

Missouri House of Representatives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 13, 2024 CONTACT: Rep. Michael Davis (573) 751-2175 Michael.Davis@House.Mo.Gov

State Rep. Michael Davis Leads Effort to Safeguard Cass County Residents against Detrimental Landfill Proposal

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The Missouri House has passed HB 1751, a pivotal piece of legislation co-sponsored by State Representative Michael Davis, aimed at safeguarding the interests of Cass County residents against the detrimental impacts of a proposed landfill. The bill garnered wide support in the House, reflecting growing concerns over environmental risks and potential harm to property values posed by the proposed facility.

HB 1751 seeks to impose stringent regulations on waste disposal facility development near the Kansas City border, particularly targeting a proposed landfill site that has raised significant apprehensions within the community. Davis, alongside concerned legislators and communities bordering the southern stretch of Kansas City, worked in unison to combat developers' plans to construct a landfill in a residentially zoned area.

Speaking on the floor in support of the legislation, Davis told his fellow House members about how the proposed landfill would be destructive to his community, while also highlighting the need to protect property rights.

"HB 1751 is extremely important legislation which will protect the property rights of Cass County residents from the detrimental effects of an unnecessary landfill near our homes, schools, and parks," Davis, R-Belton, said. "Under current state law, my constituents do not have a say in an issue which would greatly affect them. I am proud to be their voice in the Capitol by advocating in favor of this bill to help prevent the proposed landfill, which would harm our communities."

The proposed landfill site, strategically located on the border between Kansas City and Raymore, has been a focal point of contention due to its potential adverse effects on the surrounding environment and property values. HB 1751 addresses concerns over municipal oversight by mandating approval from neighboring jurisdictions within a one-mile radius, thereby closing a loophole that could circumvent local governance.

Expressing collective concerns over potential pollution of the surrounding watershed and adverse impacts on property values, legislators representing the area have rallied against the proposed landfill. With the site situated in proximity to residential areas, schools, and businesses, opponents argue that the addition of another landfill to the Kansas City area, which already hosts eight such facilities, is unnecessary and poses undue risks to the community.

After receiving a vote of 113-30, the bill now moves to the Missouri Senate for consideration.

Representative Michael Davis, a Republican, represents parts of Cass County (District 56) in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to his first two-year term in November 2020. For more information, please contact Rep. Davis' office at 573-751-2175 or via email at *Michael.Davis@House.Mo.Gov*.

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