly implemented provisions of the CARES Act incentivizes businesses to retain employees under the Shared Work program by allowing states the option to waive charges to employer accounts through December 2020.

As evidenced in the past, Shared Work protects jobs and minimizes

economic harm in the state at large, but can have a particular economic impact in small local communities.

For more information on the Missouri Shared Work program, visit sharedwork.mo.gov.



Real ID Update

[Real ID compliant drivers and nondrivers licenses](#) are now available with proper [documentation](#). Please note that the Federal government requires a copy of this documentation to be kept for several years. You can go to the DMV and request a replacement for your current license with the Real ID for a \$5 processing fee. If you renew your license at the time of the request you will be charged the renewal fee. You need a RealID compliant Identification Card to board an airplane and enter federal buildings; Missouri issued Identification Cards (including drivers' licenses) will be accepted in lieu of Real ID until October 1, 2021. Some military bases

require individuals to present a Real ID. For more information about RealID, go to dor.mo.gov/drivers/real-id-information/.

According to the federal Real ID Act, states must retain paper copies of source documents for a minimum of 7 years, and images/microfiche of source documents for at least 10 years, after which point they are to be irretrievably destroyed. Missouri statute complies with this requirement and permits the Department of Revenue to keep these documents within a system not connected to the internet or accessible by any other state or the federal government.

When you get a Real ID, please note that the state is required to keep a digital copy of your data for ten years. If you are using a document with private information for identification, like a bank statement, I believe you can redact that information before they scan it.

Free online classes available to Missourians unemployed by coronavirus outbreak

MISSOURINET / BY ALISA NELSON

Missouri workers who have lost their jobs during the rash of COVID-19 cases can now enroll in free online classes. The Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development has partnered with Coursera, an online learning platform with 3,800 courses.

To read entire article and get more information, click [here](#)

Caregiver of the Year



Do you know someone who puts their life on hold to care for an ill family member or friend?

If so, the Department of Health and Senior Services invites you to nominate that person for Caregiver of the Year.

The department will feature a story and photo of an unpaid Missouri caregiver each month on its website. By December, an overall Caregiver of the Year will be selected.

For more information please call (573) 751-2413.

**Nomination forms are available at
<http://health.mo.gov/seniors/caregiver.php>**



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.

TMC
TRUMAN MEDICAL CENTERS



Practice Social Distancing





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

**As of the time I have sent this mailing, there have been
207 homicides in the Kansas City metro area in 2020.**

In Kansas City, Missouri, 142 people have been killed.

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



COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS



**HIGHWAY 350 & RAYTOWN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS
PHASE 1
STARTS SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**



Temporary Lane Reduction

Temporary Driveway Closed

Hours of Construction

8:30 to 3:30 on Eastbound Hwy 350

9:00 to 4:00 on Westbound Hwy 350

E-mail questions to Hwy350project@raytown.mo.us

Please Drive Safely in the Construction Zones!

The City of Raytown's Public Works Department will be providing project updates throughout the entire twelve-month (12) process.

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



**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

*** A program of the KC Metropolitan Crime Commission**

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 Gentzsch 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.](#)



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

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