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**Capitol Report**

**April 21, 2022**

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***Dear Neighbor,***

It was a short week in Jefferson City as we returned from our Easter weekend. The House Third Read and passed out several bills including the supplemental budget bills.

There are three weeks left in this legislative session and much work to be done. The FY2023 budget has yet to be finalized and there is still questions surrounding the Congressional maps.

I am patiently awaiting the outcome of several bills passed in the House that are currently sitting in the Senate.

***Yours in Service,***  
***Rich***

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## House Legislative Dashboard

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**First Read:**

1595

**Third Read:**

128

**Truly Agreed:**

2

**Signed By Governor:**

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## **GOP plan to give \$1 billion to wealthy likely dead in Senate**

The Republican-controlled House of Representatives on April 21 voted 103-44 in favor of controversial legislation to provide \$1 billion in tax breaks to more affluent Missourians while shutting out most

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taxpayers. The plan, however, is likely to die in the Senate, where lawmakers are allocating a current revenue surplus to address long-neglected funding needs.

Supporters of House Bill 3021 claim it would give eligible taxpayers a one-time credit of up to \$500 for an individual and \$1,000 for married couple against their state income tax liability. The way the bill is structured, however, no taxpayers actually would receive the full amount and most would get little or nothing. The Missouri Division of Budget and Planning estimates top recipients would get no more than \$378 for an individual, or \$757 for a married couple.

House Republican leaders unveiled HB 3021 just a week earlier and days after the chamber voted down a similar Democratic plan that sought to provide \$1,000 payments narrowly targeted for low- and moderate-income households. Democrats said their approach of getting money to Missourians most likely to spend it on essential needs would provide a greater economic benefit than the Republican approach of targeting only the wealthy.

The legislation likely won't progress, however, since the Senate already has allocated for the state operating budget much of the general revenue surplus HB 3021 would use for tax breaks. In addition, Republican Gov. Mike Parson has publicly stated his opposition to the bill.

The House also approved three additional budget bills that would provide a combined \$1.38 billion in spending authority for various capital improvement needs. The Senate is expected to approve those bills, though possibly with changes.

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## **Senate committee advances FY 2023 state operating budget**

With just over two weeks until the constitutional budget deadline, the Senate Appropriations Committee on April 20 approved most of the bills that make up the state operating budget for the 2023 fiscal year. The full Senate could begin debating the bills as early as April 25.

Once the bills pass the upper chamber, final negotiations can begin with the House of Representatives, which has approved a version of the budget calling for \$46.52 billion in spending, while leaving at least \$1.8 billion in available revenue unexpended. The total amount of spending authority provided in the Senate version wasn't immediately clear but is expected to be well in excess of \$47 billion.

One key Senate change is to provide an additional \$214 million to fully fund the state's share of local public school districts' student transportation costs, something the state hasn't done in three decades. The Senate also approved a \$27 million plan requested by the governor, but rejected by House Republicans, to increase minimum public school teacher pay to \$38,000 a year.

Although the appropriations committee advanced the 13 bills that typically make up the operating budget, this year there is an

additional bill allocating federal pandemic relief funds. The Senate panel has yet to act on it but is expected to do so in the coming days. While the governor requested \$3.12 billion in spending from those funds, the House trimmed it to \$2.58 billion.

Lawmakers must grant final passage to the budget bills by 6 p.m. on May 6. If they fail to approve some or all of the bills by the deadline, the governor would be forced to call a special legislative session for lawmakers to pass the remaining bills before the new state fiscal year begins July 1.



## **Senate passes compromise on charter school funding**

The Senate on April 20 voted 29-5 to pass compromise legislation that would change how charter schools are funded. The bill returns to the House of Representatives, which approved a radically different version of it more than a month ago.

The House can grant final passage to the Senate version or seek to negotiate an alternate version of the bill. Charter schools are public schools that operate independently of their local school

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district and are exempt from many state education regulations. At present, they are allowed to operate only in Kansas City and St. Louis.

As passed by the lower chamber, House Bill 1552 would have redirected millions of dollars in state funding from the Kansas City and St. Louis school districts to the charter schools in their jurisdictions. The Senate compromise would modify the statutory formula for distributing state funding to local schools so that charter schools would receive additional funding without reducing the amount of money going to the local districts. The plan would cost about \$62 million more in funding for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Senate version also includes reforms to how charter school operate, including that they be run by a not-for-profit entity and require board members to be Missouri residents. In addition, the bill also includes changes to how on-line virtual schools must operate.



## **Senate approves two amendments to limit property taxes**

The Senate on April 21 passed a pair of proposed constitutional

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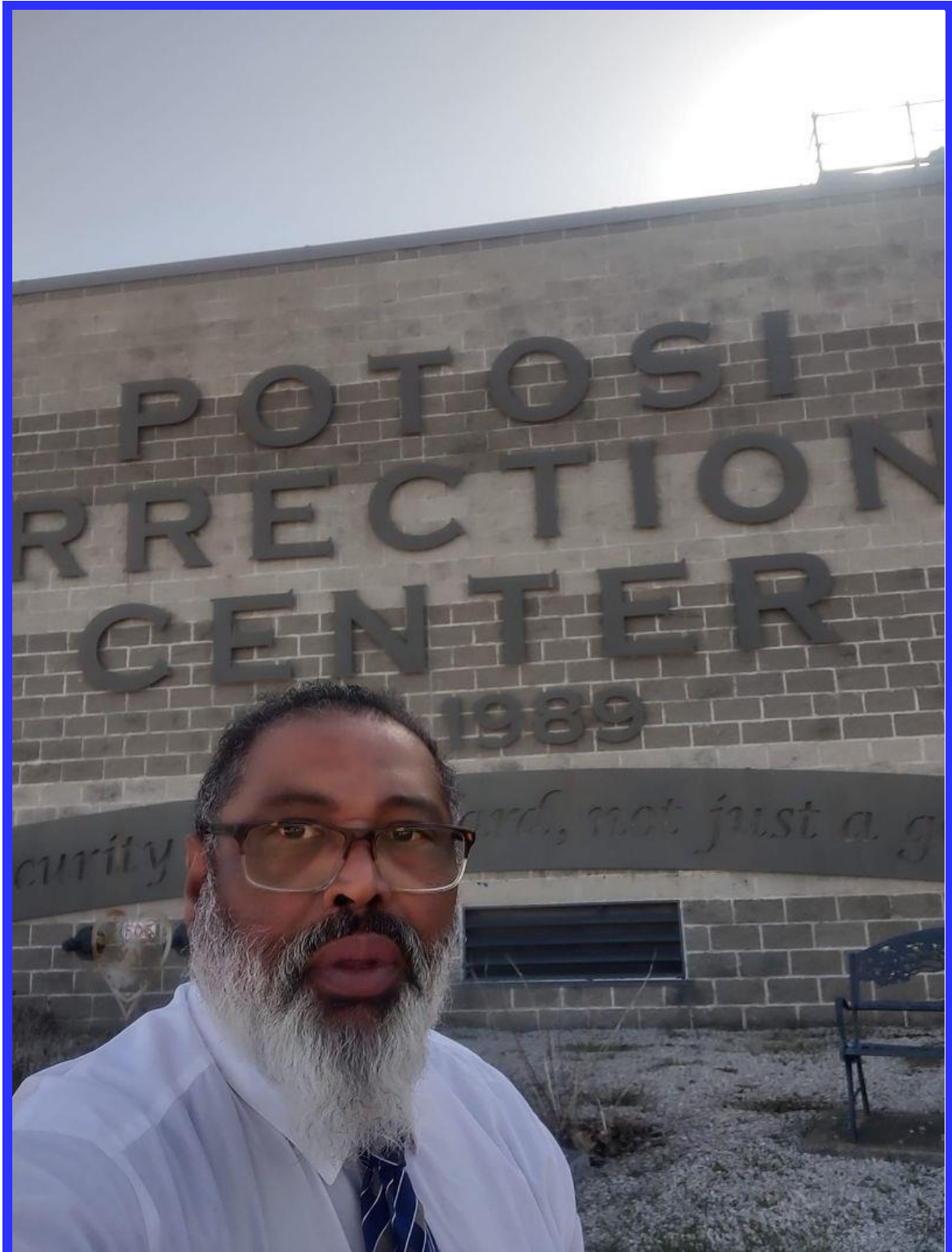
amendments aimed at limiting property taxes. The measures now advance to the House of Representatives. If approved by both chambers, they automatically would go on the Nov. 8 ballot for separate voter consideration.

Senate Joint Resolution 39 would give the legislature the authority to limit by statute the amount by which the tax assessment on residential property increases over the prior assessment. It passed on a vote of 27-7.

Senate Joint Resolution 41 would allow each county, plus St. Louis city, to adopt local ordinances exempting those age 65 or older from paying property taxes on their homes. It passed on a vote of 29-2.

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Last week I went to the Potosi Correctional Center after several witnesses testified in a hearing to the conditions of the facility and the treatment of the persons confined there. Rep. Kimberly Ann Collins and Ian Mackey accompanied me on the trip. I am currently working with Rep. Collins to create and State Oversight Committee for the Department of Corrections.

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Kansas City Councilman Brandon Ellington made a visit to the Capitol this week. Councilman Ellington served in the House of Representatives from 2011 to 2019.

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Check the status of your Missouri State Tax returns

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PEACE FOR  UKRAINE

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**BILLS THIRD READ IN THE HOUSE THIS WEEK**

**1629** - Designates June as "Myasthenia Gravis Awareness Month" as well as several other state designations

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**1683** - Requires in-state public educational institutions to grant undergraduate course credit for students who score 3 or higher on advance placement examinations

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**1696** - Modifies provisions relating to the illegal discharge of firearms

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**1709** - Creates provisions related to certain experimental or investigational medical treatments

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**1858** - Transparency in public education

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**2090** - Allows state employees to be paid biweekly

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**2152** - Allows school innovation teams to submit plans for school innovation waivers

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**2325** - Establishes the "Workforce Diploma Program" within the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development

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**2365** - Makes the early learning quality assurance report program permanent

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**2372** - Modifies the provision regulating capitol parking garages

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**2493** - Changes provisions relating to teacher career plans

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**2566** - Modifies provisions relating to travel insurance

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**2571** - Modifies provisions relating to the Division of Finance

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**2574** - Modifies provisions relating to keeping records for the sale of certain materials

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**2625** - Establishes the "Workforce Diploma Program" within the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development

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*To read more on these bills [click here](#)*

*These bills now head to the Senate*

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I had the opportunity to welcome Dennis Gates, Mizzou's new men's basketball coach, to the Capitol Thursday.

**Are you StormAware?**

M I S S O U R I



**Storm Aware**

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## COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

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# *Ribbon Cutting!*

Join us for the Grand Opening Celebration of the new  
**Boys & Girls Club at Smith-Hale Middle School**

*Named in honor of former State Senator  
**Shalonn "Kiki" Curls***

**Saturday, April 30, 2022, 10:30 a.m.**

9010A Old Santa Fe Road  
Kansas City, MO 64138



*Special remarks from Boys & Girls Club of Greater Kansas City executives,  
Hickman Mills School District representatives, and City leaders.*

**RSVP to Jason Roth:**



**816-462-0132**



**[jroth@helpkckids.org](mailto:jroth@helpkckids.org)**

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# FIFTH DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETING

**Monday, May 2, 2022**

**6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

**In-person only**

**Southeast Community Center,**

**4201 E. 63<sup>rd</sup> St., Kansas City, MO 64132**

**WITH GUEST SPEAKER(S):**

**5th District problem-solvers break-Out session with:**

**Neighborhoods & Community Services**

**Housing & Community Development**

**Health Department**

**Parks & Recreation Department**

**Public Works Department**

**City Planning & Development Department**

**Kansas City Police Department**

**Water Department**

**Evergy**

**Spire Energy**

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**Representatives from each department will be there  
to answer questions and resolve any problems, or concerns.**

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## 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



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

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# Wash Your Hands







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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 driven by his father and died as a result of his injuries. Dominic, his father and brother**

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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 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.

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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

Assistant Minority Floor Leader

MO House of Representatives

201 West Capitol Avenue

Room 134

Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone

573-751-7639

Email:

[richard.brown@house.mo.gov](mailto:richard.brown@house.mo.gov)

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