



## Missouri House of Representatives

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### **State Representative Jeff Vernetti ‘Entrepreneur Rights Act’ to Support Small and Seasonal Businesses**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – State Representative Jeff Vernetti announced today that he is filing the legislation to protect small and seasonal businesses from burdensome minimum wage increases and paid leave policies. House Bill 546, known as the Entrepreneur Rights Act, is designed to ensure that these businesses — which are critical to Missouri's economy — can remain viable and continue to thrive.

“Small and seasonal businesses are the heart of my community and the lifeblood of the state,” Vernetti, R-Camdenton, said. “Many are family-owned and operated, without the profit margins of big corporations. This bill is critical for their continued success in my district, as well as statewide.”

The Entrepreneur Rights Act exempts small businesses, defined as those employing 50 or fewer people, and seasonal businesses, which operate for 26 weeks or less annually, from future state-mandated minimum wage hikes and paid leave requirements. The minimum wage for these businesses will remain at the rate effective on December 31, 2024.

The bill provides a vital safeguard for Missouri’s small and seasonal business owners, allowing them to manage costs more effectively and maintain jobs for local employees. Vernetti emphasized that these protections are necessary to ensure that Missouri’s entrepreneurial spirit and local commerce continue to flourish.

This legislation marks a priority for Vernetti’s 2025 legislative agenda, underscoring his commitment to protecting the backbone of Missouri’s economy.

*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](mailto:Jeff.Vernetti@house.mo.gov).*

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