



# Navigating the Missouri Legislative Process



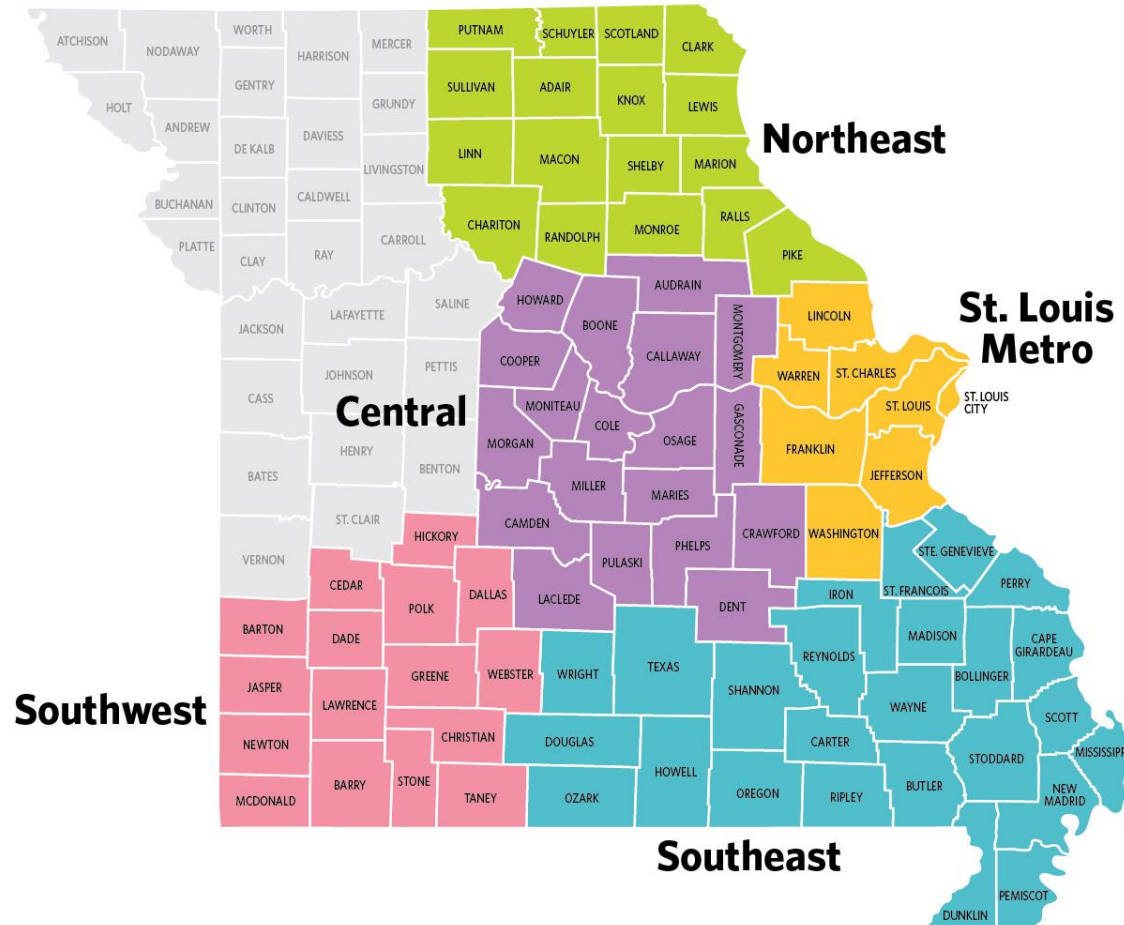
*Missouri Foundation  
for Health*

# About Us

**Missouri Foundation for Health is a resource for the region, working with communities and nonprofits to generate and accelerate positive changes in health.**

As a catalyst for change, the Foundation improves the health of Missourians through partnership, experience, knowledge and funding.

# Where We Work



*The Foundation serves 84 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.*

# Foundation Priorities

## Targeted Initiatives

Childhood Obesity Prevention  
Expanding Coverage  
Infant Mortality  
Oral Health

## Responsive Portfolio

Opportunity Oriented  
Strengthening the Health Field

## Policy Portfolio

Research and Education  
Health Equity  
Building the Field of Advocates  
Community Government & Outreach

# Today

1. What is Advocacy?
2. Legislative Process
3. Engaging a Policymaker
4. Getting Started
5. Your Questions



Navigating the Missouri Legislative Process

# What is Advocacy?

# “Advocacy” & “Lobbying”

- **What is Lobbying?**
  - Attempting to influence legislators to support or oppose a particular issue or piece of legislation
- **What is Advocacy?**
  - Educating and creating awareness among legislators and the general public about issues facing the community and the importance of aligning public policy to address the need.

# Still have lobbying questions?

**Alliance for Justice (AFJ)**

[www.afj.org](http://www.afj.org)

Free hotline: 866-NP-LOBBY

**Missouri Ethics Commission**

[www.mec.mo.gov](http://www.mec.mo.gov)

MFH is offering a free in-person workshop on  
December 18<sup>th</sup>.

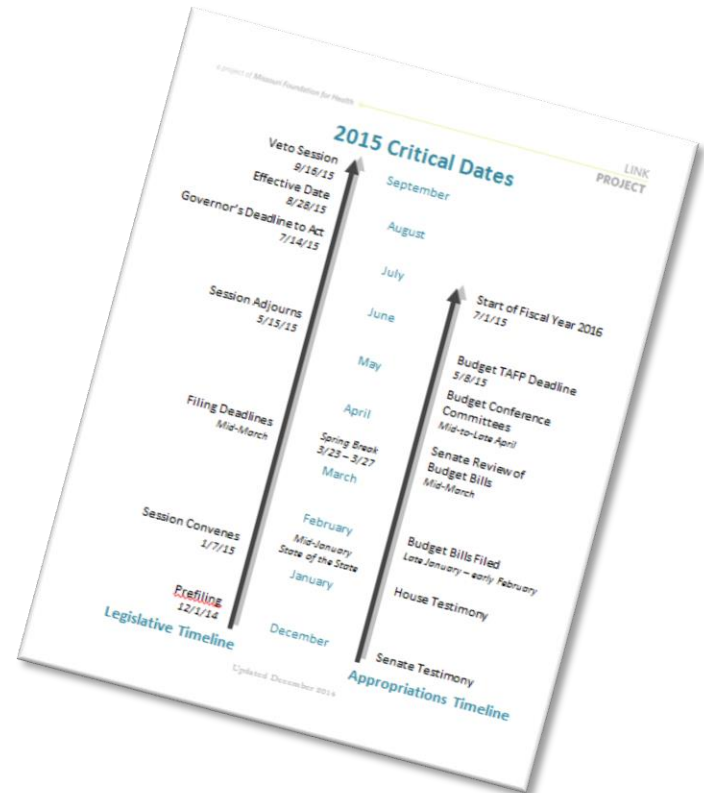


Navigating the Missouri Legislative Process

# Legislative Process

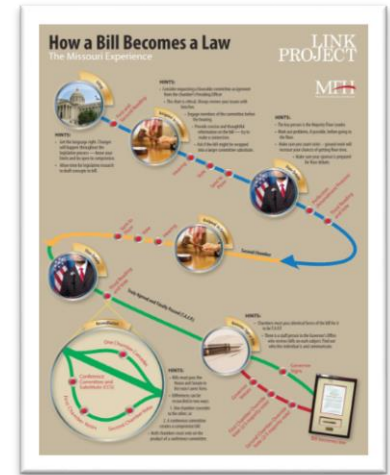
# Legislative Process - Basics

- “General Assembly”
  - Bicameral
  - Term Limits
  - Responsibilities
    - Appropriations
    - Policy
    - Other lawmaking (ballot measures)
- Critical Dates
  - Regular (January to May)
  - Veto (September)
  - Special
  - “Off” Session = Agenda Setting



# Legislative Process - Mechanics Overview

- 1. Drafting & filing legislation**
  - Start fresh each regular session
- 2. First chamber**
  - Committee = testify for, against, or informational
- 3. Second chamber**
  - Repeat process
- 4. Conference Committee (if needed)**
- 5. “TAFP” = Truly Agreed and Finally Passed**
- 6. Governor**
- 7. Implementation**



# Drafting and Filing a Bill

- No bills carry over
- Who can draft?
- Pre-filing (December 1<sup>st</sup>) through 60<sup>th</sup> day of session (early May)

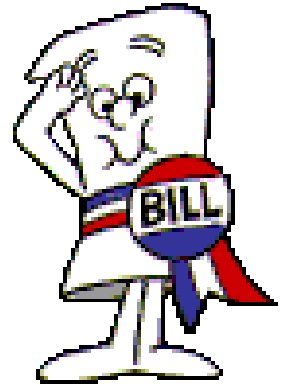


## *Opportunities for Influence*

- ✓ *Find a champion to sponsor your legislation*
- ✓ *Allow time for writing*
- ✓ *Know limits & process to compromise*

# First & Second Reading

- First Reading
  - Title & number
  - Printed
- Second Reading
  - Assigned to Committee by Speaker or President Pro Tem



# Committee Process

- Public Hearing
  - Announced 24 hours prior
  - Sponsor presents
  - Testimony in support and in opposition
  - Not recorded or broadcast
- Executive Hearing & Vote
  - Open to public observation only
  - Vote= *Do Not Pass, Do Pass, Do Pass with Amendments, Do Pass a Substitute*



# Committee Process

## *Opportunities for Influence*

- ✓ *Influence which committee is assigned the bill.*
- ✓ *Chair is key! Review issues before hearing.*
- ✓ *Talk to all members - before the hearing.*
- ✓ *Prepare thoughtful, concise information for a handout or “brief.”*
- ✓ *Identify weaknesses and address them.*
- ✓ *Testify and/or coordinate others doing so.*
- ✓ *Can have bill included in a larger committee substitute.*
- ✓ *Politely but firmly request movement.*
- ✓ *Use (and support) your sponsor.*

# Floor Debate

- Perfection Calendar
  - Debate on Floor
  - Vote on Committee changes
  - Consider additional amendments
  - Vote for perfection. If approved, reprinted



## *Opportunities for Influence*

- ✓ *Key person is Majority Floor Leader*
- ✓ *Work out problems (if possible) before going to the floor*
- ✓ *Count votes - know who is voting for/against*
- ✓ *Prepare your sponsor and key allies for floor debate*



# Passage from 1<sup>st</sup> Chamber

- Third Reading
  - Recorded vote up or down
  - No debate, no amendments
- Report to other chamber for First Reading...process starts again

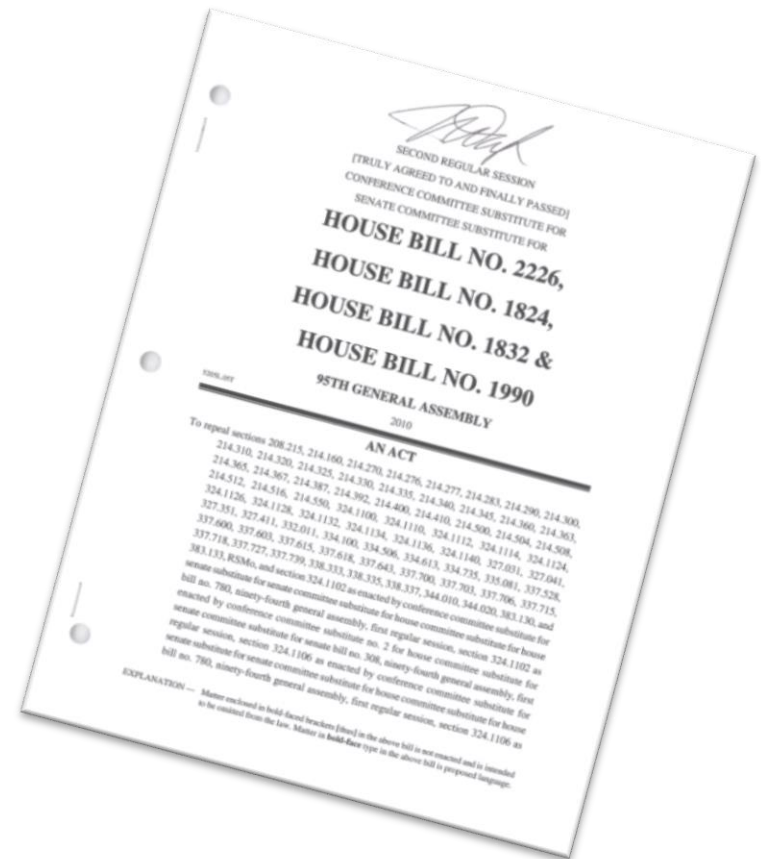


## *Opportunities for Influence*

- ✓ *Limited...follow up on any surprise votes.*
- ✓ *Prepare for second chamber...*

# Finishing Strong

- Reconciliation/Conference Committee
- TAFP= Truly Agreed & Finally Passed
- Governor's Role...



# Governor's Role

- Message & Agenda Setting
  - Inaugural & State of the State
  - Proposes Budget
- Call for Special Session
- Response to Legislation
  - Sign, Veto, Line-Item Veto (budget), No Action
  - Veto Session
- Implementation

## *Opportunities for Influence*

- ✓ *Reach out to appropriate staff - 573.751.3222*
- ✓ *Engage in implementing the new law*

# Implementation of Law

- Agriculture
- Conservation
- Corrections
- Economic Development
- Elementary & Secondary Education
- Health & Human Services
- Higher Education
- Labor & Industrial Relations
- Mental Health
- Natural Resources
- Office of Administration
- Public Safety
- Revenue
- Social Services

# Legislative Process - The Ballot

- “A vote of the people”
- Single-issue state statute or constitutional amendment
- Getting to the ballot
  - Legislatively Initiated: majority vote of both bodies, Governor doesn't act
  - Citizen Initiated: file draft petition, collect signatures, certification of ballot measure
- Statewide campaign & voting
- [www.sos.mo.gov](http://www.sos.mo.gov)

# The Appropriations Process

- The Same, Only Different...

*Process by which state legislature funds the operations of state government*

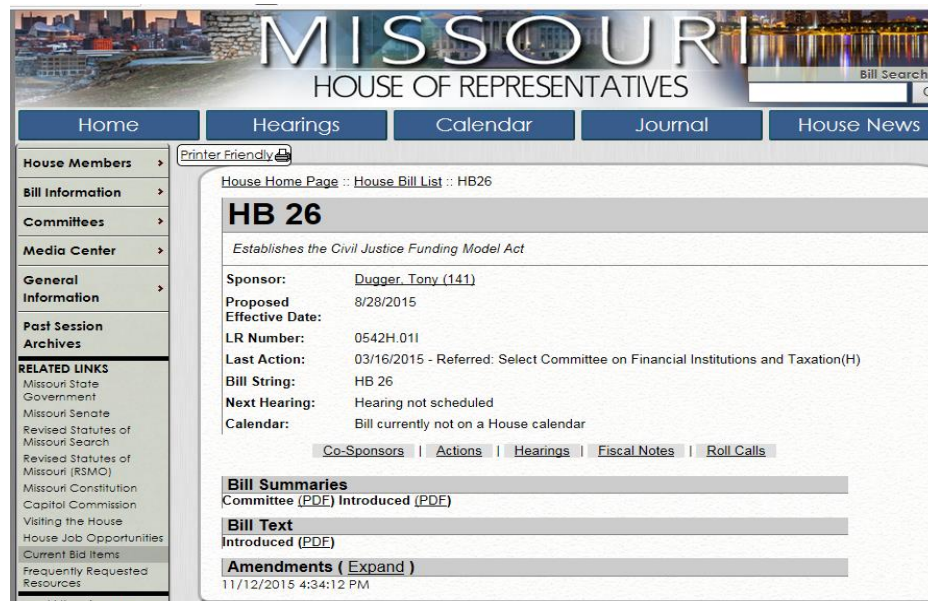
- State budget is \$26.1 billion for state fiscal year 2016
- Funds include “general revenue” and other revenues

# Appropriations Process - How It's Different

- Budget bills only introduced in House
- Different committee processes and Conference Committee used to finalize
- Due to Governor one week prior to end of session
- Automatically have one year sunset, runs from July 1 to June 30
- Line item vetoes/withholding funds
- MO Constitution requires a balanced budget

# Bill Tracking & Analysis

- General Assembly Website & Capitol Library
- News, MONA
- Health-related tracking and technical assistance
  - [www.mffh.org/legislativeSession](http://www.mffh.org/legislativeSession)



The screenshot displays the Missouri House of Representatives website. The header features the text "MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES" and a "Bill Search" box. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "Hearings", "Calendar", "Journal", and "House News". A sidebar on the left contains a "Printer Friendly" link and a list of navigation options including "House Members", "Bill Information", "Committees", "Media Center", "General Information", "Past Session Archives", and "RELATED LINKS". The main content area shows the details for "HB 26", which "Establishes the Civil Justice Funding Model Act". Key information includes the sponsor "Dugger, Tony (141)", the proposed effective date of 8/28/2015, and the LR number 0542H.011. The last action is noted as "03/16/2015 - Referred: Select Committee on Financial Institutions and Taxation(H)". The next hearing is listed as "Hearing not scheduled" and the calendar status is "Bill currently not on a House calendar". At the bottom of the page, there are links for "Co-Sponsors", "Actions", "Hearings", "Fiscal Notes", and "Roll Calls", along with sections for "Bill Summaries", "Bill Text", and "Amendments (Expand)".



# Legislative Process - People

- Key Leaders

- Speaker of the House Todd Richardson (R-Poplar Bluff)
- President Pro Tem of the Senate Ron Richard (R-Dade, Jasper & Newton)
- Majority Leader & Whips (House & Senate)
- Committee Chairs
- Minority Leadership
- Your Legislators



- Influences

- Elections, money, term limits
- Leadership, margins, savvy, personality
- Legislators are people, too...

Navigating the Missouri Legislative Process

# Engaging Policymakers

# Engaging Policymakers

1. Be an active, informed voter.
2. Learn your issue & who can change it.
3. Define a solution & understand how you fit into the landscape.
4. Build a relationship with your legislators & key leaders - before you need anything.
5. Be effective in meetings & giving testimony.
6. Media advocacy.
7. Don't recreate the wheel - collaboration is key.

# #1 - Be an active, informed voter

www.sos.mo.gov

REGISTER TO VOTE ABOUT JASON KANDER ACCESSIBILITY INFO CONTACT US

Business Services Elections & Voting Investor Protection & Securities State Library Records & Archives Administrative Rules Publications & Forms

JASON KANDER MISSOURI SECRETARY OF STATE

REGISTER TO VOTE

Initiate Petitions Start a Business Search for a Business View the Blue Book Salt at Home Missouri Digital Heritage Election Results Register to Vote The Missouri Channel

**LATEST NEWS**

- Jan 16 Kander Releases 2014 Policy Agenda; Announces Bill Sponsors
- Jan 15 Initiative Petition Relating to the General Assembly Approved for Circulation for 2014 Ballot

**Tweets**

- Missouri SOS Office @MissouriSOS: Must read @joplinglobe features guest columnist @JasonKander on campaign finance & ethics reform. joplinglobe.com/edition/176...
- Missouri SOS Office @MissouriSOS: New @emissourian editorial: "The legislature should embrace Kander's reforms" m.emissourian.com/opinion/articl...

**ABOUT JASON KANDER**

Jason Kander, 32, was sworn in as Missouri's 32nd Secretary of State in January 2013. A former U.S. Army Captain, Jason is a veteran of the war in Afghanistan. Prior to his election as Secretary of State, he practiced law, represented Kansas City in the Missouri General Assembly and served on the Missouri Veterans Commission.

Read More

sos.mo.gov Internet Privacy Policy 800 Opportunities Missouri State Government Employment Elections Site Map Employed Address

JASON KANDER 600 West Main Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 Main Office: (873) 751-4936 info@sos.mo.gov Branch Offices

- Elections & Voting
- Investor Protection & Securities
- Register to Vote
- Voting Information
- Elections Results & Statistics
- Check Your Voter Registration
- Find a Polling Place
- For Election Candidates
- Be a Poll Worker
- Initiative Petitions

# #2 - Know your issue

- Fact-based research - what is actually going on?
- What laws or rules directly affect the issue you care about? Indirectly?
- What is the source of the related policy? What is the process to change it?



Potholes?



Nutrition  
in Schools?



Medicaid?

## #2 - Sources (a beginning)

- [johncombest.com](http://johncombest.com) (MO political news)
- [mffh.org](http://mffh.org) (“Sign Up” for Health Policy or other updates)
- [covermissouri.org](http://covermissouri.org) (health coverage info)
- Actual legislative sites: [house.mo.gov](http://house.mo.gov) & [senate.mo.gov](http://senate.mo.gov)
- Nurse-focused sources
- National health policy information:
  - Kaiser Health News/Kaiser Family Foundation
  - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  - National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP)
  - Commonwealth Foundation
  - Academic partners, e.g. MU Center for Health Policy, WU Brown School, Georgetown Policy Institute
- Other?

# #3 - Define a solution

- What action is required by whom?
  - *Fix a problem, don't push a solution*
- We don't work in a vacuum → learn the field:
  - What is the recent history of this issue? Related political issues?
  - Who will support your issue? What are their available resources, messages, dealbreakers, etc.
  - Who will oppose your issue? What are their available resources, messages, etc.? Can you find common ground?

# #4 - Building relationship

Start at the beginning: who are your legislators?

Enter your address at [senate.mo.gov](http://senate.mo.gov)

**MISSOURI SENATE**

SENATORS   LEGISLATION   SESSION INFORMATION   GENERAL INFORMATION   COMMITTEES   NEWSROOM

Today is: Tuesday, June 2, 2015

The Missouri Senate of the 98th General Assembly, First Regular Session, will stand adjourned per Article III, Section 20(a) of the Missouri Constitution.

Open Floor Action in New Window

**SEARCH FOR A BILL:**  
Enter bill number or text

**LEGISLATOR LOOKUP:**  
Enter a valid Missouri mailing address to find your legislators:  
Address:   
City:    
Or [Click Here](#) to use your 9-digit zipcode.

**BILL REPORTING SYSTEM**  
Create custom bill tracking lists and reports

**2015 FILED LEGISLATION**

**NEWS FROM THE MISSOURI SENATE**  
The first Missouri Senate measure signed into law this year will take effect on Aug. 28, 2015. Senate Minute 149 relates to data storage centers.  
Missouri Senate Capitol Briefing for the Week of May 25, 2015  
May 29, 2015 1:46:43 PM

**STAY CONNECTED:**

**LEGISLATIVE LINKS:**  
[Missouri Statutes](#)  
[Missouri Statute/Constitution Search](#)  
[Missouri Constitution](#)  
[Missouri State Government](#)  
[Missouri General Assembly](#)  
[Missouri House](#)

**OTHER LINKS:**  
[Missouri Senate Kids Page](#)  
[Facts About the Missouri Senate](#)

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# MISSOURI SENATE

## LEGISLATOR LOOKUP

Find your Legislators by entering a valid Missouri mailing address. [Click Here](#) to use Legislator Lookup with your 9-digit zipcode.

Street Address:  City:

Your standardized address is:

120 E NIFONG BLVD, COLUMBIA, MO 65203-3732

Using this address, your local legislators are:

- Senatorial district 019 - Senator Kurt Schaefer
- House district 046 - Representative Stephen Webber
- U.S. House district 04 - Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler

Your statewide elected officials are:

- Governor Jay Nixon
- Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder
- Secretary of State Jason Kander
- State Auditor Nicole Galloway
- State Treasurer Clint Zweifel
- Attorney General Chris Koster

Your US Senators are:

- Senator Roy Blunt
- Senator Claire McCaskill



MISSOURI STATE SENATOR

# KURT SCHAEFER

DISTRICT 19 • REPUBLICAN

[LEGISLATION](#) [BIOGRAPHY](#) [CONSTITUENT SERVICES](#) [MEDIA](#)

[SIGN UP FOR E-NEWS](#)

#### CAPITOL OFFICE:

201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 416  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101  
(573) 751-3931  
FAX: (573) 751-4320  
Email Senator Schaefer

**Note:** Due to the large volume of e-mails that I receive, I am able to answer only constituent messages from District 19 residents, serving Boone and Cooper counties. Legislator courtesy dictates that State Senators be given the opportunity to assist their own constituents. If you are a resident of another county, I encourage you to locate your State Senator by clicking [here](#).

#### LEGISLATIVE STAFF:

Yancy Williams  
Linda Bushman

#### NEWS FROM SENATOR SCHAEFER

of legislation to shape the future of Missouri.

#### Weekly Legislative Update

May 01, 2015 3:25:10 PM

This week Senate Concurrent Resolution 14 was presented to and passed by the Select Committee on Commerce in the House of Representatives.

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Appropriations, Chairman  
Gubernatorial Appointments  
Judiciary & Civil & Criminal Jurisprudence  
Joint Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect  
Joint Committee on Education  
Joint Committee on Capital Improvements and Leases Oversight  
Joint Legislative Committee on Court Automation  
Joint Committee on Government Accountability  
Joint Committee on Legislative Research  
Joint Committee on MO Healthnet  
Joint Committee on Solid Waste Management District Operations  
Missouri Film Commission  
Missouri Sentencing Advisory Commission

#### COUNTIES REPRESENTED:

Boone and Cooper  
[View District Map](#)

#### LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:

Elected to the Senate:  
2008, 2012

# KURT SCHAEFER

DISTRICT 19 • REPUBLICAN

[LEGISLATION](#)[BIOGRAPHY](#)[CONSTITUENT SERVICES](#)[MEDIA](#)[MAIN PAGE](#)**SIGN UP FOR E-NEWS****CAPITOL OFFICE:**

201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 416  
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**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:**

Yancy Williams  
 Linda Bushman

Senator Kurt U. Schaefer was elected to the Missouri Senate in 2008 representing the citizens of the 19th senatorial district. Senator Schaefer is the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and serves on the Senate Committees on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence and Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment.

In addition to his legislative duties, Senator Schaefer is the former General Counsel and Deputy Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Special Counsel to the Governor, Special Counsel to the Missouri Department of Agriculture, Missouri Assistant Attorney General and Special Assistant United States Attorney.

As General Counsel and Deputy Director at DNR, he was responsible for all legal aspects of the State's Environmental Regulatory and Enforcement Agency, which also owns and manages the State's 83 state parks and historic sites, including litigation management, environmental, administrative, employment, personal injury, Sunshine Law and open records/meetings, contracts, and constitutional law.

Sen. Schaefer has litigated bench and jury trials of all kinds and complexities in numerous circuit and federal courts throughout Missouri and elsewhere. He has handled approximately 100 appellate actions before all three districts of the Missouri Court of Appeals and Missouri Supreme Court, and more than 90 administrative proceedings before various state permitting and licensing agencies and the Missouri Public Service Commission.

Senator Schaefer and his wife Stacia have three children and live in Columbia. He is a partner in the law firm of Lathrop and Gage LLP.

Schaefer has received the following awards for his legislative achievements:

**2015**

- Outstanding Legislator Award Missouri Pork Association and the Missouri Pork Industry

**2014**

- State Historical Society's "Trustees' Appreciation Award"
- Freedometer Award from the Concerned Women for America of Missouri
- Conservation Federation of Missouri - Conservation Legislator of the Year
- Missouri Lawyers Weekly - Influential Lawyer 2014 Award

Bill Search

Go

- House Members >
- Bill Information >
- Committees >
- Media Center >
- General Information >
- Past Session Archives

- RELATED LINKS**
- Missouri State Government
  - Missouri Senate
  - Revised Statutes of Missouri Search
  - Revised Statutes of Missouri (RSMO)
  - Missouri Constitution
  - Capitol Commission
  - Visiting the House
  - House Job Opportunities
  - Current Bid Items
  - Frequently Requested Resources

Who is your Representative?



(zip code or zip+4)

*98th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session - 2015*



*Representative  
Stephen Webber  
District 046  
Democrat*



Capitol Report Signup

**Committees:**

- [Select Committee on Budget](#)
- [Workforce Standards and Development](#)
- [Consumer Affairs](#)
- [Appropriations - Higher Education](#)
- [Select Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations](#)
- [Conference Committee on Budget](#)

**Capitol Address:**

**Address:** MO House of Representatives  
201 West Capitol Avenue  
Room 106-A  
Jefferson City MO 65101

**Legislative Assistant:** Ronda Griggs  
**Phone:** 573-751-9753  
**E-Mail:** [Stephen.Webber@house.mo.gov](mailto:Stephen.Webber@house.mo.gov)

**About your Representative:**

Member Biography

**Elected:** 2008  
**Terms:** 3.5  
**Counties:** Boone  
**Hometown:** Columbia

**Bills sponsored:**

- [2015 \(98th 1st Regular Session\)](#)
- [2014 \(97th 2nd Regular Session\)](#)
- [2013 \(97th 1st Special Session\)](#)
- [2013 \(97th 1st Regular Session\)](#)
- [2012 \(96th 2nd Regular Session\)](#)
- [2011 \(96th 1st Special Session\)](#)
- [2011 \(96th 1st Regular Session\)](#)
- [2010 \(95th 1st Special Session\)](#)
- [2010 \(95th 2nd Regular Session\)](#)
- [2009 \(95th 1st Regular Session\)](#)

# #4 - Building relationship

- Other ways to learn more about them:
  - [senate.mo.gov](http://senate.mo.gov) & [house.mo.gov](http://house.mo.gov)
  - Campaign websites
  - News search
  - Social media (use [#moleg](#) & [@MFHpolicy](#) has list)
- Look for...
  - Personal, professional, & political background
  - Interest in & knowledge of your issue
  - **How you are connected**

# #4 - Building relationship

- Campaign Opportunities
- In-District Opportunities
  - Personal introductions
  - Community calendar
  - Legislative update (from the legislator)
  - Invite him/her to your facility
- In-Capitol Opportunities

# #5 - Effective Meetings & Testimony

## BEFORE YOUR MEETING

- Have a clear goal
- Research the person, the issue, and the landscape
  - Use this knowledge to inform who attends, materials you leave behind, location, etc.
- Make an appointment
- Practice what you will say

# #5 - Effective Meetings & Testimony

## DURING YOUR MEETING

- Relax!
- Be prompt & flexible
- Be organized & concise
  - Who are you?
  - Connect to the district
  - Be a plain-spoken expert
  - Leave behind 1-3 pages (include contact information)
- Be truthful...follow up is okay
- Make an ask...

### “The Ask”

*We need money, PLEASE.*

*Vote for the bill, PLEASE.*

*Come to this event, PLEASE.*

*Help convene a group to...  
PLEASE.*

*Introduce me to ... PLEASE.*



# #5 - Effective Meetings & Testimony

## AFTER YOUR MEETING

- Use the meeting as a starting point
- Follow up on anything you promised
- Write a note, tweet a picture, etc.
- Consider:
  - “I don’t know, I will get back to you”
  - “I forgot to tell you about...”
  - “THANK YOU”

# #5 - Effective Meetings & Testimony

## TESTIFYING

- For, against, informational, written
- Have written copies but don't read
- Talk to the chair & sponsor(s)
- Meet with members prior to hearing
- Coordinate with other advocates
- Hearings posted online...and check the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
- Arrive early, expect the unexpected, & stay professional



# #6 - Media

- Traditional

- Types
- Cost
  - Paid/donated
- Capacity

- New/Social

- Types
- Cost
- Capacity



# #7 - Don't recreate the wheel



Navigating the Missouri Legislative Process

# Getting Started

# Getting Started

- ✓ Meet your legislators
- ✓ Invite your legislators to an event
- ✓ Sign up for (a few) mailing lists for issues you care about
- ✓ Learn your issue & talk about what you learn
- ✓ Write a letter, email, tweet, blog post...
- ✓ VOTE

# Meet & talk to policymakers

## Jeff City



At home



# Your Questions?



# Contact



*Missouri* Foundation  
for **Health**

*a catalyst for change*

 [mffh.org](http://mffh.org)   

# Thomas McAuliffe

*Director Health Policy*

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[tmcauliffe@mffh.org](mailto:tmcauliffe@mffh.org)

@MFHpolicy