



Capitol Report

November 11, 2020

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Dear Neighbor,

Yesterday, the House of Representatives met in a Special Session to allocate unspent funds remaining from the federal pandemic aid. I voted YES on this bill.

HB 14 enables the state to distribute the remaining \$1.2 billion of federal aid

Missouri received in CARES Act funds. It was a priority to meet and give the governor the authorization to spend this money as CARES funds must be used before December 30 of this year or any unused money must be returned to the federal government.

The bill includes a funding plan for the Pretrial Witness Protection Fund that I worked for and sought from Governor Parson to help deal with the growing violence issue in Kansas City and across our state. The Witness Protection fund will receive \$2 million for fiscal year 2021. The bill now goes to the Senate for their approval.

Please continue to take care of yourself and your family. As we are still in the midst of a global pandemic, I encourage you to follow the recommendations of wearing masks, practice social distancing and use good hygiene; especially hand washing.

And finally, thank you for your trust and belief in me as you re-elected me to my third two-year term as State Representative for District 27. I am humbled, yet honored to serve you in Jefferson City. I will continue to work with the highest integrity on your behalf as we move forward.

Yours in Service,

Rich



VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Thank you to all the military men and women for everything you have done for our country. Because of you, we are able to live in the freedoms we hold dearly.

On Wednesday, November 11, our nation will pause once again to pay tribute to the many men and women who have so bravely defended the freedoms we hold dear. They are all around us. They are our family members, friends, neighbors and coworkers. Every day we encounter someone who has served our nation and every day we have the opportunity to say thank you for that service. We must always remember that freedom is never free. And, we must never forget our veterans are the ones who have paid the price to defend the freedoms we too often take for granted.

On this Veterans Day, I ask that we all take time to pay our respects and show our gratitude to the many veterans who call Missouri home. I also ask that we all make a commitment to honoring these devoted Americans not just on Veterans Day, but each and every day of the year. They

deserve no less.

I would also like to thank military spouses and family for the great sacrifices you pay for our freedom.



Honoring all who served our country on Veteran's day.

**I am three-years old in this photo with my dad,
SFC Odis Brown. My father served in the United States Army
from 1944 to 1967 and was a veteran of WWII, Korea and Viet
Nam.**



Congratulations to President-Elect Joe Biden
and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris.

Spire begins new assistance program for Missouri customers impacted by Coronavirus

The new program supports customers who have been impacted by the pandemic and are behind on their natural gas bills.

Spire is offering two new financial assistance options for Missouri customers who've been struggling due to the coronavirus pandemic. **The natural gas provider is offering up to \$400 in**

assistance for Missouri customers who have been furloughed or experienced job or income loss and have an outstanding balance on their Spire account.

Spire will begin accepting applications for the program the week of Nov. 9.

“As the coronavirus pandemic continues, we know many are experiencing unexpected challenges, and we are continuing to keep our most vulnerable customers top of mind,” said Scott Carter, president of Spire Missouri. “As an energy provider, we are committed to finding new ways to help customers have access to energy when they need it most.”

When qualified, active Missouri

residential customers are enrolled in the program, they automatically receive a \$100 credit toward their past due balance. Over the duration of the program, customers can receive up to an additional \$300 matched, dollar-for-dollar, when they make payments to reduce their past due balance. There is no income cap for the program, but customers must complete an application and show that they've sustained a loss of income or job any time after March 1, 2020, as a direct result of the pandemic. The program runs through March 31, 2021 or until funds are exhausted.

In addition to its existing 12-month payment plan option, Spire now offers an 18-month payment plan for customers impacted by the pandemic. Customers

can enroll by paying 10% of their past-due balance.

Approved October 28 by the Missouri Public Service Commission, the program is part of the company's comprehensive approach to provide relief for customers who are experiencing hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic. Previously, Spire committed \$500,000 in matching gifts through their [DollarHelp](#) program in Missouri and expanded assistance for limited income customers.

"We're committed to ensuring our community maintains access to abundant, affordable, reliable natural gas," said Carter. "We encourage customers who are struggling to call us.

We are here to help.”

To apply or learn more about the new program or other ways Spire is helping customers impacted by the pandemic, visit

SpireEnergy.com/Assistance.



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.



I would like to thank my colleagues in the Democratic Caucus who expressed their confidence in me by electing me as the Assistant Minority Leader of the Missouri House of Representatives.



COMMUNITY BUILDERS OF KANSAS CITY
HOSTS DRIVE-THRU EVENT:

FREE TURKEY GIVEAWAY
FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION
FREE DIAPER GIVEAWAY
FREE COVID TESTING
FREE FLU SHOTS

Location:

Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center
3700 Blue Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64130

Date:

Saturday, November 14th

Time:

10:00am - 2:00pm

For Information:

DaRon McGee 816-627-2154
dmcgee@cb-kc.org



Special Guests:



Frank White
Jackson County Executive
& **Teresa White**

**A Special Thanks to
Our Community Partners:**



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.



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
241 homicides in the Kansas City metro area in 2020.**

In Kansas City, Missouri, 160 people have been killed.

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



COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS



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 Gentsch 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.



Rep. Richard Brown

MO House of Representatives

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

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