

Missouri House of Representatives

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State Representative Jeff Vernetti Pre-Files Legislation to Address Area Judicial Shortage

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Newly elected State Representative Jeff Vernetti has pre-filed House Bill 108, which proposes the addition of a circuit judge to the 26th Judicial Circuit. This would include the counties of Camden, Laclede, Miller, Moniteau, and Morgan.

The legislation would amend current law to increase the number of circuit judges in the 26th Judicial Circuit from three to four. The addition would seek to alleviate the perceived strain on the judicial system created by the significant rise in caseloads, particularly during peak tourism seasons.

"Our courts are just so overwhelmed with cases directly connected to our seasonal influx of visitors," expressed Vernetti, R-Camdenton. "We are shorthanded on the bench, and the problem needs to be addressed and corrected." Vernetti is hopeful that by proactively filing HB 108, the legislative session will allow for ample discussions and will lead to the passing of the bill for a more efficient judicial process and the provision of timely justice for residents and visitors of the region.

Representative Vernetti is proud to represent the constituents of his district and welcomes new challenges and opportunities with the start of this legislative session just around the corner. He hopes to make the voices of his community, and all Missourians, heard in the months ahead.

Rep. Jeff Vernetti, a Republican, represents Camden County, (District 123) in the Missouri House of Representatives. Rep. Vernetti was elected to his first two-year term in November 2024. For more information, please contact Rep. Vernetti by email at Jeff. Vernetti@house.mo.gov.