

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2586

## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BARNES.

6568H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 27, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the attorney general.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 27, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 27.025, to read as follows:

**27.025. 1. The attorney general shall:**

2 **(1) Serve as the chief legal officer of the state of Missouri and shall provide legal**  
3 **advice to state agencies;**

4 **(2) Defend constitutional challenges to the validity of state laws;**

5 **(3) Enforce civil laws including, but not limited to, those that protect consumers**  
6 **and the environment;**

7 **(4) Defend the state's interest in civil actions including, but not limited to,**  
8 **bankruptcies, workers' compensation cases, professional licensing cases, and habeas**  
9 **corpus petitions filed by state and federal inmates;**

10 **(5) Defend criminal appeals of felony convictions; and**

11 **(6) Bring and defend lawsuits on behalf of the state and its citizens.**

12 **2. The attorney general or his or her designee may serve as prosecutor in any**  
13 **circuit court of this state in any case in which they have been appointed as special**  
14 **prosecutor or on any manner in which state law confers upon the attorney general the**  
15 **authority to prosecute a claim. In addition to the duties provided under this chapter, the**  
16 **general assembly may establish additional duties for the attorney general by statute.**

17 **3. The attorney general shall be an attorney licensed and in good standing in the**  
18 **state of Missouri who has:**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

19           **(1) Tried a criminal case before a judge or jury in Missouri as a prosecutor on**  
20 **behalf of the state or as counsel for the accused;**

21           **(2) Tried a civil case before a judge or jury in Missouri as counsel for the**  
22 **individual, business, association, or other entity bringing the claim or as counsel for the**  
23 **individual, business, association, or other entity defending the claim;**

24           **(3) Tried an administrative case before a hearing officer in Missouri as counsel for**  
25 **the individual, business, association, or other entity in interest or as counsel for the state**  
26 **or governmental entity;**

27           **(4) Represented any party to an appeal in a Missouri court and participated in oral**  
28 **argument; or**

29           **(5) Participated in any motion hearing in a Missouri court involving the rules of**  
30 **civil or criminal procedure.**

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