



Capitol Report

January 20 , 2022

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GO  CHIEFS

Dear Neighbor,

It was an interesting week in Jefferson City as we debated and voted on the Congressional redistricting maps and Gov. Parson delivered his State of the State address.

The Missouri House passed a congressional redistricting map on Wednesday that would keep the state's current congressional makeup, with six Republican seats and two Democratic ones. Representatives voted 86-67 to pass the map, with some Republicans joining all Democrats in voting against the bill. Here is a breakdown of what my vote means for you:

-
- **The map the House sent to the Senate does not reflect Missouri's electorate. While it's not the worst partisan gerrymander we could have had, it's still a partisan gerrymander that inadequately represents Missouri's status as a 55-45/60-40 state. Instead, we will likely be represented in Congress by a 75-25 Republican majority.**
 - **We should have done this work during a special legislative session. Gov. Parson should have called a special session, especially if this was an emergency situation. A special session also would not have tied map-making to policy-making.**
 - **We protected Congressman Cleaver's seat. Congressman Cleaver was the main target of political gerrymandering tactics. Protecting his seat was a top priority and we did so.**
 - - **People deserve representatives that know their areas. People who live in districts split between big cities, small towns, rural farmland, and suburbia will all share one Congressperson who may not fully understand the unique needs in each of those communities.**
 - **Maps ought to honor district cores as much as possible. These cores are important because they serve as unofficial centers of population for these districts. Splitting up cities like Kansas City, Columbia, or Springfield means their needs would be split between multiple districts.**
 - **Democrats valued maps that keep communities together where we can. The communities often share political ideals and geographic/regional concerns. Splitting them up robs geographically and politically distinct areas of true representation.**
 - **Democrats valued maps that keep towns and cities together. No two people who live across the street**
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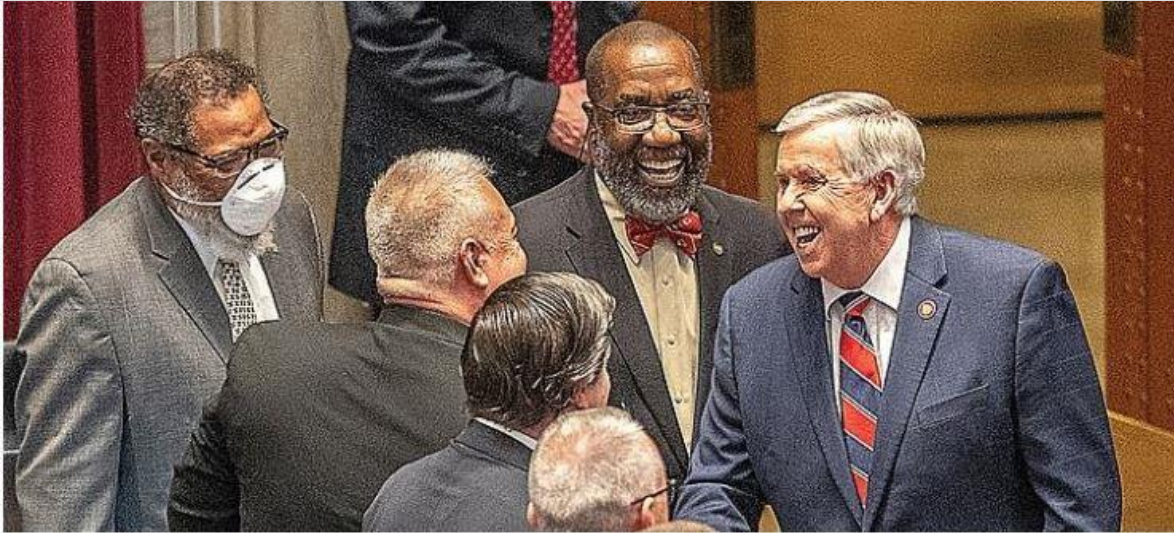
from each other should have different representatives in Congress.

Democrats wanted maps that value compactness and contagiousness. Our maps reflected that.

We are far from finished when it comes to redistricting as this map is now with the Senate and we are awaiting the maps to define the new Missouri House and Senate Districts. I will continue to work on behalf of our community, city and state to ensure fairness in the drawing of district boundaries and to protect the interests of our citizens and the communities you reside.

***Yours in Service,
Rich***





Governor proposes \$46.72 billion state operating budget

With Missouri flush with unprecedented general revenue surpluses and federal relief funds, Gov. Mike Parson on Jan. 19 proposed a \$46.72 billion state operating budget for the upcoming 2023 fiscal year. The governor's plan would increase total spending by more than one-third over the \$34.96 billion lawmakers so far have authorized by FY 2022, which ends June 30.

Although general revenue spending would increase by a robust \$1.63 billion under the governor's plan, the bulk of the additional revenue – \$9.23 billion – comes from federal funds. Parson, a Republican, outlined his proposed budget, along with his policy priorities for the 2022 legislative session, during the annual State of the State address before a joint session of the Missouri General Assembly.

Despite not mentioning it during his speech, Parson's budget commits to fully funding the state Medicaid program both for the remainder of FY 2022 and all of FY 2023, which begins July 1. A constitutionally mandated expansion of Medicaid eligibility took effect last summer, but majority Republicans refused to provide full funding in failed attempt to block it. The Missouri Supreme Court later ruled

the state must enroll and provide services to the expanded population, but the program risks running out of funding if lawmakers don't pass a supplemental appropriation.

On education, Parson is requesting \$600 million in additional funding for operational expenses and capital improvements at public four-year colleges and universities. As to K-12 schools, Parson he claims his budget "fully funds" public education. However, that is true only for basic state aid to local school districts, with state funding for student transportation remaining about \$182 million below what state law says it should be. The governor's other budget priorities include \$400 million for rural broadband expansion, \$250 million for community development grants and a whopping \$722 million for child care programs.

Parson spent much of the early part of his speech praising his administration's largely hands-off approach to combatting the spread of COVID-19 and repeatedly referred to the pandemic in the past tense, as if it is over. In reality, in recent weeks Missouri has set records for new cases and hospitalizations on a near daily basis. On Jan. 12, Missouri broke its record for most cases in a single month in the two years since the pandemic began, despite the fact that the month wasn't even half over at that point.

The governor also fudged Missouri's vaccination statistics, claiming 94 percent of residents age 65 or older and 75 percent of residents 18 and up are vaccinated. However, those numbers are for those who have received a single dose. In terms of the fully vaccinated, Missouri ranks fifth-worst in the nation for the 65-plus age group, with 83 percent deemed fully vaccinated. Only 54 percent of Missourians 18 or older are fully vaccinated for 11th worst nationally, according to tracking data maintained by The New York Times.



House sends congressional redistricting bill to Senate

The Missouri House of Representatives on Jan. 19 voted to advance congressional redistricting legislation to the Senate but rejected adding an emergency clause that would allow the bill to take effect before candidate filing for the August primary elections opens on Feb. 22.

Although Republicans outnumber Democrats 108-49 in the chamber, the redistricting bill passed narrowly on an 86-67-1 vote

– earning just four more “yes” votes than needed for passage – as several Republicans joined Democrats in opposition. Democrats unanimously opposed the bill because it dilutes Democratic voting strength to preserve the current 6-2 advantage Republicans hold in Missouri’s congressional delegation. By contrast, the Republican dissenters wanted a more aggressive gerrymander that would result in a 7-1 split favoring the GOP. An amendment to impose such a gerrymander was crushed on a vote of 23-120.

A motion to add an emergency clause allowing the measure, House Bill 2117, to take effect immediately upon being signed into law by the governor failed on a vote of 95-55-3, falling well short of the 109-vote supermajority required. Without an emergency clause, the redistricting bill won’t take effect until Aug. 28 – nearly four weeks after the Aug. 2 primaries.

However, lawmakers likely will revisit the emergency clause issue as the bill continues through the legislative process. The state constitution only permits emergency clauses when “necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety.” Lawmakers must redraw Missouri’s eight congressional districts to reflect population shifts under the 2020 U.S. Census.

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



Commission finalizes new districts for Missouri House

The independent commission charged with drawing new state House of Representatives districts on Jan. 19 finalized a redistricting plan that will be used for the next decade. The unanimous

agreement marks the first redistricting cycle since 1991 that the commission, which is evenly split between Democrats and Republicans, has avoided partisan deadlock to successfully redraw Missouri's 163 House districts.

Such was not the fate for a separate commission tasked with crafting new state Senate districts. After the Senate commission reached an impasse in December, the job of redistricting the 34-member chamber passes to another commission of six appellate judges. The Missouri Supreme Court is expected to appoint the appellate commission no later than Jan. 23.

Initial data on the new House plan indicates it boosts the number of Democratic leaning districts and creates a number of others that could be competitive. Democrats have been relegated to super-minority status under the previous House map, which took effect with the 2012 elections and strongly favored Republicans.

Legislative districts must be redrawn every decade to reflect population shifts under the most recent U.S. Census. The new House redistricting plan will be used starting with this year's elections and ending with the 2030 elections.

House Legislative Dashboard



THIS IS CHIEFS KINGDOM





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Traveler Information Map



COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS





Richard Brown is at **Missouri State Capitol.**



Yesterday at 12:38 PM · Jefferson City · 🌐

Members of the Missouri State Legislature and administrators and students from Kansas City Public schools got together this morning in the Capitol to celebrate the accreditation of the school district.



19

1 Comment



Like



Comment



Share



Dawna Shumate

❤️❤️❤️❤️ I am sincerely proud of the the Kansas City School District, it's teachers, administrators, and the good Dr. Mark Bedell.

Like Reply 22h



The Pandemic aint over!



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PCR COVID TESTING



PCR TESTING

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4 DAYS A WEEK AT 2 KC LOCATIONS

MONDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS

Labor Union Local #663
Parking Lot
7820 Prospect
KCMO 64132
10am - 6pm

SATURDAYS

Teamsters Local #955
Parking Lot
4501 Emanuel Cleaver II
KCMO 64130
10am - 6pm



HOURS: 10A - 6P

MON: 79th & Prospect

TUE: n/a

WED: n/a

THU: 79th & Prospect

FRI: 79th & Prospect

SAT: 45th & Cleaver Blvd

SUN: n/a

<https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/community-test.php>

Two great men in my life passed away in the past week. The first is my uncle, Nobuyoshi Kobayashi. I loved him so much! The other was my longtime neighbor, Gen. Charles McGee. I had the opportunity to honor both men on Tuesday from the House floor.

[You can watch my tribute to my uncle and Gen. McGee here.](#)





Nobuyoshi Kobayashi

1927 - 2022

My favorite uncle!



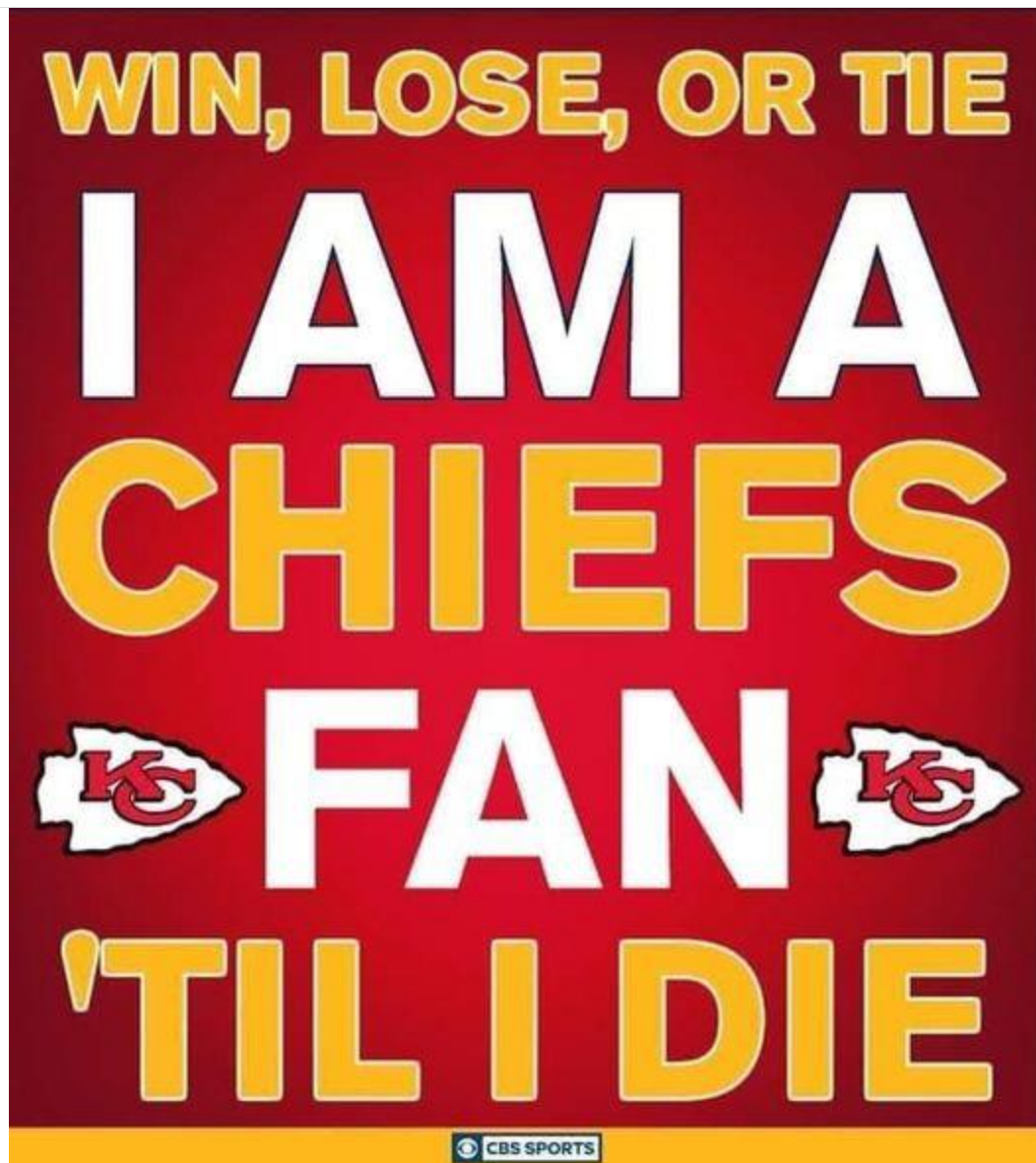
Brigadier General Charles McGee

1919 - 2022

Legendary Tuskegee Airman and American War Hero



Game time is 5:30 Central Time



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 enroute 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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