



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 324</b>		DATE: <b>2/17/2021</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DENISE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>Lieberman</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION</b>		TITLE: <b>GENERAL COUNSEL</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>6047 WATERMAN BLVD.</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63112</b>
EMAIL: <b>denise@movpc.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2021 9:59 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

The Help America Vote Act of 2002 sought to ensure that voters with disabilities have full and equal access to voting by mandating that every polling place have at least one voting machine accessible to voters with disabilities but this mandate is binding only for federal elections. To ensure that voters with disabilities have access to the ballot, Missouri should honor the spirit of HAVA, and the Missouri Constitution's guarantee of free and equal access to the ballot by guaranteeing that this mandate applies to all elections in Missouri, including state and local elections. Voters with disabilities face the greatest barriers to the ballot of demographic groups, and documented voter experiences in Missouri demonstrate that these barriers are significant in Missouri. The Missouri Voter Protection Coalition is a non-partisan statewide network of voter advocates that work to protect the right to vote. For 15 years, MOVPC has coordinated statewide nonpartisan Election Protection efforts in Missouri, which includes documentation of all calls into the 866-OUR-VOTE hotline and in-person monitoring at polls across the state. Each election, accessibility issues are consistently a top problem reported by voters. Missouri law provides for use of federal funds to ensure access for voters with disabilities. RSMo § 115.076 provides that the secretary of state shall provide funds to election authorities in order to purchase voting machines that are accessible to individuals with disabilities, to make polling places accessible to individuals with disabilities, and to provide individuals with disabilities information about the accessibility of polling places. The Missouri Constitution enshrines the right to vote as fundamental. It is time for Missouri to ensure access to the ballot for all Missouri voters in every election by ensuring that each polling place has equipment accessible to voters with disabilities. Missouri's failure to ensure full access could violate the Missouri Constitution and federal law. The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that "no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such entity." 42 U.S.C. § 12132. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provides that "[n]o otherwise qualified individual with a disability . . . shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." 29 U.S.C. § 794(a). And Section 208 of the Voting Rights Act provides that "[a]ny voter who requires assistance to vote by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write may be given assistance by a person of the voter's choice, other than the voter's employer or agent of that employer or officer or agent of the voter's union." 52 U.S.C. § 10508 (formerly codified at 42 U.S.C. § 1973aa-6). Art. VIII Sec. 2 of the Missouri Constitution guarantees the right to Article VIII, Section 2 of the Missouri constitution guarantees the right to vote to ALL US citizens over the age of eighteen who are residents of Missouri and of the relevant political subdivision are entitled to vote at ALL elections. Let's make that a reality in Missouri. Accordingly, the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition

**SUPPORTS HB324 and HB423.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 324</b>		DATE: <b>2/17/2021</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>GEOFFREY QUINN BARNEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>636-346-3760</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND</b>		TITLE: <b>SUPERINTENDENT</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>3815 MAGNOLIA AVENUE</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63110</b>
EMAIL: <b>Geoffrey.barney@dese.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/16/2021 11:06 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I would like to support Bill HB 324 that requires an electronic voting machine for individuals that are blind or visually impaired. I know from my job as the Superintendent of Missouri School for the Blind (MSB) and from my service on the Board of Rehabilitation Services for the Bind (RSB) just how important it is to make everything accessible. I have seen many students thrive in an accessible environment like MSB when they have really struggled to be successful without the supports they needed. I have seen many adults thrive in their careers as they have received the services from RSB to make their employment environment accessible. In these areas having an accessible environment made the difference between failure and success. In addition to the success enjoyed, I have also seen an increase in self-esteem, motivation, independence, and desire to achieve even more in the future. Accessibility makes all the difference! Being able to vote independently is one of the principles that makes our country great. People who are blind or visually impaired may be able to have a friend, spouse, or other family member help them when they vote but, it is not an independent vote. I remember a meeting where a man was talking about wanting the ability to vote independently. He talked about different experiences where he thought the right equipment was in place and that he would finally be able to vote by himself. He talked about his disappointment time after time when one thing or another had happened and he wasn't able to vote independently. He humorously indicated that he thought his wife was voting for him in the way he wanted, but he wasn't 100 percent sure. The way he told the story was funny, but it wouldn't be funny not to know that your vote was cast in the exact way you wanted it completed. I am thankful for the many ways that many people have worked to make things accessible for individuals with different types of disabilities. I think it is important to make "Life Accessible" for all. It is for this reason that I put my support behind this Bill without reservation. Sincerely, Geoffrey Barney Superintendent-Missouri School for the Blind



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 324</b>		DATE: <b>2/17/2021</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JOAN HUBBARD</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>3147530689</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - METRO ST. LOUIS</b>		TITLE: <b>VOTER ACCESS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>5752 KINGSBURY</b>			
CITY: <b>ST LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63112</b>
EMAIL: <b>joanhubbard@prodigy.net</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/16/2021 12:00 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

The League of Women Voters of Missouri believes voting is a fundamental right of every citizen that must be guaranteed. That includes making accommodations at polling places for voters who are legally blind or visually impaired. Our members actively support and endorse the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) that ban discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities. HB 324 and HB 423 would require that visually impaired voters have the use of the Help America Vote Act compliant machines for state and local elections just as they do for federal elections. As Chair of the League's Voter Access Committee, I was advised that there are monies left from a federal grant specifically for election improvement that can be used to cover the additional cost for programming at each election. As a result, there would be no additional financial burden on local election authorities for implementation of this bill. Almost 1,600 League members across the state believe the state should be using available federal funding to help election authorities make it easier for all eligible voters to cast their ballots at local, state and federal elections. We ask for passage of this legislation. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 324</b>		DATE: <b>2/17/2021</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MO DEL VILLAR</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>8165503327</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE: <b>LEGISLATIVE ASSOCIATE</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>406 WEST 34TH STREET, SUITE 420</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64111</b>
EMAIL: <b>mdelvillar@aclu-mo.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2021 11:23 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

February 17, 2021 House Elections and Elected Officials Committee Chairman Shaul HB 324 Dear Honorable Representatives: Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony today. On behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri and our approximately 15,000 supporters statewide, I would like to express our support for HB 324. Visually-impaired Missourians deserve equal access to the most fundamental right of citizenship in our democratic process. HB 324 provides for the use of and access to a federally compliant voting machine for statewide and local elections that would allow blind and visually impaired individuals to exercise their right to an independent and private vote. This legislation would further ensure that those who wish to vote without being hindered by their vision can do so with little issue from local elected officials. In order to cast their vote today, a visually impaired or blind voter must rely on assistance from family, friends, or a polling place volunteer. They must also depend on that person to cast their vote without the opportunity all other voters have to verify that the correct selection was made. There is an exception made in statute to allow for more than one person in a voting booth to allow for assistance to the blind and visually impaired. While the Secretary of State has rules for personal assistance at the ballot for those who "cannot read or write, are blind or have another physical disability" to bring in someone to help them vote or have a poll worker assist them, this bill moves access and inclusivity in the right direction to lift barriers so that these Missourians can independently participate in their government. I strongly urge you to vote "yes" on this legislation and I look forward to your questions. Sincerely, Mo Del Villar Legislative Associate ACLU of Missouri



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 324</b>		DATE: <b>2/17/2021</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>OTTO FAJEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-3202</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI NEA</b>		TITLE: <b>LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR</b>
ADDRESS: <b>1810 EAST ELM STREET</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>otto.fajen@mnea.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/16/2021 9:16 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Missouri NEA Testimony on HB 324 to the House Elections and Elected Officials Committee February 17, 2021 Otto Fajen, MNEA Legislative Director The Association appreciates the opportunity to present written testimony regarding HB 324. The Association supports the bill as filed. HB 324 would require election authorities to have at least one electronic voting machine per polling location for blind or visually impaired voters. The Association supports efforts to remove barriers and allow all eligible citizens to vote and to participate in the political process. The Association supports the bill. On behalf of the Association, I thank you for the opportunity to offer our testimony on this bill. Otto Fajen MNEA Legislative Director



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 324</b>		DATE: <b>2/17/2021</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>ArnieDienoff@Yahoo.Com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2021 1:36 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am Opposed to this Bill. Citizens with a hearing or eye disability shall be able to vote on machines, like all Missourians with out assistance from staff, who may interfere with a vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 324</b>		DATE: <b>2/17/2021</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ERIC FEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-615-1950</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>425 NORTHWEST PLAZA DRIVE</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. ANN</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63074</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2021 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			