



Missouri House of Representatives

From the office of Representative Jeff Vernetti

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MEDIA ADVISORY:

State Rep. Jeff Vernetti Files Bills to Protect Businesses from Predatory Lawsuits, Support Property Rights, and Reduce Taxes on Seniors

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – State Representative Jeff Vernetti continues to fight for business owners, senior citizens and law enforcement in Jefferson City.

Rep. Vernetti prefiled several bills to:

- Protect organizations from predatory lawsuits;
- Assist county governments who are taking on the burden of detaining and housing those who are mentally unfit for trial;
- Continue to advocate for seniors and local law enforcement;
- Promote sensible community and statewide growth; and
- Protect property rights.

“After a very successful first year in the Missouri House, I will continue to be a strong voice for Camden County in Jefferson City,” said Vernetti, R-Camdenton. “My legislative slate is the result of months of work in the district, focusing on common-sense solutions to real issues constituents are facing.”

Predatory lawsuits targeting business in Camden County are the focus of **House Bill 2056**. The bill aims to protect Missouri businesses attorneys who are using the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as a quick money-grab. In this nationwide trend, attorneys file lawsuits against nonprofits and small businesses with little money on-hand, demanding payment for websites that are not compliant with the ADA.

“There are hundreds of lawsuits like this - with at least 10 targeting our community,” Vernetti said. “Unfortunately, these attorneys are making bank - and that’s not right. The ADA was not created to fill the coffers of law firms and I will not stand by while our businesses suffer.”

House Bill 2054 ensures county jails are reimbursed appropriately for housing inmates who are waiting for beds in mental health facilities. Currently, the state provides no financial assistance to county jails for the cost of these services.

“Jails are funded through county budgets,” Vernetti said. “We need to make sure this money funnels back to jails, which are shouldering an enormous financial burden of housing people who are unfit for trial.

“There is a real issue with mental healthcare in Missouri and hopefully my bill begins the conversation of this issue.”

Verneti also filed **House Bill 2366** that targets businesses that hire illegals for trade jobs. This practice is widely known and damaging to businesses doing things right. These bad actors hire illegals for cheap labor so they can underbid other companies for big jobs. That is unacceptable and we should not tolerate this bad behavior in the Show-Me State.

In addition, Rep. Vernetti filed the following bills:

- **HB 2055** - This bill fixes a loophole in Missouri’s Hands-Free law and was filed after receiving feedback from officials in our community.
- **HB 2058** - This bill allows more flexibility with Missouri’s film tax credit program and hopefully will drive more Missouri production.
- **HB 2059** - Doubles the current taxable limit on pensions. The bill makes it possible for seniors to keep more of their hard-earned income and Representative Vernetti hopes eventually Missouri will eliminate all pension taxes.
- **HB 2060** – This bill eliminates potential tax penalties on homeowners who want to lease their home for no more than 30 days and should not be taxed as businesses.
- **HB 2367** will allow community colleges like State Fair to offer certain bachelor’s degrees.

“I am standing strong for Missouri businesses, property owners and common-sense policies that will strengthen our state,” Vernetti said.

About Representative Vernetti

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.Verneti@house.mo.gov.

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