



Capitol Report

March 24, 2022

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Dear Neighbor,

Hopefully the winter weather is over and we can have new beginnings with the change of seasons.

This week, several bills were perfected but one bills in particular made its way through the House and is on its way to the Senate. That bill, HB 2502 would make Sports Betting legal in Missouri. Currently, companies like Draft Kings are operating legally in many states. This legislation will allow those persons who choose to wager on sporting events, the opportunity to do so legally. This bill is strictly for sports betting and does not contain any language regarding Video Lottery Terminals (VLT's).

Since I was sworn into the legislature, there has been strong interest from the public to legalize this activity. I have concerns about gambling addiction, however, Missouri does have resources available to help someone with a gambling addiction.

Missouri's Problem Gambling Helpline: 888-BETS-OFF (888-238-

7633) is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to offer support, resources and referrals to anyone affected by problem gambling.

There are seven weeks to go in this legislative session and we have yet to pass a budget. We will be working on the budget mark-ups this coming week and hopefully we will approve a budget soon.

Please continue to take care of yourself and your loved ones as we are still in a pandemic, but I believe the end is in sight.

***Yours in Service,
Rich***



I support working mothers and their children. Thank you to the moms who came to the Capitol to advocate for their children's early childhood education.

House Legislative Dashboard

First Read:

1590

Third Read:

49

Truly Agreed:

1

Signed By Governor:

1

BILLS THIRD READ IN THE HOUSE THIS WEEK

[HCS HB 1606](#) Changes the law regarding county financial statements

[HB 1856](#) Establishes the Extended Learning Opportunities Act

[HB 1962](#) Modifies provisions relating to log trucks and weight limitations

[HCS HB 1984](#) Modifies provisions relating to the Missouri Department of Transportation and Highway Patrol Employees' Retirement System

[HB 2163](#) Authorizes the next-of-kin of a deceased person to delegate control of the final disposition of the remains

[HB 2193](#) Modifies provisions relating to the reemployment rights of members of Missouri Task Force One who are called to active duty

[HB 2202](#) Modifies provisions related to computer science courses offered in elementary and secondary schools

[HB 2355](#) Modifies provisions relating to time-critical diagnosis

[HCS HB 2382](#) Modifies the definition of "sale at retail" for the purposes of sales taxes on certain purchases of utilities

[HCS HBs 2502 & 2556](#) Modifies provisions related to gaming

[HB 2694](#) Modifies provisions relating to motor vehicle assessment

[You can view the proposed redistricting maps for the state and congressional districts here.](#)



Senate finally passes congressional redistricting bill

Following months of inaction, the Republican-controlled Senate voted 20-10 on March 24 in favor of a plan to redraw Missouri's eight congressional districts that appears to preserve the current partisan split of six Republicans and two Democrats. However, the bill faces an uncertain reception when it returns to the House of Representatives.

The Senate action came just five days before candidate filing for the Aug. 8 congressional primaries is set to close on March 29. However, there is still no guarantee new districts will be in place by that time as it is unclear House Republicans will accept the Senate's version. Although the Senate maintained the same partisan split, its district boundaries are radically different from those the House approved in January.

Even if the House accepts the Senate version, when the redistricting measure, House Bill 2117, can take legal effect in time remains in question since bills passed during the regular legislative session normally take effect Aug. 28. In this case that would be nearly four weeks after the primary. Although the Senate voted 30-2 to attach an emergency clause allowing the bill to

become law immediately upon being signed by the governor, the House failed to do so when originally approved the bill. The House will have a chance to reconsider the emergency clause, but approval requires a two-thirds supermajority, which the House fell 14 votes short of achieving on its previous vote.

The redistricting process had stalled over the insistence of small group of hardline conservative senators on carving up a safe Democratic seat in Kansas City to create what they claimed would be a 7-1 partisan split favoring the GOP. Mainstream Senate Republicans contended that plan actually would have diluted GOP voting strength to make it possible for Democrats to gain congressional seats. Prior to approving HB 2117, the Senate voted 7-22 to reject the hardliners' proposal.

Since both chambers have adjourned for the weekend, the earliest the redistricting bill can win final approval is March 28. If the House refuses to accept the Senate version, the two chambers can try to negotiate a compromise bill. If lawmakers are unable to agree, the possibility of a court drawing Missouri's new congressional districts, as happened in 1972 and 1982, becomes increasingly likely.

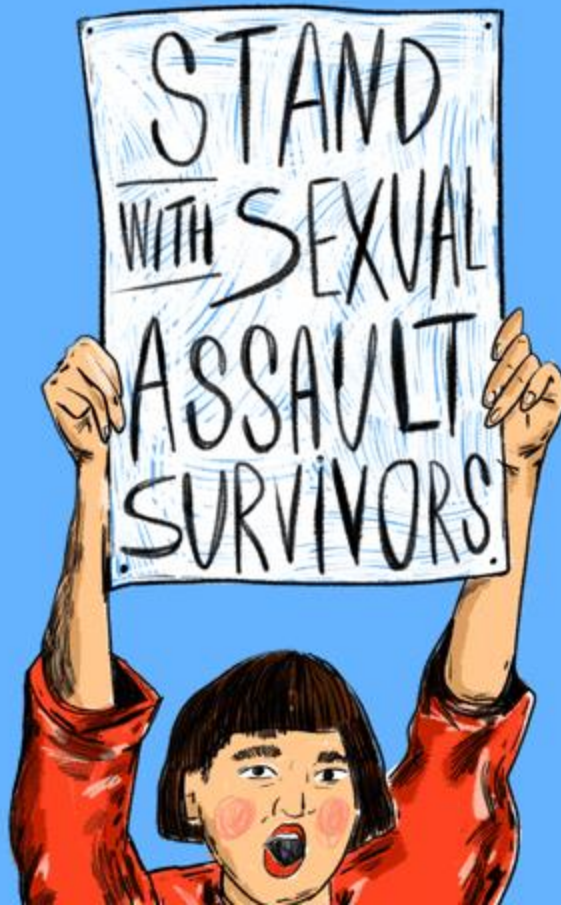


House passes bill to legalize sports wagering in Missouri

The House of Representatives voted 115-35 on March 23 to pass a bill seeking to legalize sports wagering in Missouri. I voted YES. The measure now heads to the Senate, where similar legislation in recent years has bogged down over unsuccessful efforts to add provisions to crack down on the proliferation of illegal slot machines.

Under the Missouri Constitution, lawmakers have no authority to legalize games of chance, which is why previous efforts to legalize various forms of gambling, such as charity bingo, the state lottery and casinos, have been done by voter-approved constitutional amendment. However, House Bill 2502 seeks to get around the constitutional prohibition by defining wagering on athletic competitions as a “game of skill.” But whether that maneuver can survive court scrutiny if challenged remains to be seen.

HB 2502 would authorize sports wagering through Missouri’s 13 casinos and also allow betting through mobile applications. The measure would levy an 8 percent tax on a licensed sports book’s gross recipients. The Kansas City Royals, St. Louis Cardinals, Kansas Chiefs, St. Louis City Soccer Club and the National Hockey League Players Association all testified in favor of the bill before a House committee.



Senate approves protections for sexual assault survivors

One week after the Missouri Supreme Court unanimously ruled unconstitutional a “Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights” enacted in 2020, the Senate on March 22 granted first-round approval to legislation creating a new version of the law. A second vote is needed to advance it to the House of Representatives.

The high court said the previous law’s requirement that defense attorneys must provide certain information and disclosures to sexual assault victims put them in the position of advocating for the victim and created a conflict with their professional duty to

represent their client. As a result the court ruled it violated the free speech rights of defense attorneys and the due process rights of criminal defendants.

Senate Bill 775 would largely repeal the version of the bill of rights invalidated by the court and replace it with new language that omits imposing any requirements on criminal defense attorneys. The bill would grant survivors the right to consult with a rape crisis center, have a sexual assault forensic examination, be provided a shower and change of clothing, and request that medical examinations or police interviews be conducted by someone of the gender of the survivor's choosing. The measure also contains other provisions relating to sexual offenses.



Do you travel along I-70 in Kansas City
between The Paseo to U.S. 40?
We want to hear from you!

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is re-evaluating the corridor between The Paseo & U.S. 40. Visit an interactive map to view a list of potential changes from existing conditions on four segments of the corridor. Your feedback is wanted about those potential changes and anything that's changed within the project area.

- Submit a comment on the interactive map and take a survey by March 31, 2022.

**. Click here to
comment <https://tinyurl.com/improvei70kc>**

View the public meeting informational video
MoDOT recently hosted two, in-person informational public meetings as part of an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for I-70 between The Paseo to U.S. 40. In case you missed the in-person public meetings, you can view a video of the information presented with a voiceover explanation here:

<https://www.modot.org/improvei70kc>

If you have any questions, please reach out to the project team by email at improvei70kc@modot.mo.gov or phone 816-216-6571.



I had a hearing for my bill, HB 1460 which designates a portion of I-435 from Stateline Road to Holmes as the Officer Richard C. Flemming Memorial Highway. Officer Flemming was a KCPD officer who was killed in the line of duty.



Public Fact Finding Meetings for next KCPD Chief

A coalition of business, civic and faith-based organizations will hold public meetings to help determine the qualities the Kansas City community feels are needed in its next police chief.

The Public is encouraged to give feedback at the following times and locations:

6 to 8 p. m. March 29 at Northland Neighborhoods Inc.,
5340 N.E. Chouteau Trafficway in Kansas City, North.

10 a.m. to noon April 2 at the Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Center,
3700 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

10 a.m. to noon April 2, the Evangel Church,
1414 E. 103rd Street.

6 to 8 p.m. April 6 at the Mattie Rhodes Cultural Center,
1701 Jarboe Street. This will be a bilingual meeting.

6 to 8 p.m. April 7 at the Northeast Kansas City Chamber of
Commerce, 2657 Independence Avenue. This will be a multilingual
meeting.

3:30 5:30 p.m. April 14 at the Greater Kansas City Chamber of
Commerce, Board Room, 1st floor of Union Station, 30 W. Pershing
Road.

Those who attend will be asked to answer a set a questions that will be presented at each session. People attending virtually will be able to answer them in an online format. For those who are unable to attend, the questions are also available online. The department's current chief, Rick Smith, is expect to leave in April.

Read more
at: <https://www.kansascity.com/news/local/article259661115.html#storylink=cpy>

**Certain taxpayers may
qualify to e-file their
federal and state
income tax returns
free of charge.**

[Click here to see if you qualify](#)





This week I met with a group of advocates for the prevention of domestic violence. My bill, HB 1458 would prohibit persons convicted of domestic abuse from owning firearms in Missouri. The only people who should be fighting me on this bill are wife beaters!

Individual Income Tax FAQs

Check the status of your Missouri State Tax returns





COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS





Kansas City's Springtime curbside leaf and brush collection is starting next week.

Curbside collection occurs during both spring and fall seasons, and helps keep leaves and sticks out of the City's catch basins, preventing clogged storm drains and flooding.

Last year, workers collected a total of 2,750 tons of yard waste during the leaf and brush pickups. Residents are asked to collect their leaves and brush in sacks and bundles and set them at the curb by 7 a.m. on their regularly scheduled trash day.

Below is the spring 2022 leaf and brush collection schedule:

Central: March 28 - April 1 (Missouri River south to 63rd St., between State Line Road and Blue Ridge Cutoff, but not including residents who live east of Blue Ridge Cutoff)

North: April 11 - April 15 (Missouri River, north to the city limit)

South: April 25 - April 29 (63rd Street, south to the city limit, as well as all residents who live east of Blue Ridge Cutoff)

Curbside Leaf and Brush Collection Rules:

Sacks and bundles should be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on the regularly scheduled trash day, but not before 3 p.m. on the previous day.

No more than 20 sacks and bundles per household.

Sacks and bundles must not weigh more than 40 pounds each.

Use only paper lawn debris sacks. No plastic bags.

If you seal the sacks, use masking tape only; do not use plastic or duct tape.

No grass clippings. No trash.

All branches must be bundled. Branches must not be more than 3 inches in diameter.

Bundles of branches must not be more than 2 feet in diameter and not more than 4 feet long.

Use twine or jute rope to tie bundles; do not use wire or plastic tape.

If wet weather is forecast, cover sacks and bundles with clear plastic.

If sacks and bundles are not collected on the scheduled trash day, residents must contact 311 within 24 hours. For questions or to report service-related issues, please call 311 or 816.513.1313.

Residents can also make use of the City's three leaf and brush drop off sites Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit: [KCMO.gov/leafandbrush.position](https://kcmo.gov/leafandbrush.position) and set other styles.

Kansas City's leaf and brush locations are located at:

- 11660 N. Main Street

- 1815 N. Chouteau Trafficway
- And 10301 Raytown Road

Leaf & Brush

Spring 2022
Set-out Dates

KCMO.GOV/
LEAFANDBRUSH

----- YOUR ----- TRASH DAY	NORTH	CENTRAL	SOUTH
MONDAY	APRIL 11	MARCH 28	APRIL 25
TUESDAY	APRIL 12	MARCH 29	APRIL 26
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 13	MARCH 30	APRIL 27
THURSDAY	APRIL 14	MARCH 31	APRIL 28
FRIDAY	APRIL 15	APRIL 1	APRIL 29

2 Years ^{of} **FREE** College!

Missouri **A+** **Scholarship Program**

**Talk to your counselor.
Enroll today!**

Start your game plan:

- Maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher
- Make 95% attendance
- Perform community service
- Show good citizenship
- Pass a math exam





I would be dancing too if I got paid like Tyreek Hill.
Thanks for the Memories.

Starlight wants your feedback!



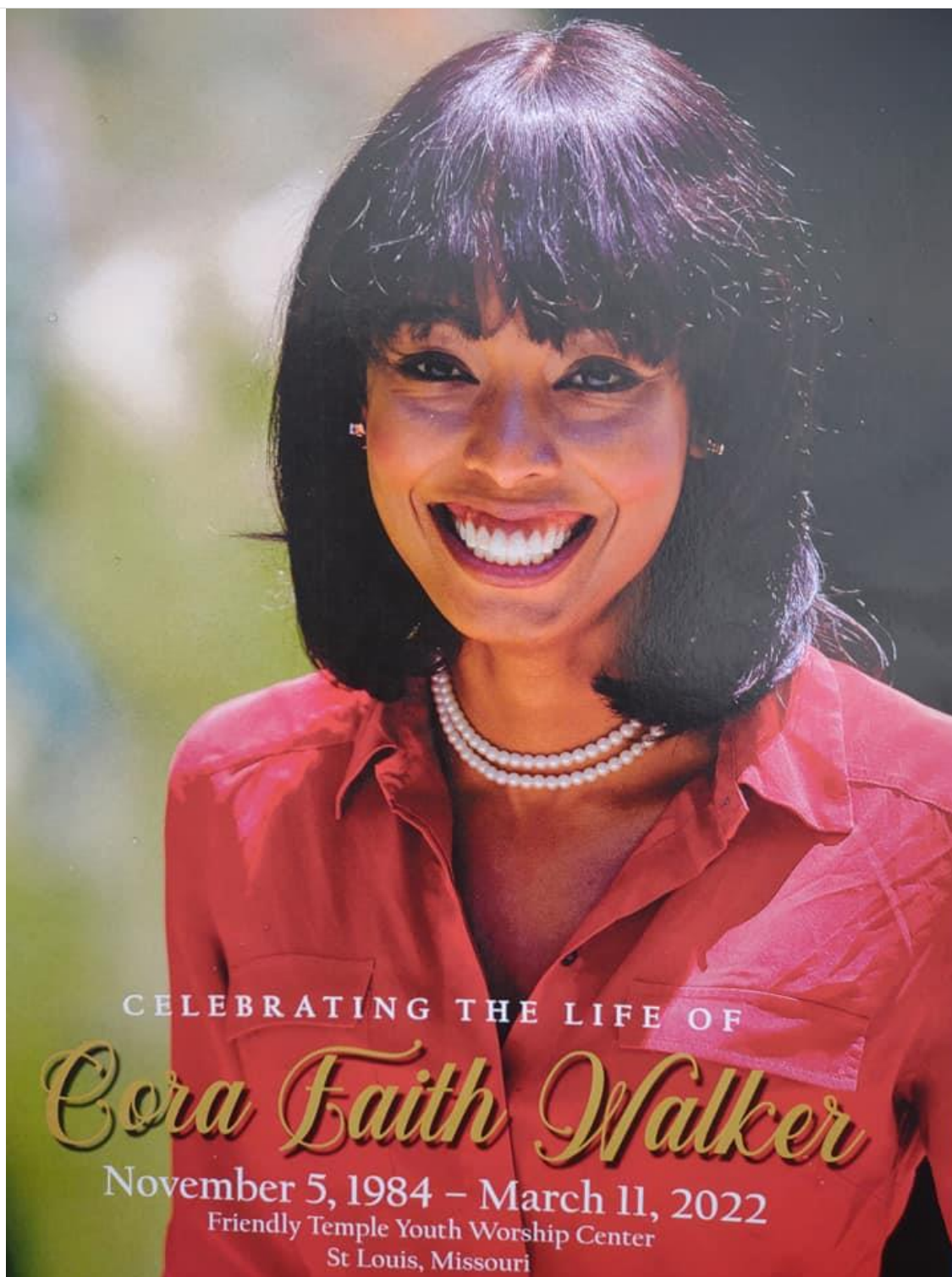
We want to hear from those who live and/or work in the Swope Park area. Help us advance our mission to better serve all audiences and more effectively collaborate with our surrounding neighbors by taking a short survey. **Those who complete the survey will be entered to win one of five \$50 Visa gift cards.**

[Click here](#) to take the survey by March 31, 2022.

4600 Starlight Road | Kansas City, MO | 64132 | *Starlight is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.*



IN MEMORIAM



Our former colleague, Cora Faith Walker, passed away unexpectedly. We are heartbroken as she has gone too soon.

I served with Cora in the House from 2017 to 2019.
Cora Faith Walker will be missed.

**The Pandemic aint over...
but we're getting there!**

**Wash Your
Hands**





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 134, 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

Assistant Minority Floor Leader

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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