

## Truly Agreed Summaries

### ----- HCS HB 105 -- CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN STATE PROPERTY

This bill authorizes the Governor to convey:

- (1) Land located in Miller County, as provided in the bill, to the City of Osage Beach in Camden County. The ordinances of the City of Osage Beach will be in force and effect on the land conveyed to it in Miller County.
- (2) Land located in Jackson County, as provided in the bill, to the State Highways and Transportation Commission.
- (3) Land located in Webster County, as provided in the bill, to the State Highways and Transportation Commission.

For the land conveyed by the Governor, the Office of Administration must set the terms and conditions for the conveyance, and the Attorney General will approve the form of the instrument of conveyance.

### ----- SS SCS HB 121 -- VULNERABLE PERSONS

#### NEWBORN SAFETY INCUBATORS (Section 210.950)

Currently, newborn safety incubators are authorized to be installed in certain locations for a relinquishing parent to leave a newborn child, up to 45 days of age, without fear of prosecution. This bill modifies the age limit of a newborn infant that can be brought to a newborn safety incubator from 45 days old to 90 days old.

Additionally, the bill creates the "Safe Place for Newborns Fund", and provides that the State of Missouri will match moneys in the amount of up to \$10,000 per installation of newborn safety incubators.

#### ADOPTION (Sections 135.315 and 453.650)

This bill establishes a fund and an accompanying tax credit known as the "Zero-Cost Adoption Fund Act". There is created in the State Treasury the "Zero-Cost Adoption Fund", which will be administered by the Department of Social Services and of which moneys must be used to:

- (1) Assist Missouri residents in paying for nonrecurring adoption expenses;
- (2) Provide post-adoption assistance;
- (3) Promote adoption and recruit potential adoptive families; and

(4) Support community-based intervention methods to prevent children from entering foster care;

Priority must be given to adoptions of children out of foster care, though funds can be used for in-state or out-of-state adoptions provided that the person seeking to adopt a child is a Missouri resident.

For all years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, a qualified taxpayer, as defined in the bill, is allowed to claim a tax credit against his or her State tax liability in an amount equal to 100% of his or her qualifying contribution to the Fund. The amount of the credit that is claimed cannot exceed 50% of the qualified taxpayer's State tax liability for the tax year for which the credit is claimed.

Additionally, the tax credits authorized under the provisions of this bill cannot be transferred, sold, assigned, or otherwise conveyed, and are not refundable. The cumulative amount of tax credits that can be allocated to qualified taxpayers in the first year of this program cannot exceed \$5 million, and such amount will be annually adjusted by the Department of Revenue for inflation; the annual increase will stop when the cumulative amount of tax credits that can be allocated reaches \$75 million.

The bill also outlines responsibilities of the Department, including rulemaking, reallocating unused tax credits, and establishing a procedure that ensures the cumulative amount of tax credits that can be allocated under the program will be allowed on a first-come, first-served basis from the beginning of the calendar year until August 1.

This bill sunsets on December 31st, six years after the effective date.

#### TAX CREDITS (Sections 135.600 and 135.621)

Currently, a qualified taxpayer, as described in the bill, who contributes to a qualifying maternity home can receive a tax credit equal to 70% of his or her contribution, but is not allowed to claim a credit over \$50,000 in a tax year.

This bill increases the limit that a taxpayer can claim to no more than \$100,000 in a tax year.

Current law authorizes a tax credit for contributions made to diaper banks. This bill authorizes contributes to national diaper banks and defines that term.

Currently, the tax credit sunsets on December 31, 2024. This bill extends the sunset until December 31, 2031.

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#### SS SCS HCS HBs 145 & 59 -- DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN RECORDS

This bill allows for the closure of certain records under the Sunshine law.

This bill authorizes a public governmental body to close records that contain individually identifiable information of a minor 17 years of age and under held by a city, town, village, or park board, except when the records are requested by the Division of Labor Standards within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for the purpose of enforcing Chapter 294 RSMo, regarding child labor. It also authorizes the closing of records containing individually identifiable billing and usage records for customers of a utility operated by a political subdivision or customer information for visitors who make a camping, lodging, or shelter reservation for a Missouri state park, a county or municipal park, or a state historic site unless the records are requested by the visitor or authorized for release by the visitor. Records that protect the specific location of a plant or animal species that is considered endangered, threatened, imperiled, or vulnerable may also be closed under the provisions of this bill when the known location of the plant or animal can increase the risk to the specific species.

This bill also amends the Judicial Privacy Act to replace the definition for "judicial officer" with a definition for "court-related officer", which includes various judges, prosecuting and circuit attorneys, circuit clerks, court administrators, deputy circuit clerks, division clerks, municipal clerks, and juvenile officers and chief deputy juvenile officers. The definition of "written request" is amended to exclude a court-related officer's personal information. The bill specifies that the prohibition on a government agency publicly posting or displaying publicly available content of a court-related officer does not apply to a court-related officer's personal information that is included in any records of court proceedings of this State contained in any Statewide court automation system.

Currently, the payment of copying fees for public records can be requested before copies have been made. This changes that option to allow the payment of fees before the request is fulfilled, and provides that requests for public records to public governmental bodies are to be considered withdrawn if the individual requesting those records fails to remit fees within 90 days, or 150 days if the fees exceed \$1,000, of a request for payment of fees by the public body prior to the fulfillment of the request. The governmental body is required to give notice to the individual requesting the records that the request will be considered withdrawn if payment is not received by the specified time frames. Additionally, if the governmental body reaches out to obtain clarification on a request, and that request is not responded to following the same time frames as the payment of fees, the request must be considered withdrawn. If the same or a substantially similar request is made within six months following the expiration of the 90-day or 150-day time frames, and no fee had been remitted or no clarification offered during the previous request, the governmental body has the authority to request payment of fees for the original request as well as any allowable fees required to fulfill the subsequent request.

Any request for records to a public governmental body that is pending as of August 28, 2025, is to be considered withdrawn if the requester fails to remit payment for fees by January 1, 2026. However, these provisions do not apply if a lawsuit has been filed against the public governmental body regarding the records that are the subject of the relevant request.

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SS#2 SCS HB 147 -- RETIREMENT

SHERIFFS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (Sections 57.280 to 57.967, 488.435 & the repeal of sections 57.955, 57.962, 483.088 & 488.024)

This bill provides that fees collected for service of process, which are not to exceed \$75,000, rather than \$50,000, in any year, will be held in a county fund to be expended at the sheriff's discretion for the furtherance of his or her duties. Any such funds in excess of \$75,000, rather than \$50,000, in any calendar year will be placed to the credit of the county's General Revenue Fund.

Currently, sheriffs receive a \$10 fee for service of any summons, writ, subpoena, or other court order and such moneys are deposited in the Deputy Sheriff Salary Supplementation Fund for the purpose to supplement the salaries and resulting employee benefits of county deputy sheriffs. This bill provides that the sheriff of any county of the first, second, or fourth classification or with a charter form of government will receive a \$20 fee for the service and sheriffs in third class counties will receive a \$15 fee for the service. The Missouri State Treasurer will deposit \$10 of the money received for any county of the first, second, or fourth classification in the Deputy Sheriff Salary Supplementation Fund, and \$10 of the moneys received in the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund. For moneys received for any county of the third classification, \$10 will be deposited in the Deputy Sheriff Salary Supplementation Fund and \$5 in the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund. Moneys collected from counties where the sheriff is not a member of the Sheriffs' Retirement System ("System") will be deposited in total in the Deputy Sheriff Salary Supplementation Fund.

Current law provides that the Board of the sheriffs' retirement System is required to proportion the benefits according to funds available if insufficient funds are generated to provide for the benefits that are payable. This bill repeals this provision.

This bill also clarifies provisions relating to the employer pick-up under the Internal Revenue Code, which provides that a governmental entity can designate the contributions as employee contributions, but the employer pays the employee contribution to the system from the employee's salary.

This bill authorizes the Department of Corrections to subtract and pay to the State Treasurer, from any per diem cost of incarceration that is received by a county with a sheriff that participates in the System, or from any per diem cost for jail reimbursement that is received by the county, an amount of \$1.75 per day per prisoner. The State Treasurer will deposit the moneys in the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund. If the System is funded at a 90% actuarially sound level and at a level above the actuarial needs of the System, then only \$1 per day, per prisoner, of the reimbursement will be deducted and deposited in the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund. The System will annually provide a copy of its actuarial report to the Department. This provision will go into effect on January 1, 2026.

Finally, this bill repeals the provisions related to the assessment of a \$3 fee in criminal and civil cases that is payable to the System.

These provisions are similar to SCS SB 141 (2025) and in HCS HB 558 (2025).

MISSOURI RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Sections 70.630, 70.655, 70.680, 70.690, 70.745, 70.746, 70.747, 70.748 and 105.688)

This bill repeals the provision prohibiting membership in LAGERS for employees where continuous employment to the time of retirement eligibility will leave the employee with less than the minimum required number of years of credited service.

The bill provides that the cost of living adjustment for LAGERS must be a measure of the Consumer Price Index as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor and adopted by the Board of LAGERS, instead of the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. In addition, the bill repeals references to obsolete statutory provisions.

If a member's membership terminates, any accumulated contributions unclaimed by the member within 10 years, instead of the current period of three years, must be transferred to the investment income-expense fund.

The bill provides that the Board of LAGERS can deliberate or make decisions on investments or other financial matters in a closed meeting if the disclosure of such deliberations or decisions would jeopardize the ability to implement a decision or to achieve investment objectives.

In addition, this bill repeals the provision providing that the investment counselor of the Board be registered as an investment advisor with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Further, this bill repeals the limitation that no more than one-tenth of the funds and moneys of the system be invested in real estate funds and real estate investment trusts.

The Board can establish and maintain a local government employee retirement systems of Missouri investment fund account in which investments of LAGERS can be placed and be available for investment purposes. For purposes of investing funds from the retirement system, the funds can be combined with funds of any retirement plan administered by LAGERS and any retirement plan established for providing benefits to employees of LAGERS, but the funds must be accounted for separately.

These provisions are similar to SB 514 (2025).

#### KANSAS CITY POLICE AGE LIMIT (Sections 84.540 and 84.570)

Currently, the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners can authorize and provide for the organization of a police reserve force that consists of qualifying residents of the city, upon the recommendation of the Chief of Police. This bill provides that in the interest of efficiency and public safety, a person cannot serve as a member of the police reserve force following the last day of the month in which the person turns 65 years of age.

Further, in the interest of efficiency and public safety, law enforcement officers defined under federal law, will be separated from service on the last day of the month in which the employee becomes 65 years of age or reaches 35 years of creditable service under the Kansas City Police Retirement System, whichever occurs later.

## POLICE PENSION RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF ST. LOUIS (Section 86.200)

This bill modifies the current definition of "earnable compensation" for the St. Louis Police Retirement System. The compensation must not include any funds received by a member through a judgment or settlement of a legal action if the funds are intended to retroactively compensate for a salary differential between the member's actual rank and the rank the member claims he or she should have received.

## THE FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF ST. LOUIS CITY (Sections 87.140, 87.145, 87.155, 87.260, and 87.350)

This bill specifies that the Board of Trustees of the Firefighter's Retirement System of St. Louis will not be prevented from simultaneously acting as the trustees of any other pension plan that provides retirement, disability, and death benefits for firefighters employed by St. Louis City and the firefighters' covered dependents.

The Board of Trustees can establish rules and regulations for the administration of the funds and for the transaction of such other pension plan's business. The Board of Aldermen can adopt ordinances to govern the pension of firefighters and their covered dependents in any other pension plan that is simultaneously administered by the Board of Trustees of the Retirement System.

The Board of Trustees must maintain separate records of all proceedings of such other pension plan.

Furthermore, this bill specifies that the Board of Trustees will have the authority and discretion to invest and reinvest funds of the other pension plan in property of any kind, real or personal. The Board of Trustees can choose to invest the funds of the Firefighter's Retirement System of St. Louis and the funds of the other pension plan in the same investments if the amounts invested and the gains, profits, or losses are accounted for separately.

No benefits due from the other pension plan will be paid from the funds of the Firefighter's Retirement System.

Additionally, this bill provides that no expenses incurred by the Board of Trustees in the administration of any other pension plan or in the investment of any other pension plan's funds will be paid by the funds of the Firefighter's Retirement System.

## PROXY VOTING AND FIDUCIARY INVESTMENT DUTIES FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT AND PENSION SYSTEMS (Sections 105.688 and 105.692)

Currently, an investment fiduciary has to discharge his or her duties relating to the investment, reinvestment, and management of the assets of the system for the participants, based upon certain specified standards. This bill includes additional standards and provides that the investment fiduciary:

- (1) Cannot be prohibited from closing records, as specified in the bill.

(2) Cannot consider environmental, social, or governance characteristics in a manner that overrides his or her fiduciary duties.

(3) Cannot be subject to legislative, regulatory, or other mandates to invest with environmentally, socially, or other noneconomically motivated influence, unless they are consistent with the fiduciary's responsibilities under the system's governing statutes with respect to investments.

(4) Cannot subject to any legislative, regulatory, or other mandates for divestment from any indirect holdings in actively or passively managed investment funds or in private assets.

The bill provides that all shares of common stock must be voted solely to further the economic interest of the plan participants and prohibits voting to further noneconomic environmental, social, political, ideological, or other goals. The bill also specifies the methods for voting by proxy.

These provisions are the same as HB 657 (2025)

#### DIVESTMENT OF CERTAIN INVESTMENTS OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Section 105.693)

After August 28, 2025, the public retirement and benefit systems must not knowingly invest in a restricted entity or a restricted investment product, as these terms are defined in the bill, to include certain Chinese persons and investments and those listed on the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List published by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and must divest any investment that the system has on behalf of a fund, defined in the bill.

Before December 1, 2025, and annually on or before December first of each subsequent year, the Board is required to make a good faith effort to identify all restricted entities and restricted investment products in which the system holds an investment. The bill sets forth the time period and the standards relating to the divestments in a restricted entity or a restricted investment product that the Board determines needs to be removed from the fund.

On or before December 31, 2025, and annually on or before December 31st of each subsequent year, the Board is required to submit a report to the General Assembly including the information that is specified in the bill.

The bill grants immunity from civil liability to the State and any political subdivision of the State; its officers, agents, and employees; and the board and employees of a system, for any act or omission related to the removal of an asset from a fund and indemnifies the system for all losses, costs, and expenses, as detailed in the bill. The divestment requirements included in the bill do not apply to private market funds or indirect holdings in actively managed investment funds, as indicated in the bill.

This provision is similar to SB 529 (2025) and HCS HB 977 (2025).

PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS – BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Section 169.450)

Currently, there are 11 members on the Board of Trustees of the Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis. This bill increases the Board membership by two members who are appointed for terms of four years by the Missouri Public Charter School Association and who have experience or qualifications relevant to public charter schools and Public School Retirement System of the City of St. Louis. At least one member must be a teacher.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Section 169.490)

This bill removes the provision for the actuary for the retirement system to annually calculate each employer's contribution as an amount equal to a certain percentage of the total compensation of all members employed by that employer. This provision expired on December 31, 2017.

Currently, for calendar years after 2018, the percentage rate of employer contribution payable by the St. Louis Public School District that has established a retirement system for providing retirement benefits to the employees, decreases to one-half of one percent annually until calendar year 2032, when the rate of contribution payable equals nine percent of the total compensation of all members employed by that employer. For calendar years after 2032, the rate of contribution payable by each employer equals nine percent.

Under this bill, the percentage rate of contribution decreases one-half of one percent annually until calendar year 2025 when the rate of contribution payable by each employer equals 12.5% of the total compensation of all members employed by that employer. For calendar year 2026 and each subsequent calendar year, the rate of contribution payable by each employer increases from 9% to 14% of the total compensation of all members employed by that employer.

This provision is similar to HB 1504 (2025) & HB 404 (2025).

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HCS HB 169 -- COTTON TRAILERS

Currently, the maximum speed at which cotton trailers can travel is 40 miles per hour. This bill increases the maximum speed to 70 miles per hour and removes the requirement that the trailer is to be used exclusively for transporting cotton. The bill also specifies that cotton trailers are not in violation of the provisions relating to securing of loads if certain conditions are met and no portion of the load becomes dislodged and falls from the trailer.

This bill is similar to SB 28 (2025).

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SS#2 SCS HB 199 -- POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

This bill creates and modifies numerous provisions relating to political subdivisions.



## CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS (Sections 8.690, 67.5050, and 67.5060)

This bill repeals the September 1, 2026, expiration dates of the authority for political subdivisions to use the construction manager-at-risk and design-build methods for certain construction projects.

## COUNTY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Sections 50.815, 50.820, and 105.145)

Currently, counties of the first classification without a charter form of government are required to prepare and publish in a qualified paper a financial statement for the previous year by the first Monday in March. This bill requires all non-charter counties to prepare and publish in a qualified newspaper a financial statement for the previous year by June 30th. The financial statement also must include the name, office, and current gross annual salary of each elected or appointed county official. The county clerk or other officer responsible for the preparation of the financial statement must preserve the documents relied upon in the making of the financial statements and provide an electronic copy free of charge to any newspaper requesting a copy of the data.

Newspapers publishing the statement are prohibited from charging any more than the standard rate for advertising to publish these financial statements. The county commission will pay the publisher upon the filing of proof of publication and after verification, the state auditor must notify the commission when proof has been received.

The bill repeals the provision that any county treasurer paying or entering for protest any warrant for any commissioner of the county commission prior to the receipt of such notice from the State Auditor will be liable on his official bond.

Currently, any political subdivision that fails to file the required annual financial statement with the State Auditor is subject to a fine. This bill exempts any political subdivision that has gross revenues of less than \$5,000, or that has not levied or collected sales or use taxes, from that fine. It also exempts a political subdivision from the fine if the failure to submit the statement is a result of fraud or other illegal conduct by an officer or employee of the political subdivision if the financial statement is filed within 30 days of the discovery of the fraud or illegal conduct. If a political subdivision has outstanding fines due when filing its first annual financial statement after August 28, 2025, the Director of the Department of Revenue will make a one-time downward adjustment of the total amount due by no less than 90%. In addition, the Director has the authority to make a one-time downward adjustment to any fine he or she deems uncollectable.

## CORONERS (Sections 58.030, 58.095, 58.097, 58.200, 58.208, 193.145, and 193.265)

This bill requires a candidate for the office of coroner to provide evidence of completion of a certification to do death investigations when filing a declaration of candidacy.

Currently, \$1,000 of a coroner's salary is payable only upon completion of 20 hours of classroom instruction per calendar year. This bill applies this salary condition not only to coroners but also to deputy coroners and assistants. The bill repeals a provision of law allowing the coroner in any county not having a charter form of government to, upon approval of the county commission,

receive additional compensation in any month during which more than three investigations are performed.

Criteria for the required 20 hours of classroom instruction are provided in the bill.

Currently, if the office of sheriff becomes vacant, the county coroner fills the role until a new sheriff takes office. This bill allows the coroner to receive the same compensation authorized for the county sheriff, rather than the county coroner salary, during the time he or she is acting as the county sheriff.

Currently, a \$1 fee is collected for every death certificate issued in the State and credited to a fund to be used by the Missouri Coroners' and Medical Examiners' Association for trainings, equipment, and supplies. Any amount remaining in the fund over \$500,000 reverts to the credit of the General Revenue Fund. This bill allows these funds to be used to reimburse coroners' offices for expenses incurred for training attendance. At least \$150,000 must be designated annually for the above-stated purposes. A professional association of the county coroners of Missouri can establish a grant program with money remaining in the fund that can be used to assist coroners' offices, in an amount up to \$5,000 annually per office, with costs associated with investigative tools and equipment; construction, maintenance, or repair of office or forensic laboratory space; and the discharge of death investigation responsibilities. No money remaining in this fund will revert to the credit of the General Revenue Fund.

#### COUNTY PLANNING BOARD HEARING NOTICES (Section 64.231)

This bill requires that notices of county planning board hearings be posted on the county's website and repeals the requirement that the notices be posted at least 15 days in advance of the hearing in at least two places in each township.

#### NUISANCE ACTIONS (Sections 67.399, 67.452, 82.1025, 82.1026, 82.1027, and 82.1031)

This bill creates new provisions relating to nuisance actions in St. Louis County and in any municipality within St. Louis County.

Any property owner who owns property within 1,200 feet of a parcel of property alleged to be a nuisance, as defined in the bill, is authorized to bring a nuisance action against the owner of the offending property for the amount of damage created by the nuisance to the value of the petitioner's property.

Actions for injunctive relief to abate a nuisance can be brought by a neighborhood organization, as defined in the bill, or the owner of property within 1,200 feet of the alleged nuisance. An action cannot be brought until 60 days after notice of intent to bring an action is mailed to the tenant, if any, and the property owner of record at their last known address on file. The notice will state the nuisance and that legal action can be taken if it is not eliminated within 60 days. If the notice is returned, refused, undeliverable, or signed by a person other than the addressee, a copy must be posted on the property. A sworn affidavit by the person who mailed or posted the notice

containing the date and manner the notice was given will be sufficient evidence to establish notice was given. The content of the notice is provided in the bill.

An action for injunctive relief to abate a nuisance will be heard by the court without a jury and will not require proof that the party bringing the action has sustained damage because of the nuisance. When a property owner or neighborhood organization bringing the action prevails, they can be entitled to an award for attorneys' fees and expenses, as ordered by the court, which will be entered as a judgment against the owner of the nuisance property.

If a property owner sued under this process proves that a condition alleged by the plaintiff to be a nuisance is the subject of an order issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, or the Missouri Attorney General, and proves that the property is in compliance with that order, the proof will be an affirmative defense to the plaintiff's claim.

Currently, statute prescribes certain procedures for nuisance actions in St. Louis City and Kansas City. This bill adds any home rule city with a population between 160,000 and 200,000 inhabitants and any home rule city with a population between 71,000 and 79,000 inhabitants to the list of cities these provisions apply to. Upon enactment, this will add Springfield and St. Joseph to these provisions. The bill allows certain actions for injunctive relief to abate a nuisance to be heard by a court without a jury. Currently, property owners or neighborhood organizations that prevail in actions brought against owners of commercial or industrial properties can be awarded reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, as ordered by a court. This bill allows attorneys' fees to be awarded in actions brought against owners of residential properties.

If a property owner sued under this process proves that a condition alleged by the plaintiff to be a nuisance is the subject of an order issued by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, or the Missouri Attorney General, and proves that the property is in compliance with that order, the proof will be an affirmative defense to the plaintiff's claim.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (Section 67.453)

Current law allows neighborhood improvement districts to undertake certain improvements, including improving dikes, levees and other flood control works, gates, lift stations, bridges and streets. This bill provides that such projects can also include river and creek bank erosion mitigation projects, regardless of whether such projects confer a benefit solely to private property owners.

LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX (Sections 67.547, 67.582, 67.597, 67.1366, 67.1367, 94.838, 94.900, 137.1050, 144.757, 321.552, 321.554, and 321.556)

This bill authorizes Ozark County to submit a sales tax to provide law enforcement services. The total combined sales tax rate adopted pursuant to this section cannot exceed 1.5%.

Currently, any county except for Jackson and St. Louis Counties is authorized to impose a 0.5% sales tax for law enforcement services. This bill increases that authorization to 1%.

This bill authorizes Bates County to impose, upon voter approval, a county sales tax of up to 1% for the purpose of supporting the operation of hospital services within the county. The bill provides that all moneys collected will be deposited into the "County Hospital Operations Sales Tax Fund".

Currently, the City of Independence is authorized to impose a tax on the charges for rooms paid by guests of hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, and campgrounds of between 5% and 7% per occupied room, per night. The proceeds from this tax can be used to fund the promotion, operation, and development of tourism. This bill adds the costs of operating a community center to the authorized uses of this tax.

The bill adds the counties of Perry and Ste. Genevieve to the list of counties authorized to impose a transient guest tax at a rate not to exceed six percent for the purpose of the promotion of tourism and includes in that tax, charges for rooms in bed and breakfast inns and campgrounds. Any county that imposed this tax before August 28, 2025, may extend the tax to charges from rooms in bed and breakfast inns and campgrounds without requiring a second vote to authorize such charges..

This bill authorizes the City of Lamar Heights to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax of up to 2% on the gross receipts derived from the retail sales of food by every person operating a food establishment for the current purposes of funding the construction, maintenance, and operation of capital improvements. This provision adds emergency services and public safety to the allowable purposes for which the tax revenue can be used.

This bill authorizes the cities of Sunrise Beach, Hannibal, Moberly, Joplin, and Nevada to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax of up to .05% for the purpose of improving the public safety of the city, limited to expenditures on equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire, and emergency medical providers.

Currently, counties and municipalities are authorized to impose a local use tax if a local sales tax is imposed. This bill permits any political subdivision with the authority to impose a sales tax for emergency services to do so as well.

Currently, upon voter approval, ambulance districts and fire protection districts are authorized to impose a sales tax of up to 0.5% in every county except for St. Louis, St. Charles, Clay, Platte, and Greene. An ambulance district or fire protection district imposing a sales tax authorized by this section must reduce any property tax levy imposed by the district or political subdivision for the purposes of providing ambulance and fire protection services such that the revenue generated by the property tax levy is offset in an amount equal to 50% of the amount of revenue generated by the sales tax imposed pursuant to this bill. Current law authorizes counties to provide a credit for the property tax liabilities of certain seniors. This bill provides that the calculation of such credit shall not include any reduction in emergency services property tax levies.

This bill increases the authorization for the sales tax up to 1%, and repeals statutory language prohibiting ambulance districts and fire protection districts in St. Louis, St. Charles, Clay, Platte, and Greene counties from submitting this tax authorization to voters.

#### COUNTY SPORTS COMPLEX AUTHORITY (Section 67.646)

This bill authorizes Clay County to establish a county sports complex authority for the purpose of developing, maintaining, or operating sports, convention, exhibition, or trade facilities.

The authority will be led by a commission, whose membership and terms of service are provided in the bill. The authority will have the same powers as other county sports complex authorities, as provided by current law.

The county is authorized to establish a "Convention and Sports Complex Fund". This Fund will be separate from the general funds of the county. The General Assembly can annually appropriate up to \$3 million into the Fund, provided that the county or the authority has entered into a contract or lease with a professional sports team on or after January 1, 2026.

To receive appropriations of State money pursuant to the bill, the county must enact ordinances or rules for the purchase of goods and services and for construction of capital improvements for facilities administered by the authority, and commence paying into the Fund an amount sufficient for the county to contribute at least \$3 million per calendar year. Appropriations of State money will not exceed the amount contributed by the county into the Fund. The county must submit an annual report to the General Assembly about the condition of the Fund, as specified in the bill.

#### REGIONAL SPORTS FACILITY (Section 67.1157)

Current law authorizes St. Charles County to establish the St. Charles County Convention and Sports Facilities Authority for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining convention, visitor, and sports facilities.

This bill authorizes the authority to designate a "project", defined as an area for the acquisition, planning, construction, equipping, operation, maintenance, repair, extension, and improvement of a regional sports facility intended to provide year-round sports opportunities.

Project areas designated by the authority will be eligible to receive up to 50% of the estimated incremental increase in state general revenue sales taxes generated by activity located within the project area, subject to appropriation, for a period not to exceed 20 years from the date of completion. A project area will not be eligible for the new state revenues unless the authority imposes the maximum transient guest tax rate allowable by current law.

The Department of Economic Development and the Commissioner of the Office of Administration will jointly evaluate applications for new state revenues, and the revenues will not be distributed until certain conditions are met, as provided in the bill. Information that must be included on the application is specified in the bill.

The bill specifies that the total amount of new state revenues that may be appropriated in any given year cannot exceed \$10 million, and no single project can receive an annual appropriation of more than \$5 million.

#### ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS (Sections 67.1421, 67.1461, and 67.1505)

This bill exempts a proposed entertainment district in the downtown area of St. Louis City from a statutory requirement to file a petition signed by more than 50% of all owners of real property within the proposed district's boundaries in order to be created.

The bill allows entertainment districts to hire and train peace officers certified by the POST commission to enforce laws within the entertainment district. No entertainment district may impose any tax that community improvement districts are authorized to impose by state law.

This bill provides that "state departments", as defined in the bill, may fund entertainment tourism, as defined in the bill, in any entertainment district if application is made to and approved by the Department of Economic Development (DED) by August 28, 2027.

Any annual expenditure by a state department must be limited to a portion of the tax revenues derived directly or indirectly from any promotion, development, and support of entertainment tourism supported by that annual expenditure within the entertainment district. This annual expenditure is subject to the agreement between the entertainment district and the state department. The term of appropriations under such agreement cannot exceed 27 years. The annual appropriation is limited to 2.5 million before June 31, 2031 and 4.5 million after June 30, 2031.

The bill provides that the Director of the DED must make an annual written report on behalf of DED to the Governor and General Assembly within 90 days of the end of the fiscal year. This report must detail the fiscal impact for the State in the prior fiscal year and project the overall net fiscal impact of the annual expenditures to the State over the term of the agreement between the state department and the entertainment district.

#### SPECIAL TAX ASSESSMENT EXEMPTION (Sections 67.1521, 238.230, and 238.232)

This bill provides that all property owned by an entity that is exempt from taxation is exempt from any special assessment levied by a district with taxing authority so long as the property is used in the furtherance of the entity's tax-exempt purposes.

#### THEATER, CULTURAL ARTS, AND ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS (Section 67.2500)

Current law authorizes certain counties to establish a theater, cultural arts, and entertainment district. This bill adds counties that border the Lake of the Ozarks to the list of counties authorized to establish such districts.

#### WATERWAYS AND PORTS TRUST FUND (Section 68.080)

This bill specifies that funds in the Waterways and Ports Trust Fund may only be withdrawn at the request of a Missouri Port Authority for statutorily permitted port purposes and adds the City of St. Louis to the locations in which a capital improvement project may be sited in order to receive an appropriation from the Waterways and Ports Trust Fund.

#### WATER PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED BY THIRD CLASS CITIES (Section 77.150)

Currently, third class cities are authorized to acquire any real and personal property for the purpose of the construction of dams, lake and flood protection systems, bathhouses, therapeutic bathhouses, mineral water vending houses, and for the laying of pipelines for the distribution of mineral waters, provided that the properties are acquired, constructed, and maintained and operated without increasing the indebtedness of the city and are not paid for, maintained, or operated by taxes. This bill repeals the prohibition on the use of indebtedness or taxes for the construction and operation of such projects.

#### NONELECTED BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF CERTAIN FOURTH CLASS CITIES (Section 79.235)

This bill authorizes the mayor of any city of the fourth classification with fewer than 3,000 inhabitants to, if authorized, appoint a member of a nonelected board or commission, and if members of the board or commission are required to be residents of the city, the residency requirement is satisfied if the person appointed owns real property or a business in the city.

This bill authorizes the mayor of any city of the fourth classification with fewer than 3,000 inhabitants to, if authorized to appoint a member of a nonelected board that manages a municipal utility, and if members of the board are required to be residents of the city, the residency requirement is satisfied if the:

- (1) Board cannot set utility rates or issue bonds;
- (2) Appointee resides within five miles of the city limits;
- (3) Appointee owns real property or a business in the city;
- (4) Appointee is a customer of the utility managed by the board; and
- (5) Appointee has no pecuniary interest in any utility.

The provisions of this bill do not apply to any city within St. Louis County.

#### CONTRACTS WITH PUBLIC ENTITIES (Sections 107.170 and 513.455)

This bill adds the definition of a "public official" as it relates to public works contracts and modifies the definition of "public entity".

Current law requires public entities, when contracting for certain public works, to require the contractor to furnish a bond. This bill clarifies that the requirement only applies to property exempt from attachment and execution.

Currently, courthouses, jails, clerks' offices, and other buildings and the lots on which they stand owned by a county or municipality, as well as all burial grounds, are exempt from attachment and execution. This bill expands the exemption to other lands owned by the State; any public body corporate and politic; any county, city, town, municipality; any road, water, sewer, fire, library, hospital, or school district; and any other political subdivision of this State.

The bill allows the State or any entity specified above to consent to have certain projects and the lands thereon, that are, or are intended to be, leased primarily to a private entity for nongovernmental use to become subject to the attachment of mechanics' liens filed under Chapter 429, RSMo if the consent is in writing, contains a legal description of the property subject to the attachment, and is acknowledged by an authorized official in a form that can be and is recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds for the county where the property is located. If such consent has been executed, no bond is required for the contracted work, from either the contractor or the public entity's lessee

Currently, a school board member is not required to independently confirm that a bond company exists and is solvent if a contractor represents that it is, but the school board member is not exempt from liability if he or she has actual knowledge of the insolvency or does not in good faith comply with the law in requiring the contractor to have a sufficient lawful bond. The bill expands both the lack of duty to verify the status of the bond company and the lack of exemption from liability for actual knowledge regarding a bond company from a school board member to all public officials.

#### ASSESSMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES (Section 137.115)

Currently, the assessor of each county must use the October issue of the National Automobile Dealers' Association Official Used Car Guide (NADA) to determine the true value of motor vehicles.

This bill allows the State Tax Commission (STC) to choose a nationally recognized automotive trade publication such as the NADA, Kelley Blue Book, Edmunds, or another similar publication. The assessor of each county will then use the trade-in value published in the current October issue of the publication selected by the STC. For any vehicle with a true value of less than \$50,000 as of January 1, 2025, the assessor may not assess the motor vehicle for an amount greater than the vehicle was assessed in the previous year.

This provision is effective January 1, 2026.

#### PURCHASES OF PROPERTY BY LAND BANKS (Section 140.984)

Currently, for purchases of real property not made through a foreclosure sale or other certain circumstances, a land bank agency can only purchase real property if that property is adjacent to real property already owned by such agency. This bill repeals that restriction.



#### SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS (Section 162.014)

This bill prohibits any person convicted of certain crimes from being a candidate for a member or director of a school board in any school district.

#### REGIONAL JAIL DISTRICTS (Sections 221.400, 221.402, 221.405, 221.407, and 221.410)

Currently, if any county wishes to join a district that has already been established, the agreement must be rewritten and reapproved by each member county. This bill adds the requirement that a county wanting to join an existing regional jail district that already levies a sales tax to first obtain approval from its voters to levy that sales tax and provide a rewritten agreement.

The bill adds equipping and maintaining jail facilities and leasing jail properties to the powers authorized to a jail district.

Currently, commissioners of regional jail districts must serve until their successors have been duly appointed. This bill specifies that commissioners must serve until their successors in their county offices have assumed office.

The bill increases the maximum authorized sales tax used to fund a regional jail district to up to 1% of retail sales made in the region and repeals the 12-month required interval between votes for voting on the jail district levy and joining the jail district. This bill expands the expenditures from the tax levy of the regional jail district to include any of the district's authorized purposes. Currently the provisions regarding regional jail districts expire on September 30, 2028; the bill repeals this expiration date.

This bill allows regional jail districts to buy, lease, or sell personal property for authorized purposes. Regional jail districts are authorized to contract with governmental entities, including departments and their instrumentalities, and private entities to house prisoner.

#### SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT (Section 233.425)

This bill requires any special road district located in Bates County to submit to the voters no later than the November 2026 general election a question of whether to dissolve such district. If the voters approve such dissolution, the responsibilities and outstanding obligations of the district shall be transferred to the county.

#### KANSAS CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (Section 238.060)

This bill clarifies that if there is a vacancy on the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority for a commissioner who was appointed from Platte County or Clay County, the mayor of Kansas City must appoint a successor from the panel, with the approval of a majority of the members of the Kansas City Council, submitted by the county commission of the county wherein the vacancy occurred.

#### ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS (Section 311.084)

This bill authorizes alcohol license holders located in entertainment districts established in any county that borders the Lake of the Ozarks to apply to the supervisor of alcohol and tobacco control for an entertainment district special license.

Licensed establishments may sell intoxicating liquor by the drink for consumption within the entertainment district during certain hours as provided in the bill. Patrons of licensed establishments may leave the establishment with a beverage and bring it into other areas of the entertainment district.

Establishments must pay an annual license fee of \$300. Establishments must mark beverage containers in a way that is unique to that licensee. A holder of an entertainment district special license will be solely responsible for alcohol violations occurring at its establishment and in any common areas.

#### CIRCUIT CLERK COMPENSATION (Section 483.083)

This bill amends the base salary structure for circuit clerks by increasing the base salaries, depending on classification of county, starting September 1, 2025. The bill requires an initial appropriation to fully fund the increase before the increase will go into effect.

Currently, the judge in Marion County can order child support payments to be paid through the circuit clerk. This bill repeals this provision.

#### COUNTY DAILY REIMBURSEMENT FOR JAIL SERVICES (Section 550.320)

This bill provides that when a person is sentenced to a term of imprisonment in a correctional center, the Department of Corrections must reimburse the county for the days the person spent in custody at a per diem cost not to exceed \$37.50 per day. The sheriff or, in the case of St. Louis City, the chief executive officer, must certify the total number of days the offender spent in the jail. The sheriff or executive officer will then submit the total number of days to the Department, which will determine whether the expenses are eligible for reimbursement and remit any payment due back to the county. A claim must be submitted no later than two years from when the claim became eligible for reimbursement

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SS SCS HB 225 -- FIRST RESPONDERS

#### SALARIES FOR HIGHWAY PATROL (Section 43.080, RSMo)

Currently, the salary schedule report prepared by the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol must include a comparison of the three largest police departments in the State. This bill requires the report to also include a comparison of the salaries and benefits of police officers employed by the law enforcement agencies located in surrounding states as specified in the bill.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT CLEARANCE RATES (Sections 43.505 and 650.040)

This bill creates provisions related to law enforcement "clearance rates", defined in the bill as the rate at which law enforcement agencies clear an "offense by arrest" or an "offense cleared by exceptional means", also defined in the bill.

This bill requires law enforcement agencies in the State to collect data documenting clearance rates and report the data on a monthly basis to the Department of Public Safety beginning on January 1, 2026. The Department must publish the information quarterly on its website by the 15th of the month following the close of the preceding quarter. The Department must report the information to the Governor, the Missouri Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Commission, the chair of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence, and the chairs of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee and Crime Prevention and Public Safety Committee by July 1, 2027, and every July after. The report will also be available on the Department's website.

The bill creates the "Missouri Violent Crime Clearance Grant Program" within the Department of Public Safety, the purpose of which is to improve law enforcement strategies and initiatives aimed at increasing violent crime clearance rates. The bill describes eligible uses for grant funding as well as to which law enforcement agencies the Department will give priority in awarding grants. Agencies awarded grant funding must report to the Department annually on the activities carried out to reduce violent crime and improve clearance rates during the preceding fiscal year, as specified in the bill.

#### ASSISTANCE FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (Section 44.087)

The bill allows the chief law enforcement executive for any law enforcement agency to request assistance from a law enforcement agency in another jurisdiction, including from outside the State but within the United States. The bill creates provisions for how arrests are handled if executed by an officer outside of his or her jurisdiction. This bill specifies that, for benefits and other employment-related matters, law enforcement officers remain employees of their respective law enforcement agencies throughout any request for assistance.

#### SHERIFFS' FUNDS (Sections 57.280, 57.530, 57.952, 57.956, 57.961, 57.967, and 488.435)

This language specifies that the sheriff's office responsible for serving a summons, writ, or other order of the court will collect the \$20 charge associated with the service rather than the clerk of the court. The sheriff in any first, second, or fourth class county or a county with a charter form of government will receive an additional \$20 for service, and the sheriff in a third class county will receive an additional \$15. The maximum amount of funds that can be collected under the provisions of this section is increased from \$50,000 to \$75,000 in any calendar year, and, of the money received by the State Treasurer for collection of costs for service in a first, second, or fourth class county or a county with a charter form of government, \$10 is to be deposited into the Deputy Sheriff Salary Supplementation Fund, and \$10 is to be deposited into the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund. If money is received from a county that does not have a sheriff that participates in the retirement system, the entire amount will be deposited in the Deputy Sheriff Supplementation Fund. Of the

money received by the Treasurer from a third class county, \$10 is to be deposited into the Sheriffs' Supplementation Fund and \$5 to the retirement fund. If money is received from a county that does not have a sheriff that participates in the retirement system, all the money will be deposited into the supplementation fund.

The bill adds a clarification that a member of the sheriffs' retirement system is required to contribute 5% of the member's pay to the system, unless the employer is a county employer, in which case the employer will pay the contribution that would otherwise be payable by the member.

The bill repeals a provision that requires a \$3 surcharge to be assessed and collected--and deposited in the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund--in all civil actions and criminal cases except in cases where the costs are waived or paid by the state, county, or municipality or when a criminal proceeding or the defendant has been dismissed by the court.

The bill also repeals a provision that requires the Board of Directors of the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund to proportion the benefits if insufficient funds are generated to pay the payable benefits.

The bill requires the annual compensation for sheriff's deputies in the City of St. Louis to be at least \$50,000.

This language requires, starting January 1, 2026, the Department of Corrections to pay to the State Treasurer from any per diem cost of incarceration \$1.75 per day per prisoner and that money will be deposited into the sheriffs' retirement fund. If the fund is funded to at least 90%, the DOC will only send to the Treasurer \$1 per day per prisoner to be deposited into the retirement fund.

#### PEACE OFFICER AGE OF SERVICE (Sections 84.540 and 84.570)

The bill prohibits a person from serving as a member of a police reserve force after the last day of the month in which the person turns 65 years old. A person is prohibited from serving as a law enforcement officer after the last day of the month in which the person turns 65 years old or reaches 35 years of creditable service, whichever occurs later.

#### FIREMEN'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM (Sections 87.140, 87.145, 87.155, 87.260, and 87.350)

This bill provides that the Board of Trustees of the Firemen's Retirement System of St. Louis ("Board") must not be prevented from simultaneously acting as the trustees of any other pension plan that provides retirement, disability, and death benefits for firefighters employed by St. Louis City. The administration of the other plan must be in accordance with the terms of such plan. Additionally, the administration of the other plan includes the ability of the Board to establish rules and regulations for the administration of the plan's funds and for the transaction of the plan's business. The Board shall maintain separate records of all proceedings of the pension plan.

This bill provides that the Board of Trustees has the authority and discretion to invest funds of the other pension plan in property of any kind. The Board may choose to invest the funds of the Firemen's Retirement System of St. Louis and the funds of the plan in the same investments if the

amounts invested and the gains, profits, or losses are accounted for separately. No benefits due from the pension plan shall be paid from the funds of the System. Additionally, no expenses incurred by the Board in the administration of the other pension plan or in the investment of the other pension plan's funds shall be paid by the funds of the System. Finally, nothing in this bill prevents the Board of Aldermen of St. Louis City from adopting ordinances relating to the pensioning of firefighters and their dependents in regards to other pension plans administered by the Board.

#### AUTHORIZED TAX LEVIES (Sections 94.900, 144.757, 321.552, 321.554 and 321.556)

The bill adds the cities of Joplin, Hannibal, Moberly, Richmond, Warrensburg, Lexington, and Lake Lotawana to the list of cities authorized to impose a sales tax at a rate of up to 0.5% for the purposes of improving public safety.

Current law authorizes counties and municipalities to impose a local use tax if a local sales tax is imposed. This bill extends this authority to any political subdivision with the ability to impose a sales tax for emergency services.

Current law authorizes ambulance and fire protection districts in certain counties to propose a sales tax at a rate of up to 0.5%. This bill allows such districts to propose a sales tax of up to 1.0%, and repeals a prohibition on certain counties imposing such tax.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT ACT (Sections 173.2655 and 173.2660)

This bill establishes the "Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act" to provide college tuition awards for certain public safety personnel and their legal dependents. The bill defines "public safety personnel" as including any police officer, firefighter, paramedic, telecommunicator first responder, emergency medical technician, or advanced emergency medical technician who is trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or treatment. Subject to appropriation, public safety personnel with at least six years of service will be entitled to an award worth up to 100% of the resident tuition charges, including fees, of an institution of higher education located in Missouri if they present to the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (DHEWD) verification of their current, valid license in a profession specified in the bill, along with a certificate of verification signed by their employer verifying that they are employed full-time as public safety personnel. The individuals must also meet all admission requirements of the public institution of higher education and pursue an associate or baccalaureate degree in an academic subject specified in the bill. Individuals who have already earned a baccalaureate degree are ineligible to use the tuition award to earn another degree. Each year an individual applies for and receives a tuition award, he or she must file with DHEWD documentation showing proof of employment and proof of residence in Missouri. Additionally, an applicant for a tuition award must first apply for all other forms of Federal and State student financial aid, including filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and, if applicable, applying for financial assistance under the G.I. Bill.

A legal dependent of public safety personnel with at least 10 years of service is also eligible for a tuition award if he or she executes an agreement with a public institution of higher education

outlining the terms and conditions of the tuition award, including the legal dependent's commitment to reside in Missouri for the next five years, as well as a commitment to provide a copy of his or her State income tax return annually to DHEWD in order to prove residency in Missouri. The agreement must also include a provision that, if the tuition award recipient fails to provide proof of residency in Missouri for the five-year period following the use of the tuition award, the tuition award must be treated as a loan to the recipient, with the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority as the loan servicer, as provided in the bill. Finally, the agreement must provide that any residency, filing, or payment obligation incurred by the tuition award recipient under the bill is canceled in the event of the tuition award recipient's total and permanent disability or death.

The five-year residency requirement for a legal dependent who receives a tuition award begins once the legal dependent applies for and receives the tuition award and continues until the tuition award recipient:

- (1) Completes the five-year tuition award eligibility period;
- (2) Completes a baccalaureate degree;
- (3) Completes an associate degree and notifies DHEWD that he or she does not intend to pursue a baccalaureate degree or additional associate degree using tuition awards; or
- (4) Notifies DHEWD that he or she does not plan to use additional tuition awards.

The legal dependent must satisfy certain criteria to be eligible for a tuition award. The legal dependent must not have previously earned a baccalaureate degree, and he or she must meet all admission requirements of the public institution of higher education he or she wishes to attend. The legal dependent will also file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and, if applicable, apply for financial assistance under the G.I. Bill, as well as providing verification of the public safety personnel's eligibility for the tuition award to DHEWD, as provided in the bill.

Public safety personnel and their legal dependents can receive a tuition award for up to five consecutive years if they otherwise continue to be eligible. The five years of eligibility starts once the individual applies for and receives the tuition award for the first time. DHEWD must grant an award worth up to 100% of the individual's tuition remaining due after subtracting awarded federal financial aid grants and state scholarships and grants. An application for a tuition award must include a verification of the public safety personnel's satisfaction of the requirements of the act, including proof of full-time employment and residency status. Public safety personnel must include the verification when they or their legal dependents are applying to DHEWD for a tuition award.

The death of public safety personnel in the line of duty will not disqualify an individual's otherwise eligible legal dependent from receiving the tuition award. In such a case, in lieu of submitting verification of the public safety personnel's employment, the legal dependent must submit a statement attesting that, at the time of death, the public safety personnel satisfied the requirements of the act, and the individual died in the line of duty, as specified in the bill.

DHEWD will provide a tuition award to an eligible applicant for the award who applies for an "open seat", defined in the bill as a vacant position in a class, course, or program that is available for enrollment. DHEWD will not provide a tuition award if doing so would require a public institution of higher education to create additional seats exceeding program capacity.

Applications for tuition awards must be submitted to DHEWD no later than December 15th, annually. No later than March 1st annually, DHEWD will send written notice of the applicant's eligibility or ineligibility for the tuition award and state whether the application has been approved or denied. If the applicant is determined not to be eligible for the tuition award, the notice must include the reason or reasons for the determination. If the application is denied, the notice must include the reason or reasons for the denial.

The "Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Fund" is created for purposes of granting tuition awards as provided in the bill. In the event that funds are insufficient to provide tuition awards for all eligible applicants, public safety personnel will be in the first class of applicants to receive the awards, and dependents will be in the second class, in a priority order specified in the bill.

The tuition awards provided for in this bill are subject to appropriation. If there are no moneys in the Fund, no tuition awards will be granted.

AMBULANCE SERVICES (Sections 190.053, 190.076, 190.101, 190.109, 190.112, 190.166, 190.800, 321.552, 321.554, and 321.556)

The bill modifies training requirements for members of an ambulance district board of directors. Under this bill, board members must complete three hours of continuing education for each term of office. Failure to do so will result in immediate disqualification and the office will be vacant until filled.

The bill requires each ambulance district to arrange for an audit of the district's records and accounts every three years by a certified public accountant. The audit must be made available to the public on the district's website or otherwise freely available by other electronic means.

This bill modifies the State Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services by changing the number of council members from 16 to no more than 23 and specifying the members who shall serve on the Council. Currently, members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Under this bill, the Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services, the regional EMS advisory committees, and the Time-Critical Diagnosis Advisory Committee shall appoint members.

The Department of Health and Seniors Services, as a part of regulating ground ambulance service licenses, will promulgate rules regarding participation with regional emergency medical services advisory committees and ambulance service administrator qualifications.

The bill requires ambulance services to report to the Department individuals serving as ambulance service administrators. These administrators are required to complete training as provided in the bill.

The Department may refuse to issue, deny renewal of, or suspend a license required for ground ambulance services or take other corrective actions if the license holder is determined to be financially insolvent, has inadequate personnel for the service provided, requires an inordinate amount of mutual aid from neighboring services, has been determined to be criminally liable for actions related to the license or service provided, has been determined to be ineligible for participation in Medicare or MO HealthNet, whose ambulance district administrator has failed to meet the required qualifications or training, or if three or more board members have failed to complete required training. If the Department makes a determination of insolvency or insufficiency of services, then the Department may require the license holder to submit and complete a corrective plan, as specified in the bill.

The Department is required to provide notice of any determination of insolvency or insufficiency of services to other license holders operating in the license holder's vicinity, members of the General Assembly who represent that area, other governing officials, the appropriate regional emergency medical services advisory committee, and the State Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services. The Department must immediately engage with other license holders in the area to determine how ground ambulance services may be provided to the affected area during the service disruption. Assisting license holders may be compensated for the assistance as provided in the bill.

For the purposes of reimbursement allowance taxes, current law exempts ambulance services that are owned and operated by an entity owned and operated by the state of Missouri from being required to pay an ambulance service reimbursement allowance tax. This bill repeals that exemption.

#### SPECIALTY HOSPITALS (Section 197.135)

This bill exempts specialty hospitals from certain provisions of state law relating to forensic examinations of victims of sexual assault if that hospital has a policy for the transfer of those individuals to an appropriate hospital with an emergency department.

#### LINE OF DUTY COMPENSATION ACT (Section 287.243)

Currently, a claim for compensation for a public safety officer killed in the line of duty must be filed within one year and the compensation is \$25,000. This bill changes the time frame to two years and increases the amount to \$100,000. The bill also adds death by illness as qualifying for compensation under the Line of Duty Compensation Act. The bill repeals the sunset date for the Act.

#### AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES (Sections 300.100 and 304.022)

This bill adds a vehicle operated by a county or municipal park ranger to the definition of "emergency vehicle." The bill provides that an authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle is not required to use an audible signal or display a visual signal when the vehicle is being used to get evidence of a speeding violation; respond to a suspected crime in progress when use of an audible or visual signal, or both, could reasonably result in the destruction of evidence or escape



of a suspect; or conduct surveillance of a vehicle or the passengers of a vehicle who are suspected of involvement in a crime.

#### ACCIDENT CLEARANCE IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS (Section 304.153)

This bill allows a firefighter in the City of St. Louis to authorize a towing company to remove a vehicle from the scene of an accident or to remove a vehicle that poses an immediate traffic hazard.

#### MILITARY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (Section 324.009)

Current law requires an oversight body for professional licenses to waive any examination, educational, or experience requirements within 30 days for a resident military spouse or a nonresident military spouse and issue the applicant a license if the applicant meets all other requirements. This bill provides a waiver to resident and nonresident spouses of Missouri law enforcement officers.

#### RENDERING EMERGENCY CARE (Section 537.038)

The bill allows a person to render emergency care or assistance at the scene of an emergency or accident without compensation and without being liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions other than damages occasioned by gross negligence or by willful or wanton acts or omissions by the person in rendering the emergency care.

#### INTERFERENCE WITH A FIRST RESPONDER (Section 574.207)

This bill creates the offense of interference with a first responder, which is a class B misdemeanor for a first offense and a class A misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense. A person commits the offense when a person has received a verbal warning not to approach from a first responder who is engaged in the lawful performance of a legal duty and the person knowingly and willfully violates the verbal warning and approaches within 20 feet with the intent to:

- (1) Impede or interfere with the first responder's ability to perform his or her legal duty;
- (2) Threaten the first responder with physical harm; or
- (3) Engage in conduct directed at a first responder that intentionally causes emotional distress and serves no legitimate purpose.

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#### HB 262 -- ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES FOR VETERANS

This bill establishes the "Veterans Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment and Recovery Act".

The bill creates the "Veterans Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment and Recovery Fund", which will reimburse facilities that provide hyperbaric oxygen therapy to veterans diagnosed with

posttraumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injury, and be used to conduct studies on the use of alternative therapies for such conditions.

The bill specifies the eligibility criteria and requirements for veterans, facilities, and health care practitioners for reimbursement.

The Missouri Veterans Commission must compile an annual report with data about the treatment of hyperbaric oxygen therapy and its effectiveness. The information collected for the report is specified in the bill.

The bill grants the Missouri Veterans Commission the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of the Act.

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HCS HBs 296 & 438 -- SCHOOL PERSONNEL

#### RETIRED SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS (Section 168.036)

Currently, the limitations for members of the Public School Retirement System and the Public Education Employee Retirement Systems ("PSRS/PEERS") to work as a substitute teacher after retirement are waived until June 30, 2025. The bill waives such limitations until June 30, 2030.

#### BACKGROUND CHECKS (Section 168.133)

This bill requires background checks to be conducted not only on school bus drivers, but also on the drivers of other vehicles owned by school districts and charter schools. For drivers employed or contracted by a pupil transportation company that is under contract with a school district or charter school, the pupil transportation company must conduct the criminal background check.

Currently, school districts must ensure that criminal background checks are conducted for all screened volunteers and employees of the school district that are authorized to have contact with students. The bill extends the same requirements to charter schools and removes specific examples of such screened volunteers and employees.

#### SCHOOL BUS ENDORSEMENT DRIVERS LICENSE EXAMINATIONS (Sections 302.177, 302.272, and 302.735)

Currently, for persons 70 years and older who have school bus endorsements on their drivers license, the license is issued or renewed for only one year at a time, the renewal fee is waived, the school bus portion of the drivers license examination must be taken annually, and a commercial drivers license with a school bus endorsement must be issued annually.

This bill changes the age for these specific provisions to age 75 or over. The bill also changes the annual requirements to biennial requirements.

## SS#2 HB 419 -- EDUCATION

### TUITION FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL (Sections 41.890 and 173.1153)

This bill clarifies that specified military service personnel, their spouses, and their unemancipated children under 24, individuals serving in the Missouri National Guard, and any individuals serving in a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States, be considered Missouri residents for the purposes of any undergraduate or graduate degree program in Missouri institutions of higher education.

### STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION REQUIREMENTS (Section 160.701).

This language prohibits a statewide activities association from requiring an active-duty member of the US uniformed services, National Guard, or Reserves from meeting a minimum number of practices in order for such individual to be a member of a team or group.

### DEGREES OFFERED BY UNIVERSITIES (Sections 172.280 and 174.160).

Currently only the University of Missouri can offer research doctorates, doctor of philosophy degrees or specific first professional degrees. This bill allows the Missouri State University to have the power to grant philosophy degrees in disciplines other than engineering and a bachelor of science degree in veterinary technology.

This provision is similar to SB 150 (2025) and SB 160 (2025).

### VETERANS DAY (Section 172.345).

This bill provides that Veterans Day will be a public holiday for all employees of the University of Missouri System.

This provision is similar to SB 627 (2025).

### THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI'S SEMINARY FUND (Sections 172.640, 172.650, 172.651, 172,660, 172.661, and 172.720).

This bill provides that the University of Missouri must enter into an agreement with the State Treasurer to establish a separate custodial account in which the moneys in the University's Seminary Fund must be deposited and held. The University must invest the moneys in government bonds as provided in current law, and can withdraw the earnings on such bonds and use any such withdrawals for the maintenance of the University, as provided in the bill. The University must provide financial reports on the custodial account to the State Treasurer annually.

The bill repeals provisions relating to the State Treasurer's current duties as custodian of the Seminary Fund.

These provisions are similar to SB 627 (2025).

#### COURSE CREDIT FOR INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE EXAM (Section 173.1352).

This bill requires public institutions of higher education to adopt a policy for undergraduate course credit for any student who receives a score of four or higher on an International Baccalaureate exam.

This provision is similar to SB 243 (2025).

#### PUBLIC SAFETY RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ACT (Sections 173.2655 and 173.2660).

This bill establishes the "Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act" to provide free college tuition for certain public safety personnel and their legal dependents. The bill defines "public safety personnel" as including any police officer, firefighter, paramedic, telecommunicator first responder, emergency medical technician, or advanced emergency medical technician who is trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or treatment. Subject to appropriation, public safety personnel with at least six years of service shall be entitled to a waiver of 100% of the resident tuition charges of a public institution of higher education if they present to the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (DHEWD) verification of their current, valid license in a profession specified in the Act, along with a certificate of verification signed by their employer verifying that they are employed full-time as public safety personnel. Such individuals must also meet all admission requirements of the public institution of higher education and pursue an associate or baccalaureate degree in an academic subject specified in the Act. Individuals who have already earned a baccalaureate degree are ineligible to use the tuition waiver to earn another degree. Each year an individual applies for and receives a tuition waiver, he or she must file with DHEWD documentation showing proof of employment and proof of residence in Missouri. Additionally, an applicant for a tuition waiver must first apply for all other forms of federal and state student financial aid and provide evidence of such to the public institution of higher education.

The legal dependent of public safety personnel with at least ten years of service is also eligible for a tuition waiver if he or she executes an agreement with the public institution of higher education outlining the terms and conditions of the tuition waiver, including the legal dependent's commitment to reside in Missouri for the next five years, as well as a commitment to provide a copy of his or her state income tax return annually to DHEWD in order to prove residency in Missouri. The agreement must also include a provision that if the tuition waiver recipient fails to provide proof of residency in Missouri for the five-year period following the use of the tuition waiver, he or she must repay the public institution of higher education the amount of tuition that was waived. Any repayment received will be remitted by the institution to DHEWD in full or deducted from future reimbursements to the institution from the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Fund created in the bill, as determined in accordance with rules promulgated by DHEWD. Finally, the agreement must provide that any residency, filing, or payment obligation incurred by the tuition waiver recipient under the bill is canceled in the event of the tuition waiver recipient's total and permanent disability or death.

The five-year residency requirement for a legal dependent who receives a tuition waiver begins once the legal dependent applies for and receives the tuition waiver and continues until the tuition waiver recipient:

- (1) Completes the five-year tuition waiver eligibility period;
- (2) Completes a baccalaureate degree;
- (3) Completes an associate degree and notifies DHEWD that he or she does not intend to pursue a baccalaureate degree or additional associate degree using tuition waivers, or
- (4) Notifies DHEWD that he or she does not plan to use additional tuition waivers.

The legal dependent must satisfy certain other criteria to be eligible for a tuition waiver. The legal dependent must not have previously earned a baccalaureate degree, and he or she must meet all admission requirements of the public institution of higher education he or she wishes to attend. The legal dependent must also complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and provide verification of the public safety personnel's eligibility for the tuition waiver to the public institution of higher education, as provided in the bill.

Public safety personnel and their legal dependents may receive a tuition waiver for up to five consecutive years if they otherwise continue to be eligible. The five years of eligibility starts once the public safety personnel or legal dependent applies for and receives the tuition waiver for the first time. A public institution of higher education must waive 100% of the individual's tuition remaining due after subtracting awarded federal financial aid grants and state scholarships and grants. An application for a tuition waiver must include a verification of the public safety personnel's satisfaction of the requirements of the Act, including proof of full-time employment and residency status. Public safety personnel must include this verification when they or their legal dependents are applying to a public institution of higher education in order to obtain a tuition waiver upon initial enrollment.

The death of public safety personnel in the line of duty does not disqualify an individual's otherwise eligible legal dependent from receiving the tuition waiver. In such a case, in lieu of submitting verification of the public safety personnel's employment, the legal dependent must submit a statement attesting that, at the time of death, the public safety personnel satisfied the requirements of the bill, and the individual died in the line of duty, as specified in the bill.

No later than March 1st, annually, the public institution of higher education must send written notice of the applicant's eligibility or ineligibility for the tuition waiver and state whether the application has been approved or denied. If the applicant is determined not to be eligible for the tuition waiver, the notice must include the reason or reasons for the determination. If the application is denied, the notice must include the reason or reasons for the denial.

The Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Fund is created for purposes of reimbursing public institutions of higher education for awarding the tuition waivers. In the event that funds are insufficient to provide tuition waivers for all eligible applicants, public safety personnel will be in

the first class of applicants to receive the waivers, and dependents will be in the second class, in a priority order as specified in the bill.

The tuition waivers provided for in this bill are subject to appropriation. If there are no moneys in the Fund, no tuition waivers can be awarded.

These provisions are to HB 496 (2025) and SCS SB 71 (2025).

IMMERSIVE LEARNING (Section 174.231).

This bill adds health and life sciences and immersive learning experiences to the mission of Missouri Southern State University.

This provision is similar SB 279 (2025).

MISSOURI STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (Sections 191.600, 191.603, 191.605, 191.607, 191.611, 191.614, and 191.615)

This bill modifies provisions relating to the existing "Health Professional Student Loan Repayment Program" by renaming it to the "Missouri State Loan Repayment Program (MOSLRP)" and expanding the program to include those who have graduated from an accredited graduate training program in a discipline designated by the Department of Health and Senior Services.

Current law requires, in order to be eligible to participate in the program, that a person is enrolled as either a full-time medical student, dental student, or chiropractic student, and is in the final year of course study, or that a person is licensed to practice in these fields. This provision and the designation for an area in need of chiropractic services are repealed and replaced with the requirements that the person is authorized to practice as any type of health professional and is going to practice in an area of defined need.

The bill requires that 35% of the annual appropriated funds that are allocated to this loan repayment program must be designated for awards to primary care physicians and general dentists, and unused portions of those designated funds will be made available in the same fiscal year to the other types of health professions designated by the Department.

Current law establishes liability to the State for individuals who have entered into written contracts with the Department and who either fail to maintain an acceptable level of academic standing, who voluntarily terminate enrollment, or who are dismissed from the institution; these persons are liable to the State for the amount that has been paid on their behalf under the contract. This bill repeals that provision.

This portion of the bill is similar to HB 720 (2025).

BOOTS-TO-BUSINESS (Section 620.3250).

Current law requires any veteran who receives a small business loan through the State Treasurer's linked deposit program to complete a boots-to-business program approved by the Department of Economic Development. This bill makes participation in the program optional.

These provisions are similar to HB 1562 (2025) and SB 566 (2025).

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SS#2 SCS HCS#2 HB 495 -- PUBLIC SAFETY

#### MISSOURI OFFICE OF PROSECUTION SERVICES (Sections 43.503, 56.265, and 56.750 RSMo)

This bill requires law enforcement agencies in the state to, by January 1, 2028, and thereafter, submit referrals for traffic violations, ordinance violations, misdemeanors, and felonies to a prosecuting or circuit attorney so the Missouri Office of Prosecution Services (MOPS) can keep complete and accurate reports. Any law enforcement agency that fails to comply will be ineligible to receive state or federal funds that would otherwise be paid to the agency for law enforcement, safety, or criminal justice purposes.

Currently, \$2,000 of the authorized salary for the prosecuting attorney is payable to the attorney only if the attorney has completed at least 20 hours of classroom instruction on certain topics each year. This bill changes it to apply to any prosecuting attorney, including in the city of St. Louis. Additionally, \$5,000 of the authorized salary will be payable to a prosecuting attorney only if the attorney has collected the specified data each prosecuting attorney's office is required to collect in a manner approved by the Prosecutors Coordinators Training Council and to make readily accessible to MOPS. Of the authorized salary, \$3,000 will be payable to a prosecuting attorney only if the attorney has provided discovery to criminal defense attorneys who have entered an appearance on behalf of a defendant in a manner approved by the training council. MOPS will provide a certificate of compliance for the relevant requirements to each prosecuting attorney who complies with this provision and will send a list of the certified prosecuting attorneys to the respective treasurer of each county and of the city of St. Louis.

Starting March 31, 2028, and by March 31 of each year thereafter, MOPS will compile a statewide report summarizing certain data, specified in the bill, from the automated case management system. The summary reports will be considered public records, but the individual information compiled by and received from each prosecuting or circuit attorney's office is confidential and will be a closed record and not subject to release.

#### IMMIGRATION STATUS (Section 43.505)

This bill requires every law enforcement agency in the state to submit to the Department of Public Safety any information pertaining to the citizen or immigration status of any person arrested for a reportable offense.

This provision is similar to HB 1147, SCS SB 52 & 44, and SB 583 (2025).

#### ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (Section 44.087)

This bill allows the chief law enforcement executive for any law enforcement agency to request assistance from a law enforcement agency in another jurisdiction, including from outside the State but within the United States. The bill creates provisions for how arrests are handled if executed by an officer outside of his or her jurisdiction. This bill specifies that, for benefits and other employment-related matters, law enforcement officers remain employees of their respective law enforcement agencies throughout any request for assistance.

This provision is the same as HB 225 and SB 92 (2025).

#### SHERIFF OF THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS (Section 57.010)

This bill requires the sheriff of the city of St. Louis to hold a valid peace officer license within two years of being elected sheriff.

This provision is the same as SB 192 (2025).

#### STUNT DRIVING AND STREET TAKEOVERS (Sections 82.1000, 304.012, 304.145)

This bill allows the governing body of certain cities to enact ordinances that would subject to forfeiture the vehicle of a person whose license to operate a motor vehicle suspended or revoked due to a finding of plea of guilty for two or more violations of stunt driving or street takeover committed on separate occasions where in each violation the person was driving and another person was injured or killed or for the offense of aggravated fleeing a stop or detention of a motor vehicle.

The bill creates an offense prohibiting the performance of stunt driving in connection with a street takeover or the performance or participation in a street takeover. The offense is a class B misdemeanor for a first offense, a class A misdemeanor for a second offense, and a class E felony for a third or subsequent offense. A person proven to be a prior, persistent, aggravated, chronic, or habitual offender of stunt driving or street takeovers will not be eligible for a suspended imposition of sentence or to pay a fine in lieu of imprisonment. The bill provides minimum terms of imprisonment or community service before a defendant found to be one of the specified types of offenders will be eligible for probation or parole.

This provision is the same as SCS SBs 52 & 44.

#### BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS (Sections 84.012, 84.020, 84.030, 84.100, 84.160, 84.170, 84.225, 84.325, 105.726, and Section B)

This bill establishes a board of police commissioners made up of the mayor of the city of St. Louis, four citizen commissioners who must be residents of the city of St. Louis for at least two years prior to appointment to the board, and one non-voting commissioner who is a resident of the city of St. Louis or is a resident of a county that adjoins the city of St. Louis but who owns property in the city of St. Louis. The board will assume control of the St. Louis Police Department as well as the obligations and responsibilities of the department.



This bill provides that the city of St. Louis may pass ordinances, including ordinances for preserving order and protecting the public, but no ordinance, charter provision, or initiative petition can conflict or interfere with the powers or the exercise of the powers of the Board of Police Commissioners. Additionally, the mayor or any city officer must not impede or hinder the Board of Police Commissioners. The mayor or any city officer will be liable for a penalty of \$1,000 for each offense to hinder the Board and will forever be disqualified from holding or exercising any office of the city.

The bill creates a funding schedule for the minimum the city must budget to fund the police department, increasing a percentage annually until it reaches a maximum of 25% of the budget in 2028. Currently, the board can create programs to provide additional compensation to employees for successful completion of academic work at an accredited college or university. This bill requires the board to create programs to provide additional compensation for completing academic course work.

These provisions are subject to an emergency clause.

These provisions are similar to SCS SBs 52 & 44 (2025).

#### FACILITIES ALLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO SELF-ADMINISTER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (Section 191.1005)

The bill prohibits a person or entity, with exceptions, from knowingly opening, leasing, renting, owning, using, maintaining, managing, operating, or controlling a facility, site, or building for the purpose of allowing individuals to self-administer preobtained illegally possessed controlled substances. The bill does not affect the good samaritan exception for a person who in good faith seeks or obtains medical assistance for himself or herself or another person who is experiencing an overdose of a controlled substance.

This provision is the same as SCS SBs 52 & 44 (2025).

#### JAILS AND CORRECTIONAL CENTERS (Sections 217.451, 221.108, 221.520, and 221.523)

This bill prohibits a jail or correctional center from charging an inmate or offender, respectively, more than \$.12 per minute for a domestic phone call. The bill also requires jails to provide inmates with reasonable access to phone services but it allows jails to restrict access as a disciplinary measure.

The bill prohibits jails from using restraints on a pregnant offender in her third trimester other than in extraordinary circumstances. Sheriffs or jailers who determine that extraordinary circumstances exist, requiring restraints to be used, must document in writing within 48 hours the reasons he or she determined the extraordinary circumstances existed and the reasons the restraints were deemed reasonable under the circumstances.

This bill requires all city and county jails to develop procedures for the intake and care of pregnant inmates by January 1, 2026, and the bill lists certain items that must be included.

These provisions are the same as provisions in HB 317, HB 916, HB 1090, SB 50, SB 143, and SB 227 (2025)

#### ELECTRONIC MONITORING WITH VICTIM NOTIFICATION (Section 455.095)

The bill repeals the expiration date of the electronic monitoring with victim notification system.

This provision is the same as a provision in SS#2 SCS SB 10 (2025)

#### CRIMINAL INFORMANTS (Sections 491.065 and 595.209)

The bill creates provisions related to criminal informants. The bill provides certain materials and information a prosecuting or circuit attorney who endorses a witness to testify as an informant must disclose to all attorneys of record within 14 days of the endorsement.

The bill adds to the rights of victims of crimes the right to be informed of the name of an informant who has been endorsed as a witness by a prosecuting or circuit attorney and any benefit that has been requested by or offered to the informant and any benefit that may be provided at a future date.

#### CRIMINAL ACTIVITY (Sections 513.605, 556.061, 566.210, 566.211, 568.045, 570.030, 575.133, 575.150, 576.030, and 577.150)

The bill adds offenses under Chapters 301, 304, 311, 409, 491, 567, 571, 572, and 578 to the definition of "criminal activity" under the Criminal Activity Forfeiture Act. The offense of bus hijacking when punished as a class A felony and the offense of planting a bomb or explosive in or near a bus or terminal to the definition of "dangerous felony" in the criminal code.

Currently, the age threshold for the victim of the offense of sexual trafficking of a child in the first degree is under the age of 12. This bill increases the age to under 14. Additionally, a person sentenced under this offense is not eligible for probation or parole until the offender has served at least 25 years of the sentence. The bill increases the minimum term of imprisonment to at least 30 years. This bill also increases the minimum prison term for sexual trafficking of a child in the second degree from at least 10 years to at least 20 years.

The bill amends the offense of endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree to include when a person unlawfully manufactures or attempts to manufacture, compounds, possesses, produces, prepares, sells, transports, tests, or analyzes fentanyl or carfentanil or any analogue thereof in the presence of child under the age of 17 or in a residence where a child under 17 resides. If the offense of endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree involves fentanyl or carfentanil or any analogue thereof, it is a class B felony and it carries a minimum prison term of five years.

The bill adds organized retail theft, defined in the bill, to the offense of stealing. It is a class B felony if a person appropriates property as part of an organized retail theft and the value of the property taken combined with any property damage inflicted during the theft is \$10,000 or more. It is a class C felony if the combined value is \$750 to less than \$10,000. If a prosecuting or circuit attorney makes a written request to the Attorney General, the Attorney General will have the authority to commence a prosecution for the offense of stealing if it involves organized retail theft. The costs and fees of the prosecution will be paid by the state, not by any county or local government.

This bill amends the offense of filing a nonconsensual common law lien by making it a class A misdemeanor for a second offense. For a third or subsequent offense, it is a class E felony. A person convicted of a third or subsequent offense will be considered a persistent offender.

This bill allows a vehicle used in the offense of resisting arrest, detention, or stop subject to a punishment as a class E felony to be impounded and forfeited.

The bill makes the offense of obstructing government operations a class A misdemeanor if the person uses violence or force to commit the offense.

The bill amends the penalties for the offense of tampering with a water supply, making it a class E felony when a person purposely poisons, defiles, or corrupts the water of a well, spring, brook, or reservoir used for domestic or municipal purposes, and a class A misdemeanor when a person diverts, dams up, and holds back from its natural course and flow any spring, brook, or other water supply for domestic or municipal purposes.

These provisions are similar to provisions in HB 1464, HB 1066, 1464 and SCS SBs 52 & 44 (2025).

#### PEACE OFFICER TRAINING FOR LICENSURE (Section 590.040)

This bill requires the basic training of every peace officer first licensed on or after August 28, 2027, to include at least six hours of training concerning the prohibition against racial profiling. The training must include two hours of racial profiling training, two hours of implicit bias training, and two hours of de-escalation training.

#### COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL SAFETY (Section 590.208)

The bill creates the "Committee on School Safety" within the Department of Public Safety. The bill provides the makeup of the committee and requires the representative from the Department to serve as the chair of the committee. The committee is required to meet at least four times a year and at least once per calendar quarter to evaluate and establish guidelines for school safety concerns. All meetings other than those allowed to be closed under statute will be open to the public. The committee must submit a written report annually to the Governor, President Pro Tem of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House.

This provision is similar to HB 1076 (2025).

## MISSING AND MURDERED AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN AND GIRLS TASK FORCE (Section 595.325)

This bill establishes the "Missing and Murdered African American Women and Girls Task Force". The membership is specified in the bill and includes two members of the House of Representatives, with one appointed by the Speaker and one appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the House of Representatives. The task force must elect a chairperson and hold an initial meeting before October 1, 2025.

The Task Force will submit a report regarding policies and measures to address violence against African American women and girls to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 31st of each year. The task force expires on December 31, 2027, unless the Department of Public Safety determines the Task Force should be extended until December 31, 2029.

This provisions is the same as HB 1096, HB 1421, HB 1597, and SB 40 (2025).

## WRONGFUL CONVICTION (Section 650.058)

Currently, only individuals who are exonerated based on DNA evidence may receive restitution for a wrongful conviction. This bill provides that any individual who was later determined to be innocent as a result of an evidentiary hearing and finding in an a habeas corpus proceeding or a proceeding held pursuant to the prosecution's motion to vacate or set aside a judgment may be paid restitution.

The bill increases the amount a person can receive from \$100 to \$179 per day for each day of postconviction incarceration for the offense the individual is found to be innocent, up to \$65,000 per fiscal year.

Any individual found innocent may also be awarded other nonmonetary relief that includes counseling and housing assistance.

## ----- SS SCS HCS HBs 516, 290 & 778 -- RADIOACTIVE WASTE INVESTIGATION FUND

Currently, the Department of Natural Resources must use the Radioactive Waste Investigation Fund to investigate concerns of waste exposure submitted by a local governing body. Under this bill, requests for investigations can be submitted in writing by any local governing body, community group, or individual in the jurisdiction of an area of concern. The bill allows the Fund to accept gifts, bequests, and other devises of funds without limitation. This bill prevents the use of the Fund for any costs related to clean up efforts.

This bill specifies that the investigation can include collection of soil, dust, and water samples from the specified area. If the Department suspects that radioactive contaminants are on a property owned by a governmental agency that will not grant access for the investigation, the Department can seek a warrant to access the property. If the suspected contaminants are on private property, the Department must have the owner's permission to enter and test.

Beginning August 28, 2025, moneys to the Fund will no longer be transferred from the hazardous waste fund and will instead be transferred to the Fund from the General Revenue Fund not to exceed \$150,000 per year unless the General Assembly authorizes an excess amount.

Currently, there is a \$150,000 cap on expenditures for investigation costs. This bill eliminates the cap and requires the Department to seek reimbursement from the Federal government for radioactive waste testing costs.

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#### HCS#2 HBs 567, 546, 758 & 958 -- EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION

This bill modifies the schedule of minimum wage increases or decreases by terminating such schedule as of December 31, 2024. Currently, the minimum wage is set to be increased or decreased on January 1, 2027, and on January 1 of successive years, based on increases or decreases of the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. This bill repeals that scheduled adjustment.

Currently, these provisions do not apply to public employers, as that term is defined in the bill. This bill applies the minimum wage law to public employers beginning on the effective date of this bill.

The bill repeals provisions relating to paid sick leave requirements, including, but not limited to, under what conditions paid sick leave must be provided by employers, prohibited actions for employers and violations thereof, recordkeeping requirements, complaint and investigative procedures, a right to a cause of action for retaliation, and confidentiality of information.

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#### SS#2 HCS HBs 594 & 508 -- TAXATION

##### LAW ENFORCEMENT SALES TAXES (Sections 67.547 and 67.582, RSMo)

Current law limits the aggregate amount of sales tax levied by a county pursuant to the County Sales Tax Act to 1%. This bill increases such limit to 1.5% for Ozark County, provided that any tax in excess of 1% is levied for the purpose of providing law enforcement services. Any sales tax levy approved during the November 8, 2022, general election will be deemed to be in compliance with State law if the aggregate amount of sales tax levied pursuant to the County Sales Tax Act is not in excess of 1.5%.

Current law authorizes certain counties to levy a sales tax for the purpose of providing law enforcement services to such county, with the rate not to exceed 0.5%. This act authorizes such levy not to exceed 1%.

These provisions are the same as SB 547 (2025)

##### TRANSIENT GUEST TAXES (Sections 67.1366 and 67.1367)

Currently, certain counties can impose a tax on all sleeping rooms paid by the transient guests of hotels and motels, bed and breakfast inns, and campgrounds of up to 6%, per occupied room per

night, for the purpose of funding the promotion, operation and development of tourism, subject to voter approval. This bill authorizes the tax proceeds to be used for the operating costs of a community center.

Under this bill, the counties of Ste. Genevieve and Perry are added to the list of counties under current law that can impose a tax on the charges for all sleeping rooms paid by the transient guests for bed and breakfast inns, or campground cabins. This is in addition to current law that authorizes the imposition of the transient tax on hotels and motels. The maximum tax that can be imposed is 6% per occupied room or cabin per night, which is subject to voter approval. This bill adds bed and breakfast inns and campground cabins to the current definition of "transient guests". In addition, any county that imposed a tax on the charges for all sleeping rooms paid by the transient guests of hotels and motels before August 28, 2025, can impose the tax on the charges for all sleeping rooms or cabins paid by the transient guests of bed and breakfast inns and campgrounds without requiring a separate vote that authorizes the imposition of such tax upon charges for bed and breakfast inns and campgrounds.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAXES (Section 94.900)

This bill adds the village of Sunrise Beach and the cities of Hannibal, Moberly, Sikeston, Nevada, and Joplin to the list of cities authorized to enact, upon voter approval, a sales tax of up to 0.5% on all retail sales made in the city which are subject to taxation for the purpose of improving public safety, limited to expenditures on equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire, and emergency medical providers.

#### SENIOR CITIZENS PROPERTY TAX CREDIT (Sections 135.010, 135.025 and 135.030)

Current law authorizes an income tax credit for certain senior citizens and disabled veterans in an amount equal to a portion of such taxpayer's property tax liabilities, with the amount of the credit dependent on the taxpayer's income and property tax liability. This bill modifies the definition of "income" to increase the amount deducted from Missouri adjusted gross income from \$2,000 to \$2,800, or, for claimants who owned and occupied the residence for the entire year, such amount is increased from \$4,000 to \$5,800 for the claimant's spouse residing at the same address, for all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026.

The maximum allowable credit under current law is limited to \$750 in rent constituting property taxes actually paid or \$1,100 in actual property tax paid. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, this bill increases such amounts to \$1,055 and \$1,550, respectively. Beginning January 1, 2027, the property tax credit totals will be annually adjusted for inflation based upon the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the Midwest Region, as defined and officially recorded by the United States Department of Labor. Additionally, current law limits the tax credit to qualifying taxpayers with a maximum upper limit or income of \$27,500 or less, or \$30,000 in the case of a homestead owned and occupied by a claimant for the entire year. For all calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, this bill increases such maximum upper limit or income to:

(1) \$38,200 for claimants with a filing status of single;

(2) \$42,200 for claimants with a filing status of single and who owned and occupied a homestead for the entire year;

(3) \$41,000 for claimants with a filing status of married filing combined; and

(4) \$48,000 for claimants with a filing status of married filing combined and who owned and occupied a homestead for the entire year.

Beginning January 1, 2027, the amounts must be annually adjusted for inflation based upon the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as defined, and officially recoded by the United States Department of Labor or its successor.

The Director of the Missouri Department of Revenue is authorized to prepare a table of credits applicable to calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, if the income on a return is equal to or less than the maximum upper limit for the calendar year for which the return is filed, as further explained in the bill.

These provisions are the same as SCS SBs 101 & 64 (2025)

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES SALES TAXES (Sections 137.1050, 321.552, 321.554 and 321.556)

Current law authorizes ambulance and fire protection districts in certain counties to impose a sales tax at a rate of up to 0.5%. An ambulance district or fire protection district imposing a sales tax authorized by this section must reduce any property tax levy imposed by the district or political subdivision for the purposes of providing ambulance and fire protection services such that the revenue generated by the property tax levy is offset in an amount equal to 50% of the amount of revenue generated by the sales tax imposed under this bill.

This bill increases the amount of sales tax that can be imposed to 1.0% and repeals a prohibition on certain counties imposing such tax.

Current law authorizes counties to provide a homestead property tax credit to certain seniors. This bill ensures that the amount of that credit will not be recalculated due to a reduction in the tax levy resulting from the sale tax described above.

This bill is similar to SB 33 (2025).

#### INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR CAPITAL GAINS (Section 143.121)

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, a taxpayer can deduct 100% of all income reported as a capital gain for Federal income tax purposes by an individual subject to individual income tax.

For all tax years beginning on January 1 of the tax year immediately following the tax year in which the top rate of income tax is equal to or less than 4.5%, this bill authorizes an income tax deduction

for one hundred percent of all income reported as a capital gain for Federal income tax purposes by entities subject to corporate income tax.

This provision is similar to SB 46 (2025).

#### HYGIENE PRODUCTS SALES TAX EXEMPTION (Section 144.029)

This bill authorizes a State sales tax exemption for retail sales of diapers, feminine hygiene products, and incontinence products, as defined in the bill.

This bill is similar to HB 2187 (2024) and to a provision in SCS SB 95 (2025).

#### BROADBAND SALES TAX EXEMPTION (Section 144.812)

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, this bill authorizes a State and local sales tax exemption for machinery and equipment used to provide broadband communications service, by a broadband communications service provider, as such terms are defined in the bill. Further, the bill sets out the exemptions that apply under other provisions of the law.

Under the bill, the broadband communications service provider is required to give a written certificate to the seller indicating that an exemption applies to the machinery and equipment used to provide broadband communications service that is purchased or used.

The broadband communications service provider, as permitted by the Director of the Department of Revenue, can enter into a direct pay agreement with the Department that allows the provider to make sales and use taxes payments on the equipment, directly to the Department.

The bill specifies that the adoption of this provision does not give rise to any inference, implication, or presumption of legislative construction with respect to certain subdivisions under subsection 2 of section 144.030, which section governs the exemptions from State and local sales and use taxes; or to the application of certain case law mentioned in the bill.

This provision is the same as in SB 184 (2025) and is similar to HB 2168 (2024).

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#### CCS SS HCS HBs 595 & 343 -- REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

##### BROKERAGE AGREEMENTS FOR BUYERS AND TENANTS (Section 339.780, RSMo)

This bill provides that a designated real estate broker acting as a single agent for a buyer or tenant must enter into a written agency agreement before, engaging in brokerage acts, current law allows such a broker to enter into an agreement while engaging in such acts.

This provision is the same as in SB 478 (2025) and HB 596 (2025).

##### ORDINANCES LIMITING ACTIONS OF LANDLORDS AND TENANTS (Section 441.043)



This bill provides that no county or city can enact, maintain, or enforce any ordinance or resolution that:

- (1) Prohibits landlords from refusing to lease or rent a privately owned, single-family, or multiple-unit residential or commercial rental property to a person because the person's lawful source of income to pay rent includes funding from a Federal or other housing assistance program.
- (2) Restricts a landlord's ability to use or consider income-qualifying methods, credit reports, eviction or property damage history, or criminal history, or to request such information in order to determine whether to rent or lease a property to a prospective tenant;
- (3) Limits the amount of security deposit a landlord can require from a tenant; or
- (4) Requires tenants to automatically receive the right of first refusal.

This bill allows the county or city to enter into voluntary agreements with private persons to regulate the amount of rent charged for subsidized rental properties.

In addition, this bill does not prevent a county or city from enacting, maintaining, or enforcing any ordinance or resolution that prohibits a landlord from discriminating against a tenant or prospective tenant solely on the basis that such tenant is a recipient of veterans' benefits.

This provision is similar to SB 507 (2025)

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SS#2 HB 596 -- BROKERAGE SERVICES

This bill includes "real estate broker" in the definition of "licensee" for purposes of payments by a broker directly to business entities owned by a licensee that has been formed for the purpose of receiving compensation earned by such licensee.

This bill provides that a designated real estate broker acting as a single agent for a buyer or tenant must enter into a written agency agreement before engaging in brokerage acts, current law allows such a broker to enter into an agreement while engaging in such acts.

This provision is the same as in SB 478 (2025) and CCS SS HCS HB 595 and 343 (2025).

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CCS SS HCS HBs 737 & 486 -- PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

This bill modifies several provisions relating to the protection of children.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION TAX CREDIT (Section 135.460)

Current law authorizes a tax credit in the amount of 50% of contributions made to certain youth programs. This bill increases such tax credit to 70% of the amount of such contributions made.

#### CHILDREN'S DIVISION SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACTS (Section 210.112)

Under this bill, provisions in service provider contracts with the Children's Division in which the State is indemnified, held harmless, or insured for damages, claims, losses, or expenses arising from any injury caused by or resulting from the State's negligence, in whole or in part, will be void as against public policy and unenforceable.

#### SERVICES FOR YOUTH (Section 210.119)

Under this bill, the Department of Social Services will establish a program to provide a comprehensive system of service delivery, education, and residential care for youth with severe behavioral challenges. In order to be eligible for the program, a youth must be under 21 years of age, in the custody of the Children's Division, and a team in the Department must have decided that the needs of the youth cannot be met with existing programs.

The Department must have the authority to contract with qualified services providers to provide services to the youth under this bill. Such service providers will be certified, licensed, or accredited in their respective fields of service, based in Missouri, and entities with proven experience in the areas for which they will provide services.

A qualified service provider providing services under this bill will have immunity, as specified in the bill.

The Department will be authorized to enter into memoranda of understanding with any facility or campus under state ownership that is appropriate for the program and youth being served.

#### CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS (Section 210.145)

Under this bill, the person responding to an investigation of abuse or neglect must first ensure the safety of the child through direct observation and communication, and if the parent or alleged perpetrator is present during an investigation by the Children's Division, the case worker must identify themselves and their role in the investigation. When responding to an assessment of abuse or neglect, the person responding must provide the child's parent or guardian with written materials informing him or her of rights regarding the visit, including that they have the right to contact an attorney. The parent or guardian must be given reasonable time to read or have the material read to them.

#### MONEYS HELD BY CHILDREN'S DIVISION FOR A CHILD OR YOUTH (Section 210.560)

This bill specifies that in the case of benefits administered by the Railroad Retirement Board, the Social Security Administration or the Veterans Administration, the Children's Division is required to determine whether a child in custody of the Division is receiving or otherwise eligible to receive such benefits within 60 days after placement into custody. The Division is to apply for benefits on behalf of the child, if that child is deemed to be eligible. If benefits are already being received before placement into the Division's custody or the Division applies for benefits on behalf of the

child, the Division is responsible for identifying a representative payee and must apply to become such if no other suitable candidate is available. The Division must annually review cases of children in the division's custody to determine whether a child could've become eligible for benefits after the division's initial assessment. Any moneys received by the Division and in the account of a child or youth are prohibited from being expended by the Division for certain services or care which are detailed in the bill. However, this bill provides that the Division can use the benefits administered by the Railroad Retirement Board, the Social Security Administration, or the Veterans Administration for the child's or youth's unmet needs, as are defined in the bill, beyond what the Division is required or agrees to pay.

The bill additionally grants the Department of Social Services the ability to enter into contracts to apply for benefits on behalf of a child or youth and to establish accounts on behalf of the child or youth.

CHILD'S COUNSEL (Sections 210.145, 210.160, 210.560, 210.565, 210.762, 211.032, 211.211, 211.261, 211.462, 477.700, 477.705, 477.710, and 477.715)

Beginning January 1, 2028, unless operating under a pilot project established by the Missouri Supreme Court and subject to necessary appropriations, a judge will appoint a child's counsel instead of a guardian ad litem (GAL) for children in certain proceedings who are at least 14 years but less than 18 years of age. If the child has a GAL at the time of his or her 14th birthday, that GAL will automatically become the child's counsel, unless the judge determines that it is necessary to continue the GAL appointment, as specified in the bill. The same attorney can serve as a GAL and child's counsel for a sibling group of varying ages, unless the attorney or judge finds a conflict of interest. For proceedings or cases in which child's counsel is appointed, the court must set a reasonable fee for those services and will award such fees as a judgment to be paid by the State from funds appropriated by the legislature to the judicial branch for that purpose.

This bill creates the "Child and Family Legal Representation Coordinating Commission" within the judicial branch, with the requirement of nine members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court with duties as described in the bill, including working cooperatively with the various judicial circuits, judicial personnel, attorneys, and other State departments and agencies to ensure uniform, high-quality legal representation for children or families involved in legal proceedings, and make recommendations to the Missouri Supreme Court concerning the establishment or modification of minimum training requirements and practice standards for attorneys serving as guardians ad litem, children's counsel, or parent's counsel.

The Coordinating Commission can also develop, coordinate, and evaluate pilot projects relating to guardians ad litem, children's counsel, or parent's counsel and outcomes relating to the various models of representation, as well as implementation of the children's counsel appointment provisions of this bill.

This bill creates the "Child and Family Legal Representation Fund" in the State Treasury, to be distributed by the Coordinating Commission to the judicial circuits for the purpose of improving or providing legal representation for children or families, including the payment of reasonable fees

approved by the court for the appointment of guardians ad litem, children's counsel, or parent's counsel.

Under this bill, a circuit can participate in a pilot project established by the Missouri Supreme Court relating to guardians ad litem, children's counsel, or parent's counsel, in which case a judge can appoint a child's counsel instead of a guardian ad litem.

This provision will expire on January 1, 2028.

#### AMBER ALERT SYSTEM (Section 210.1012)

Under current law, a Statewide program called the "Amber Alert System" was established in order to aid in the identification and location of an abducted child.

This bill includes abducted or missing African American youth in the system and adds that it will be unlawful to discriminate against any person because of a protected classification when the Department of Public Safety coordinates with local law enforcement agencies and media outlets to identify an abducted child.

#### PLACEMENT OF A CHILD (Section 211.221)

Currently, when placing a child in the custody of an individual or a private agency or institution, the court must, whenever practicable, select either a person, or an agency or institution governed by persons of the same religious faith as that of the parents of the child, or in case of a difference in the religious faith of the parents, then of the religious faith of the child or if the religious faith of the child is not ascertainable, then of the faith of either of the parents. This bill requires the Children's Division, within the Department of Social Services, or any child-placing agency contracting with the State to provide foster care services, to follow the same procedure.

#### AGE OF MARRIAGE (Sections 451.040, 451.080, and 451.090)

Currently, no marriage license will be issued in Missouri for individuals under 16 years of age or issued when one party to the marriage is under 18 years of age and the other party over 21 years of age. Additionally, no marriage license will be issued if any party to the marriage is under 18 years of age without parental consent.

This bill repeals those provisions and no marriage license will be issued in Missouri for individuals under 18 years of age.

#### CIVIL ACTIONS FOR CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE (Section 537.046)

This bill modifies the offenses included in the definition of "childhood sexual abuse" for civil actions to recover damages from injury or illness caused by childhood sexual abuse. The bill will apply to any action arising on or after August 28, 2025.

This bill also provides that a nondisclosure agreement by any party to a childhood sexual abuse action must not be judicially enforceable in a dispute involving childhood sexual abuse allegations or claims and will be void.

#### ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD IN THE FIRST DEGREE (Section 568.045)

Currently, a person commits the offense of endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree if he or she knowingly engages in sexual conduct with a person under the age of seventeen years over whom the person is a parent, guardian, or otherwise charged with the care and custody of the child. This bill changes the age of the child from under seventeen to under eighteen.

#### ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF A CHILD (Sections 568.060 and 578.421)

As specified in this bill, a person does not commit the offense of abuse or neglect of a child by virtue of the sole fact that the person allows the child to engage in independent activities without adult supervision, and that the person is a parent or guardian to the child, provided that:

- (1) Independent activities are appropriate based on the child's age, maturity, and physical and mental abilities; and
- (2) The lack of adult supervision does not constitute conduct that is so grossly negligent as to endanger the child's health or safety.

As defined in the bill, "independent activities" include traveling to or from school or nearby locations, either by bicycle or on foot; playing outdoors; or remaining at home for a reasonable period of time without adult supervision.

This bill also modifies the term "neglect" to provide that it is not neglectful for a person to allow a child to engage in independent activities without adult supervision, provided that such activities are appropriate, based on the child's age, maturity, and physical and mental capabilities, and that the lack of adult supervision does not constitute negligent conduct.

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#### SS SCS HB 754 -- CERTAIN FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

#### NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TAX CREDIT (Section 32.115)

Current law authorizes a tax credit for business firms which engage in providing affordable housing assistance activities or market rate housing in distressed communities (Housing Credit), with the total amount of such tax credits not to exceed \$10 million in a fiscal year. Current law also authorizes a tax credit for business firms which make a contribution to a neighborhood organization that provides affordable housing assistance activities or market rate housing in distressed communities (Contribution Credit), with the total amount of such tax credits not to exceed \$1 million in a fiscal year. This bill provides that any amount of the \$10 million in Housing Credits not authorized in a fiscal year can be authorized for Contribution Credits during the same

fiscal year, provided that the total combined amount of Housing and Contribution credits must not exceed \$11 million during the fiscal year.

This provision is similar to SB 399 (2025).

#### TAXATION (Sections 143.081 and 143.341)

Current law provides for a tax credit in the amount of any income tax imposed in another state on income that is subject to tax in Missouri. Under the bill, such credit is allowed with respect to any estate or trust to the extent its Missouri adjusted gross income is excluded from Missouri taxable income under the subtraction set forth below.

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, this bill provides for a subtraction of an amount included in Missouri taxable income of an estate or trust that would not be included as Missouri taxable income if the estate or trust were considered a nonresident estate or trust. The subtraction only applies to the extent it is not a determinant of the Federal distributable net income of the estate or trust.

#### INCOME TAXATION ON GOLD AND SILVER SPECIE (Section 143.121)

Currently, all purchases of bullion and investment coins are exempt from all State and local sales taxes. This bill additionally exempts from State income tax beginning on or after January 1, 2026, the portion of capital gain on the sale or exchange of gold and silver specie that are otherwise included in the taxpayer's Federal adjusted gross income.

#### MONEY TRANSMISSION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2024 TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS (Section 361.909)

This bill exempts from the Money Transmission Modernization Act of 2024, a person appointed as an agent of a payor for purposes of providing payroll processing services for which the agent would otherwise need to be licensed by the Director of the Division of Finance within the Department of Commerce and Insurance, provided that the requirements detailed in the bill apply.

This provision is the same as HB 707 (2025) and similar to a provision in SS SB 61 (2025).

#### VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSK CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT (Section 361.1100)

This bill creates the "Virtual Currency Kiosk Consumer Protection Act" which establishes certain requirements governing virtual currency kiosk operators, as defined in the bill.

Each virtual currency kiosk operator (Operators) must meet the following requirements:

(1) Operators must make certain disclosures upon establishing a relationship with a customer, when opening an account for a new customer, and prior to entering into an initial transaction for, or on behalf of, or with such customer, indicating all material risks associated with the products, services, and activities offered, as well as the terms and conditions of the services provided, all as detailed in the bill;

- (2) Prior entering into a virtual currency transaction with a customer, the operator must ensure a warning is disclosed to a customer in the form that is similar to the text included in the bill;
- (3) Upon completing a transaction, an operator must provide a digital or physical receipt containing specific information, specified in the bill;
- (4) Operators are required to use blockchain analytics software to assist with the prevention of sending purchased virtual currency to a digital wallet that is known to be affiliated with fraudulent activity at the time of a transaction;
- (5) Operators must provide live customer service, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and the customer service toll-free number must be displayed on the virtual currency kiosk or the kiosk screens;
- (6) Operators must take steps to detect and prevent fraud, as specified in the bill, including by establishing and maintaining a written anti-fraud policy, as detailed in the bill;
- (7) Operators must maintain, implement, and enforce a written "Enhanced Due Diligence Policy", as explained in the bill;
- (8) Operators must designate and employ a compliance officer with responsibilities as specified in the bill, and maintain, implement, and enforce written compliance policies and procedures;
- (9) Operators must designate and employ a consumer protection officer, with responsibilities as provided in the bill.

Virtual currency kiosk operators are required to submit a report to the Division of Finance, within the Department of Commerce and Insurance, detailing the location of each virtual currency kiosk in the State of Missouri.

Virtual currency kiosk operators are deemed to be money transmitters and are required to be licensed under, and comply with the Money Transmission Modernization Act of 2024. This bill requires any unlicensed virtual currency kiosk operator to apply for a money transmitter license within 60 days after this provision becomes effective. Any operator that applies within this time is allowed to continue operations while the Division reviews the application. Any application that is denied must cease operations until granted a money transmitter license.

The Director of the Division of Finance is permitted to request evidence showing compliance with this bill as reasonably necessary or appropriate to administer and enforce this bill, and other applicable laws such as the Bank Secrecy Act and the United States PATRIOT Act. An operator is required to provide the Director with any records as requested to ensure compliance with the provisions.

All information or reports obtained by the Division of Finance from a virtual currency kiosk operator, and all information contained in or related to an examination, investigation, operating report, or condition report are confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Sunshine Law.

These provisions are the same as SB 779 (2025).

#### BANK AND TRUST COMPANIES (Sections 362.020, 362.247, 362.275, and 362.295)

This bill modifies the requirements for articles of agreement applicable to bank or trust companies. The bill adds that the articles of agreement can include conditions and procedures relating to the issuance of additional shares of capital stock or other classes of stock, provided the terms and procedures are acceptable to the Director of Finance and notice or other approval required to be given or obtained from the State of Missouri has been given or obtained from the Director of the Division of Finance.

Under current law, unless prohibited by statute or regulation, the board of directors can attend board meetings by telephone conference call or video conferencing, and the bank or trust company can include as a quorum, directors who are not physically present but are allowed to vote, provided the bank or trust company has a composite rating of one or two under the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System of the Federal Financial Institution Examination Counsel (FFIEC).

This bill repeals reference to a prohibition by regulation and allows an order or memorandum of understanding entered into with the Director of Finance relating to bank safety and soundness to prohibit the directors attending the board meetings by phone or video. Further, the bill repeals reference to composite rating under the FFIEC.

Under current law, the board of directors is required to submit a list at the monthly meetings showing the aggregate of the existing indebtedness and liability to the bank or trust company of each of the directors, officers and their employees. This bill repeals this requirement.

The bill repeals the requirement for a bank or trust company to publish certain reports informing the public as to the financial condition and solvency of the bank or trust company in the newspaper. A bank or trust company can instead provide a paper or electronic copy of such reports that are required to be filed with the Department of Commerce and Insurance, to each customer, upon request.

#### TRUSTED CONTACTS (Sections 362.424 and 370.245)

This bill authorizes a bank to offer a trusted contact program, as defined in the bill, to customers who can designate one or more trusted contacts for the bank to contact in the event of an emergency, loss of contact with the customer, the customer is not responsive to bank communications, or suspected third party fraudulent activity or financial exploitation targeting the customer, or the account has been dormant and the bank is attempting to verify the status and location of the customer. A bank can



report suspected fraudulent activity or financial exploitation targeting any of its customers to a Federal, State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency or any appropriate public protective agency and will be immune from civil liability in doing so.

Under the bill, a bank is not liable for the actions of a trusted contact. The bank is also not liable for declining to interact with a trusted contact if the bank determines such trusted contact is not acting in the best interests of the customer. The bill also allows a customer to withdraw the appointment of a trusted contact. The bank can request for documentation that supports the withdrawal or termination of a trusted contact.

No bank is civilly liable for implementing or not implementing, or for actions or omissions relating to providing a trusted contact program.

The bill allows a credit union to offer a trusted contact program to members similar to that offered by a bank.

These provisions are the same as HB 1049 (2025) and similar to SCS SB 99 (2025) and HB 707 (2025)

#### SINGLE BANK POOLED COLLATERAL (Section 362.490)

This bill creates an alternative for banking institutions serving as depositaries for public funds to secure their deposits in lieu of the method provided by current law, known as the single bank pooled method. This method allows a banking institution to secure the deposit of public funds of one or more government entities through a pool of eligible securities held in custody and safekeeping with one or more other banking institutions or safe depositaries, to be held subject to the order of the Director of the Division of Finance or an administrator, appointed as provided in the bill, for the benefit of the government entities having public funds deposited with the banking institution. The bill prohibits the use of the single bank pooled method absent the appointment of an administrator for that purpose, as provided in the bill. Furthermore, the administrator can be required to post a surety bond in an amount up to \$100,000.

The administrator of the single bank pooled method can establish the procedures and reporting requirements as necessary for depository banking institutions and their safekeeping banks or depositaries to confirm the amount of insured public fund deposits, the pledge of securities to the administrator to secure the deposit of public funds, as agent for each participating banking institution, and to monitor the market value of pledged securities as reported by the custody agents, and to add, substitute, or remove securities held in the single bank pool as directed by the depository banking institution.

In the event of the failure and insolvency of a banking institution using the single bank pooled method, subject to any order of the director, the administrator will direct the safekeeping banks or depositaries to sell the pledged securities and direct proceeds to the payment of the uninsured public fund deposits or to transfer the pledged securities to that banking institution's primary supervisory agency or the duly appointed receiver for the banking institution to be liquidated to pay out the uninsured public fund deposits.

These provisions are the same as SB 657 (2025) and HB 1313 (2025)

#### USE OF CERTIFIED FUNDS (Section 381.410)

This bill modifies the definition of "certified funds" for purposes of a statute regulating the use of certain funds by real estate settlement agents and title insurance agents.

This provision is the same as SB 488 (2025)

#### CONSTITUTIONAL MONEY ACT (Section 408.010)

The bill provides that specie legal tender and electronic specie currency, as those terms are defined in the bill, are accepted as payment for all public debts and can be received as payment for all private debts contracted for in the state of Missouri, in the discretion of the receiving entity.

Except as expressly provided by contract, no person or entity is required to use specie legal tender or electronic specie currency in the payment of any debt and nothing in this bill prohibits the use of Federal reserve notes in the payment of any debt.

At the request of an employee, an entity can pay compensation to the employee, in full or in part, in the dollar equivalent specie legal tender either in physical or in electronic transfer form. Any entity choosing to compensate its employees in specie legal tender will be responsible for verifying the weight and purity of any physical specie legal tender before compensating employees.

The bill also prohibits the State or any department, agency, court, political subdivision, or instrumentality thereof from:

- (1) Seizing from any person any specie legal tender or electronic currency that is owned by the person, except as otherwise provided by law. Any person whose specie legal tender or electronic specie currency is seized in violation of this provision will have a cause of action in a court of competent jurisdiction, with any successful such action resulting in the award of attorney's fees;
- (2) Enforcing or attempting to enforce any Federal acts, laws, executive orders, administrative orders, rules, regulations, statutes, or ordinances infringing on the right of a person to keep and use specie legal tender and electronic specie currency as provided in this bill;
- (3) Restricting in any way the ability of a person or financial institution to acquire specie legal tender or use specie legal tender or electronic specie currency in transactions; or
- (4) Enacting any law discriminating or favoring one means of legal tender in the course of a transaction over another means of legal tender.

The provisions of this bill are similar to HB 630 (2025) and SB 25 (2025).

#### COMMERCIAL FINANCING DISCLOSURE LAW (Section 427.300)

Current law contains various exemptions from the Commercial Financing Disclosure Law. This bill adds commercial financing products that are premium finance agreements, as defined in current law, offered or entered into by a provider that is a registered premium finance company to that list.

This provision is the same as a provision in SS SCS SB 97 (2025) and HB 707 (2025).

#### PRINCIPAL PLACE OF ADMINISTRATION OF A TRUST (SECTION 456.1-108)

This bill adds an additional requirement to the notice given by the trustee to qualified beneficiaries of a proposed transfer of a trust's principal place of administration that includes an explanation that a change in the place of administration can result in a change of governing law, which can affect the rights of beneficiaries in ways that are different from current law.

#### STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS ON ACTIONS AGAINST A TRUSTEE (SECTION 456.10-1005)

Currently, if a trustee has not furnished a report on potential claims or such report fails to meet the information requirements, a proceeding against a trustee for breach of trust must be commenced within five years after the first of certain events. This bill modifies the provision by providing that such action must be commenced within the first of:

- (1) The removal, resignation, or death of the trustee;
- (2) The occurrence of the event causing a termination of the beneficiary's interest in the trust; or
- (3) The occurrence of the event causing a termination of the trust.

This provision is similar to a provision in SB 289 (2025).

#### MISSOURI ELECTRONIC WILLS AND ELECTRONIC ESTATE PLANNING DOCUMENTS ACT (Sections 474.540 to 474.600)

This bill establishes the "Missouri Electronic Wills and Electronic Estate Planning Documents Act", which provides for the execution of wills through electronic methods.

An electronic will is a will for all purposes of the laws of this State. An electronic will is a record that is readable, and remains accessible, as text at the time of signing by the testator or by another individual in the testator's name, in the testator's physical presence, and by the testator's direction. Additionally, an electronic will must be signed by at least two individuals in the physical or electronic presence of the testator within a reasonable amount of time after witnessing the signing of the will or acknowledgment of the will or signing. Furthermore, an electronic will that has not been executed in compliance with these requirements is still considered an electronic will under this bill if executed in compliance with the law of the jurisdiction where the testator is physically located when the will was signed or where the testator is domiciled or resides when the will is signed or upon his or her death.

The intent of the testator that the record be an electronic will can be established by extrinsic evidence. As provided in the bill, an electronic will can be made self-proving by acknowledgment of the testator.

An electronic will can revoke all or part of a previous will and an electronic will is revoked by use of:

(1) A subsequent will that revokes all or part of the electronic will expressly or by inconsistency;

(2) A written instrument signed by the testator declaring the revocation; or

(3) A physical act, if established by a preponderance of the evidence that the testator, with the intent of revoking all or part of the will, performed the act or directed another individual to perform the act in the testator's physical presence.

Additionally, if there is evidence that a testator signed an electronic will, but neither the electronic will nor a certified paper copy can be located after a testator's death, there is a presumption that the testator revoked the electronic will, even if no instrument or later will revoking such electronic will can be located. At any time during the administration of the estate or as determined by the court if there is no grant of administration, the court can issue an order for a custodian of an account held under a terms-of-service agreement to disclose digital assets for purposes of obtaining an electronic will from the account of a deceased user.

Furthermore, this bill provides that any written estate planning document, as defined in the bill, can be executed electronically and no such estate planning document will be invalid or void solely because of its electronic form or electronic signatures. Any written estate planning document that requires one or more witnesses to the signature of a principal can be witnessed by any individual in the electronic presence of the principal. Additionally, this bill provides that a person who acts in reliance upon an electronically executed written estate planning document is not regarded as liable to any person for so relying and can assume without inquiry the valid execution of the electronically executed written estate planning document.

A person can create a certified paper copy of an electronic will or an electronic estate planning document by affirming under penalty of perjury that a paper copy of the electronic estate planning document is a complete, true, and accurate copy of such document. The laws of the State of Missouri and principles of equity will apply to any electronic estate planning document apply to any electronic estate planning document, except as modified by the bill.

The provisions of this bill apply to the will of a decedent who dies on or after August 28, 2025, and to any written estate planning document signed or remotely witnessed on or after August 28, 2025.

This bill defines “applicable state of emergency” and specifies that certain estate planning documents, as defined in the bill, that were executed during the period between April 6, 2020, and December 31, 2021, during which a State of emergency existed due to COVID-19 and where executive orders temporarily suspended the physical appearance requirements and allowed the use of audio visual technology, will be deemed to have satisfied the physical presence requirements if certain requirements, specified in the bill, were met.

In addition, the bill defines “necessary person” and “physical presence requirement” and states that a necessary person satisfies any physical presence requirement under Missouri law during the State of emergency, if certain requirements are met, as detailed in the bill. Alternatively, the bill allows an attorney who is licensed and admitted to practice law in Missouri to execute a written acknowledgment based upon a form and content as specified in the bill, to satisfy the physical presence requirement.

#### DORMANT ACCOUNTS (Section 447.200)

This bill repeals Section 447.200 regarding inactive consumer deposit accounts.

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#### SCS HB 810 -- DESIGNATION OF A MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

This bill establishes the "Davy & Natalie Lloyd Memorial Highway" on that portion of U.S. Highway 60 from Kodiak Road continuing east to Cemetery Road in Newton County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs with the costs to be paid by private donations.

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#### SS HCS HBs 974, 57, 1032 & 1141 -- INSURANCE MODERNIZATION THROUGH STANDARDS GOVERNING DIGITAL SYSTEMS

#### INSURANCE DATA SECURITY ACT (Sections 375.140-375.1427).

This bill establishes the "Insurance Data Security Act"

The bill requires licensees to implement an information security program, as defined in the bill. Each licensee must have a comprehensive information security program that is in keeping with the size and complexity of the licensee and the scope of its activities. This bill specifies data protection objectives for the programs, as well as standards for risk assessment by licensees, and measures to be implemented in the information security programs.

The bill specifies the requirements for licensees' boards of directors or executive management regarding the information security programs, and requires certain oversight of "third-party service providers", as defined in the bill. Licensees must monitor their information security programs, and adjust them as appropriate consistent with relevant changes in technology and the licensees' activities.

This bill requires incident response plans as part of information security programs, as specified in the bill. Insurers domiciled in this state must annually submit, by April 15, a written statement that the insurer is in compliance with the information security program requirements of the bill, and must maintain certain documentation for inspection by the Director of the Department of Commerce and Insurance for a period of three years.

The bill also specifies procedures and standards for investigation of cybersecurity events, as well as requirements to notify regulators, consumers, other insurers, and insurance producers as specified in the bill if certain cybersecurity events occur. The Director will have authority to enforce the bill in the manner provided by law for enforcement of the insurance laws of this state.

As specified in the bill, documents and other information furnished to the Department of Commerce and Insurance will be confidential and privileged from disclosure to other parties and persons receiving documents or information under the Director's authority in the bill will not testify in any private civil action. In order to assist in the performance of the Director's duties in the bill, the Director may receive documents and information which would otherwise be confidential and privileged, and may enter into agreements with other authorized parties. Neither the Director nor any person or entity who receives documents, materials, or other information will be permitted to:

- (1) Share or otherwise release the documents, materials, or other information to a third party;
- (2) Share or otherwise release the documents, materials, or other information for commercial use; or
- (3) Sell cyber event or nonpublic information of any person or entity."; and

This bill specifies certain exceptions.

The bill contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2026, and grants licensees additional time for the implementation of certain provisions.

#### PEER-TO-PEER CAR SHARING PROGRAM ACT (Sections 379.1900 to 379.1970)

This bill enacts the "Peer-to-Peer Car Sharing Program Act".

The bill requires peer-to-peer car sharing programs, as defined in the bill, to assume liability for property damage and bodily injury in an amount at least equal to the coverage required under the Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law, as specified in the bill, and specifies certain requirements for insurance coverage and the resolution of coverage disputes.

At the time a vehicle owner registers on a peer-to-peer car sharing program, but before the owner makes a vehicle available for car sharing, the program must provide notice that participation in the program may violate the terms of a contract with the holders of any liens on the vehicle.

Motor vehicle insurers in this State may exclude any and all coverage under a shared motor vehicle owner's policy of motor vehicle liability insurance.

In the bill, peer-to-peer car sharing programs must collect and verify certain records pertaining to the use of a vehicle, and provide them upon request to the vehicle owner, vehicle owner's insurer, or the driver's insurer to facilitate the processing of insurance claims, and retain the records for a time period not less than the applicable personal injury statute of limitations.

This bill provides that peer-to-peer car sharing programs and shared vehicle owners are exempt from vicarious liability based solely on vehicle ownership, and specifies that motor vehicle insurers have the right to seek recovery against the peer-to-peer car sharing program's insurer for defending certain claims.

Peer-to-peer car sharing programs must have an insurable interest in shared vehicles as specified in the bill, but are not required to maintain the insurance coverage mandated in the bill.

The bill outlines certain content peer-to-peer car sharing program agreements are required to include, and requires the peer-to-peer car sharing program to verify and keep records of certain information about drivers.

Peer-to-peer car sharing programs must have sole responsibility for any equipment put in or on a vehicle to facilitate a car sharing transaction, and will hold harmless the vehicle owner for any damage or theft occurring to the equipment during the car sharing period, but may seek compensation from the shared vehicle drivers for the damages or loss.

This bill specifies parties' responsibilities regarding safety recalls.

The Department of Commerce and Insurance can promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of the provisions of the bill.

The Peer-to-Peer Car Sharing Program Act has an effective date of January 1, 2026.

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SS HB 1041 -- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Currently, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, and unlicensed persons can donate wine, in the original package, to a charitable or religious organization or educational institution for the sole purpose of being auctioned for fund-raising purposes under certain circumstances. This bill adds beer, malt liquor, or spirits to the list of alcohol-based beverages that can be donated and allows the donated items to also be raffled (Section 311.332, RSMo.).

Currently, manufacturers of intoxicating liquor, other than beer or wine, are permitted to offer consumer cash rebate coupons. The bill repeals the provisions that prohibits manufacturers of wine to offer such rebates (Section 311.355).

Currently, the Department of Revenue collects \$1.86 per barrel for all malt liquors, for the inspection and gauging of malt liquors. Beginning January 1, 2026, the Department must collect \$0.62 per barrel for all malt liquor manufactured in an American brewery, and \$1.86 per barrel for all foreign import malt liquor, for the inspection and gauging of malt liquors.

This bill requires every manufacturer, out-of-state solicitor, and wholesale dealer to make a duplicate invoice of the charges for each class of liquor shipped or delivered and to retain the duplicate invoices for two years. The invoice must include:

- (1) The date;
- (2) Amount and value of each class of liquors shipped or delivered; and
- (3) The country of origin for all foreign imports (Section 311.520).

Currently, for the privilege of selling wines, the sum of \$0.30 per gallon is credited to the Agricultural Protection Fund. This bill decreases the sum to \$0.21.

The bill updates language pertaining to manufacturers, out-of-state solicitors, wholesale dealers, and sellers of liquors and the supervisor of Alcohol and Tobacco Control (Section 311.550).

Currently, in addition to fees described in Section 311.550, the Director of Revenue will be paid a charge of \$0.06 per gallon for the privilege of selling wine. This bill increases the sum to \$0.10 and a half cents.

Currently, in addition to fees described in this section, the Director of Revenue must be paid a charge of \$0.06 per gallon for the privilege of selling wine, and such additional charge must be deposited by the State Treasurer in the Missouri Wine and Grape Fund. This bill increases the sum to \$0.10 and a half cents (Section 311.554).

This bill allows any establishment licensed to sell liquor by the drink at retail for consumption on the premises to sell, serve, and allow for the consumption of alcohol between 6:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. the following day for the duration of the 2026 FIFA World Cup Tournament, June 11, 2026, through July 19, 2026.

Licensees are not required to apply for special or temporary licenses or permits in order to extend their alcohol sales hours.

Any city, county, district, or other political subdivision can, by ordinance, exempt itself from the provisions of this bill or modify the temporary period for extended alcohol sales hours.

This provision expires on July 20, 2026 (Section 311.2026).

The repeal and reenactment of Sections 311.550 and 311.554 of this bill will become effective on July 1, 2026.

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#### HCS HJR 23 & 3 -- ASSESSORS

Currently, all charters of charter counties are required to provide for the election of a county assessor, except for the charter of Jackson County.



Upon voter approval, this Constitutional amendment requires the Jackson County assessor to be elected as well.

The amendment would also require assessors of charter counties to comply with training required by general law.

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HCS HJR 73 -- REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

Upon voter approval, this Constitutional amendment would repeal the Right to Reproductive Freedom Initiative, which establishes the right to reproductive freedom, including the right to make and carry out decisions about birth control and abortion care. Any statute found by a court to be unenforceable due to the Right to Reproductive Freed Initiative will once again be enforceable.

This Constitutional amendment allows for abortions in cases of medical emergencies, fetal anomalies, rape, or incest. In the case of abortions performed or induced because of rape or incest, the abortion can only be performed or induced up to 12 weeks.

The amendment allows the General Assembly to enact laws to regulate abortions, abortion facilities, and abortion providers to ensure the health and safety of the pregnant mother, as specified.

No abortion can be performed or induced based on a prenatal diagnosis, test, or screening indicating a disability in an unborn child, except in cases of fetal anomaly. Fetal organ harvesting after an abortion is also prohibited. No public funds can be used to pay for abortions, except in cases of medical emergency, rape, or incest. No abortion can be performed or induced upon a woman without her voluntary and informed consent, except in cases of medical emergencies in which consent cannot be obtained. The amendment further specifies how the consent of a minor must be obtained.

This amendment prohibits gender transition surgeries and the prescription of cross-sex hormones or puberty-blocking drugs to minors.

This amendment requires that all actions challenging any State law relating to reproductive health care will need to be brought in the Circuit Court of Cole County and makes other specified requirements for the pleadings of such actions.

Under this Constitutional amendment, a woman's right to access health care in cases of miscarriages, ectopic pregnancies, and other medical emergencies cannot be infringed by the State.

The General Assembly will have the authority to enact laws to carry out these provisions.

This bill is similar to SJR 33 (2025).

## SS SB 1 -- COUNTY OFFICIALS

Currently, any second class county can increase the annual compensation of a county coroner by up to \$14,000 upon a majority approval of the salary commission. This bill allows any county not having a charter form of government to do this. The bill also allows the salary commission of any third class county to modify the base schedules for the computation of salaries for county officials authorized in statute, as specified in the bill (Section 50.327, RSMo & 58.095).

This bill allows the county auditor of first class counties to audit and examine claims of every kind for which a county officer has a fiduciary duty (Section 55.160).

Currently, statute sets the annual salary of the county sheriff in first or second class counties at 80% of the compensation of an associate circuit judge in the county. This bill exempts any first class county with more than 150,000 but fewer than 200,000 inhabitants from this provision. Upon enactment, this will apply to Boone County (Section 57.317).

Currently, if the office of sheriff becomes vacant, the county coroner fills the role until a new sheriff takes office. This bill allows the coroner to receive the same compensation authorized for the county sheriff, rather than the county coroner salary, during the time he or she is acting as the county sheriff (Section 58.200).

The bill provides that public administrators in second, third, and fourth class counties, who began their first terms on or after January 1, 2024, will receive compensation as provided in statute. The bill allows a salary commission to compensate a public administrator based on the assessed valuation schedule set in statute. If a salary commission decides to do so, it will not change at any future time the method of compensating the public administrator. The bill further clarifies that letters of guardianship and letters of conservatorship will be counted as separate letters for the purpose of calculating compensation under this section (Section 473.742).

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## SB 2 -- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

### PUBLISHING OF COUNTY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Sections 50.815, 50.820, 50.800, & 50.810)

This bill changes the date counties must prepare and publish their financial statements from the first Monday in March to June 30th of each year. Additionally, the county treasurer will not pay the county commission until notice is received from the State Auditor that the county's financial statement has been published in a newspaper after the first day of July.

This bill also requires second, third, and fourth-class counties to produce and publish a county annual financial statement in the same manner as counties of the first classification. The financial statement must include the name, office, and current gross annual salary of each elected or appointed county official.

The county clerk or other county officer preparing the financial statement will provide an electronic copy of the data used to create the financial statement without charge to any newspaper requesting the data.

Finally, the newspaper publishing the financial statement will charge and receive no more than its regular local classified advertising rate as published 30 days before the publication of the financial statement.

#### COUNTY FINANCIAL STATEMENT PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO FILE (Section 105.145)

Currently, any transportation development district having gross revenues of less than \$5,000 in a fiscal year for which an annual financial statement was not timely filed to the State Auditor is not subject to a fine.

This bill provides that any political subdivision that has gross revenues of less than \$5,000, or that has not levied or collected sales or use taxes in the fiscal year for which the annual financial statement was not timely filed, will not be subject to a fine.

Additionally, if failure to timely submit the annual financial statement is the result of fraud or other illegal conduct by an employee or officer of the political subdivision, the political subdivision will not be subject to a fine if the statement is filed within 30 days of discovery of the fraud or illegal conduct.

If the political subdivision has an outstanding balance for fines at the time it files its first annual financial statement after August 28, 2025, the Director of Revenue will make a one-time downward adjustment to such outstanding balance in an amount that reduces the outstanding balance by no less than 90%. If the Director of Revenue determines a fine is uncollectable, the Director will have the authority to make a one-time downward adjustment to any outstanding penalty.

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SCS SB 3 -- DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FEE OFFICES

#### MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEES AND FEE OFFICES (Section 136.055, RSMo)

This bill increases the fees authorized to be charged by motor vehicle registration offices as follows:

- (1) For a motor vehicle registration issued, renewed or transferred, the fee increases from \$6 to \$9 for an annual registration and from \$12 to \$18 for a biennial registration;
- (2) For each trailer registration issued, renewed, or transferred, the annual registration fee is \$9; the three-year registration fee is \$27, and for a permanent registration the fee is \$45;
- (3) An application or transfer of title fee increases from \$6 to \$9;
- (4) For an instruction permit, nondriver license, chauffeur's, operator's, or driver's license issued for a period of three years or less, the fee increases from \$6 to \$9; and for a license or instruction

permit issued or renewed for a period exceeding three years, the fee increases from \$12 to \$18; and

(5) For a notice of lien processed, the fee increases from \$6 to \$9.

The bill specifies that the Director of the Department of Revenue will not award fee office contracts to entities affiliated in any manner, as defined in the bill, with a current employee of the Department or with a former employee of the Department for the one-year period following the employee's termination of employment, and no person affiliated in any manner with an entity awarded a fee office contract will be affiliated in any manner with a motor vehicle title service agent as prescribed by law.

This bill allows the Department Director to amend or renew any fee office contracts awarded through the competitive bidding process after September 1, 2009, for up to five years after the expiration date of such contract. The bill includes other requirements relating to contract renewals.

The bill removes reference to tax-exempt organization status and provides that all fees authorized under the bill that are collected by a contract fee office can be used by the entity operating the contract fee office, and fees that are collected by a fee office that is operated by the Department are considered State revenue.

The fees authorized under this bill will be collected by all contract fee offices and by all full-time or temporary offices operated by the Department.

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SS#2 SB 4 -- UTILITIES

This bill modifies the provisions relating to utilities.

SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION SYSTEMS AS TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY (Sections 137.010, 137.080, and 137.115)

The bill provides that the definition of "tangible personal property" must, for the purposes of property taxation, include solar panels, racking systems, inverters, and related solar equipment, components, materials, and supplies installed in connection with solar photovoltaic energy systems that were constructed and producing solar energy prior to August 9, 2022.

The bill also creates a new subclass of tangible personal property that includes solar panels, racking systems, inverters, and related solar equipment, components, materials, and supplies installed in connection with solar photovoltaic energy systems that were constructed and producing solar energy prior to August 9, 2022, and provides that such subclass will be assessed at five percent of its true value in money. (Sections 137.080 and 137.115)

These provisions are similar to SB 414 (2025).

COMPENSATION OF TRUSTEES OF COMMON SEWER DISTRICTS (Sections 204.300 and 204.610)

The bill sets the rate of compensation for members of a County Board of Trustees. Each trustee of the Board can receive an attendance fee not to exceed \$100 for attending each regularly called board meeting, or special meeting, but must not be paid for attending more than two meetings in any calendar month, except that in a county of the first classification, a trustee will not be paid for attending more than four meetings in any calendar month. However, no trustee will be paid more than one attendance fee if such trustee attends more than one board meeting in a calendar week. Each trustee of the Board must be reimbursed for his or her actual expenditures in the performance of his or her duties on behalf of the district.

These provisions are similar to provisions in SB 5 (2025) and HB 148 (2025).

#### ASSESSMENTS TO TELECOMMUNICATION CORPORATIONS (Section 386.370)

This bill changes the calculation of assessments against public utilities used to fund the Public Service Commission. Starting January 1, 2026, the total amount assessed on the total gross intrastate operating revenue of all public utilities cannot exceed 450/1,000 of one percent, except telecommunications corporations. The total amount to be assessed to all telecommunications corporations, including interconnected voice over internet protocol service providers, cannot exceed 250/1,000 of one percent of the total gross intrastate operating revenues of all telecommunications corporations and interconnected voice over internet protocol service providers.

This provision is similar to HB 997 (2025).

#### NATURAL GAS SAFETY STANDARDS (Section 386.572)

Currently, the maximum civil penalties for any corporation, person, public utility, or municipality that owns any gas plant that violates any law, order, decision, decree, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the Public Service Commission relating to Federally mandated natural gas safety standards are set in statute. This bill repeals the penalties and instead states that violations of such standards are subject to a penalty not to exceed an amount as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation pursuant to Federal regulations.

This provision is similar to HB 141 (2025) and HB 1034 (2025).

#### ENFORCEMENT OF COMMISSION POWERS (Section 386.600)

Currently, any action to recover a penalty or forfeiture or to enforce the powers of the Public Service Commission must be started and prosecuted by the general counsel to the Commission. This bill allows the Attorney General to also start and prosecute certain violations involving HVAC services.

This provision is similar to HB 560 (2025).

#### DUTIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL (Section 386.720)

This bill requires that before the beginning of each fiscal year, the Public Counsel must make an estimate of expenses his or her office will incur reasonably attributable to the performance of his powers, duties, and functions and must also estimate the amount directly attributable to each of the specified duties of public utilities. Telephone and telegraph corporations are exempt from the provisions of the bill. The bill specifies how the Public Counsel is to attribute such expenses.

The Public Counsel must assess the amount allocated to each group in proportion to the groups respective gross intrastate operating revenues for the previous year, except that the total assessed to all public utilities must not exceed 0.057 of one percent of the total gross intrastate operating revenues. The Public Counsel must provide the assessment to each public utility before July 1st of each year and the utility must pay the assessment as specified in the bill.

This bill establishes "The Office of the Public Counsel Fund". The Fund consists of moneys paid for assessments and is to be solely used for the payment of expenditures incurred by the Public Counsel and attributable to the regulation of public utilities under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission.

This provision is similar to HB 748(2025).

#### HVAC SERVICES (Section 386.752, 386.754, 386.756, 386.760)

The bill creates the "Fair Competition Law", which requires any utility that directly or indirectly engages a utility contractor that provides HVAC services to develop a qualification process and make the process open to all contractors seeking to provide HVAC services.

The bill also includes the affiliate of a utility company in those entities prohibited from engaging in HVAC services. If the Commission receives information that a utility company or its affiliate has provided HVAC services in violations of the prohibition, the Commission's staff must investigate and report its findings to the Commission. Upon a finding of evidence of a violation, the commission can open a case act to abate the violation and impose required penalties as provided in the bill. Any person informing the Commission of any violation can intervene into the proceeding before the Commission. The person and any other interested person must be provided a copy of the final disposition of the complaint, but not the work-product or attorney-client privileged documents of the Commission's staff or General Counsel or the Attorney General.

The bill specifies that the Commission will not adopt a rule, tariff, ordinance, or other action that violates the prohibition on a utility or its affiliate providing HVAC services.

This provision is the same as HB 560 (2025).

#### ADVANCED METERS (Section 386.820)

The bill requires the Public Service Commission to promulgate rules governing the opt-out process using an advanced or hub meter for customers no later than June 30, 2026. As of July 1, 2026, a

residential utility customer can communicate with the utility that the customer would like to opt-out of using an advanced meter or hub meter.

Within a reasonable time after receiving a customer's request to remove an advanced meter from the customer's residence or business, a utility must remove the advanced meter and replace it with a traditional meter. A utility can charge a one-time all-inclusive fee, not to exceed \$125, to remove the advanced meter and to provide and install a traditional meter. A utility can charge a monthly fee, not to exceed \$15, for the use of a traditional meter.

If a residential customer uses a traditional meter and desires to read his or her own meter, the customer must report accurate electricity usage to the utility once per a billing cycle. A utility must provide the customer with the detailed process to report meter readings, as specified in the bill. At least once every 12 months, the utility must obtain an actual meter reading of the customer's energy usage to verify the accuracy of readings reported. A representative of a utility can manually read the customer's meter once per a billing cycle and correct a reading as necessary.

If the customer fails to report usage, inaccurately reports usage, or the utility does not receive the customer's usage report on time, the utility can manually read the customer's meter or charge the customer based on an estimate of prior energy use. The utility can charge the customer interest on any unpaid amount. Such interest rate can be no greater than five percent. The Commission is authorized to approve charges to be assessed pursuant to an electrical corporation's rate schedule to be assessed on customers that intentionally report inaccurate electricity usage.

A utility is not be liable for any injuries or other damages sustained by a customer or other individuals due to a customer's reading of the customer's energy usage unless such injuries or damages are caused by the willful misconduct or gross negligence of the utility.

#### TIME-OF-USE RATES (Section 386.1100)

If the Public Service Commission has ordered adoption of time-of-use rates on a mandatory basis for an electrical corporation's residential customers before the effective date of the bill, then within one year from the effective date, the Commission must issue an order to allow mandated time-of-use rate customers to opt-out of participating in time-of-use rates and elect to participate in non-time-of-use rates. The transition to opt-out of time-of-use rates can occur in a general rate case or in a stand-alone tariff proceeding to allow for the transition to conclude no later than one year from the effective date.

#### HOT WEATHER RULE FOR UTILITIES (Section 393.108)

The bill prohibits utilities from disconnecting electric and gas service to residential customers for nonpayment of bills between June 1st to September 30th between 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. if the National Weather Service local forecast predicts for the following 72 hours, instead of 24 hours as currently provided, that the temperature will rise above 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

#### COLD WEATHER RULE FOR UTILITIES (Section 393.109)

The bill prohibits utilities from disconnecting gas and electric service to residential customers for nonpayment of bills between November 1st to March 31st between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. for the following 72 hours if the National Weather Service local forecast predicts that the temperature will fall below 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

#### AN ELECTRICAL CORPORATION'S SERVICE TARIFF (Section 393.130)

This bill requires electrical corporations with more than 250,000 customers to develop and submit to the Public Service Commission schedules to include its service tariff applicable to customers who are projected to have above an annual peak demand of 100 megawatts or more. The schedules should ensure such customers' rates will reflect a representative share of the costs incurred to serve the customers and prevent other customer classes' rates from reflecting any unjust or unreasonable costs arising from service to such customers.

Each electrical corporation with 250,000 or fewer customers as of January 1, 2025, must develop and submit to the Commission such schedules applicable to customers who are reasonably projected to have above an annual peak demand of 50 megawatts or more. The Commission can order an electrical corporation to submit similar tariffs to reasonably ensure that rates of customers who are reasonably projected to have annual peak demands below the above-referenced levels will reflect the customer's representative share of certain costs.

#### AMOUNTS INCLUDED IN CONSTRUCTION WORK IN PROGRESS (Section 393.135)

This bill authorizes an electrical corporation to include in the corporation's rate base, any amounts recorded to construction work in progress for any new natural gas-generating unit. The Public Service Commission will determine the amount of construction work in progress, as specified in the bill. Base rate recoveries arising from the inclusion of construction work in progress in rate base are subject to refund, as specified in the bill.

These provisions will expire on December 31, 2035, unless the Commission determines that good cause exists to extend these provisions through December 31, 2045. The secretary of the Commission must notify the Revisor of Statutes if the conditions for the extension have been met.

This provision is the same as a provision in SCS SB 186 (2025), and similar to a provision in SB 618 (2025), a provision in HB 853 (2025), a provision in HB 963 (2025), a provision in SB 48 (2025), a provision in SB 214 (2025).

#### REDUCTION TO THE FEDERAL INCOME TAX RATES OF ELECTRICAL CORPORATIONS (Section 393.138)

If a reduction is made to the Federal income tax rates of electrical corporations between January 20, 2025, and December 31, 2029, the Commission has one-time authority to adjust each electrical corporation's rates prospectively, as specified in the bill. Beginning with the effective date of the federal corporate income tax reduction through the date the electrical corporation's rates are adjusted on a one-time basis, the Commission must require electrical corporations to defer to a regulatory asset the financial impact of the Federal act. The amounts deferred must be included in the revenue requirement used to set the electrical corporation's rates.



The Commission can alternatively allow a deferral of the Federal act's financial impacts to a regulatory asset starting with the effective date of the Federal corporate income tax reduction through the effective date of new rates. The deferred amounts must be included in the revenue requirement used to set the electrical corporation's rates in its subsequent general rate proceeding through an amortization over a period determined by the Commission.

#### RATE PROCEEDINGS FOR CERTAIN UTILITIES (Section 393.150)

The bill specifies that in any rate proceeding where testimony is pre-filed, each party must be given the opportunity to respond to any rebuttal testimony and exhibits of other parties through pre-filed testimony.

The bill specifies that beginning July 1, 2026, the test year for rate proceedings, if requested by certain utilities, will be a future year consisting of the first 12 full calendar months after the operation of law date for schedules stating new base rates filed by the utilities, unless the Public Service Commission makes a determination that using a future test year is detrimental to the public interest. The projected total rate base at the end of the future test year will be used to establish new base rates, which will not go into effect before the first day of the future test year.

Utilities that elect to use a future test year within 45 days of the end of the future test year will update their base rates as specified in the bill. The total ending rate base and expense items in the update can not be greater than the total ending rate base and expense items approved by the Commission in its report and order. The Commission and parties to the case have 60 days to review the accuracy of the updated information provided by the utility. The Commission must order the utility to file new tariff sheets reflecting the update, as specified in the bill.

Utilities that request a test year will not recover the costs of any plant investments made during the test year period under certain mechanisms set out in current law.

For utilities that elected to use a future test year, the utility must provide a reconciliation of the rate base at the end of the future test year to the Commission within 45 days of the end of the future test year. If the actual rate base is less than the rate base used to set base rates in the prior general rate proceeding, the portion of the annual revenue requirement reflecting the rate base difference must be returned to customers. The difference in revenue requirement will be placed into a regulatory liability to be returned to customers in the next general rate proceeding with such regulatory liability to accrue carrying costs at the utility's weighted average cost of capital.

The Commission can consider any change in business risk to the utility resulting from implementation of the adjustment mechanism when setting the utility's allowed return in any rate proceeding, in addition to any other changes in business risk experienced by the utility.

For a utility that elected to use a future test year, the utility must provide a reconciliation of payroll expense, certain employee benefits, and rate case expense at the end of the future test year to the Commission within 45 days of the end of the future test year. If the actual amounts are less than the amounts used to calculate the revenue requirement in the prior general rate proceeding, the difference will be returned to customers. The difference in revenue requirement will be placed into

a regulatory liability to be returned to customers in the next general rate case with such regulatory liability to accrue carrying costs at the utility's weighted average cost of capital.

These provisions are the same as provisions in SB 5 (2025).

#### A LARGE WATER PUBLIC UTILITY ACQUIRING A SMALL WATER UTILITY (Sections 393.320 and 393.1506)

The bill expands the definition of a "large water public utility" to state that such an entity will regularly provide water services to more than 8,000 customers, sewer services to more than 8,000 customer connections, or regularly provide a combination of either to more than 8,000 customer connections.

If a large water public utility chooses certain provisions for the acquisition of a small water utility, the Commission must use those procedures to establish the rate making rate base of a small water utility during the acquisition, provided that the Commission independently concludes that a certificate of convenience and necessity should be granted. In making such determination, the Commission can take into account rates that may result from such acquisition.

An appraisal of a small water utility must be performed by no less than two appraisers, instead of three appraisers as currently required. One appraiser must be appointed by the small water utility, one appraiser must be appointed by the large water public utility, and the third appraiser can be appointed by the Commission. The duties of the appraisers are specified in the bill.

For any acquisition of a small water utility with an appraised value of \$5 million or less, the Commission must issue its decision within six months of the submission of the application by the large public water utility to acquire the small water utility. The Public Service Commission or the Office of Public Counsel can request an extension for approval of 30 days upon a showing of good cause.

A large water public utility's choice to comply with the provisions of this section does not ensure that the transaction is in the public interest. The Commission must independently determine whether the acquisition is in the public interest, regardless of whether the matter has been put to a vote of the small water utility's ratepayers.

These provisions are the same as provisions in SB 5 (2025) and similar to provisions in HB 1059 (2025).

#### CLOSURE OF ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS (Section 393.401)

Beginning January 1, 2026, this bill specifies that prior to the closure of an existing electric generating power plant, an electrical corporation, registered and doing business in Missouri, must first certify that it has secured and placed on the electric grid an equal or greater amount of reliable electric generation as specified in the bill. Adequate transmission lines must be in place and the replacement generation fully operational concurrently with the closure of the existing electric generating plant.

If the replacement electric generation uses some or all of the interconnection facilities used by the existing generation plant, the replacement facilities must be operational within 180 days of the closure of the existing plant. If the existing plant is closed as a result of an unexpected or unplanned cause or event, the electrical corporation must follow the procedures established in the bill, including filing an application with the Public Service Commission outlining its plan to install replacement reliable electric generation. During any periods where the replacement power is not fully operational, the electrical corporation must make all reasonable efforts to contract for additional firm generating capacity to meet the planning reserve margin requirement of the regional transmission operator.

The bill also specifies that the average of the summer and winter accredited capacity of the new generation must be greater or equal to the average of the summer and winter accredited capacity of the existing generation, with consideration of the electrical corporation's anticipated loss of load. The Public Service Commission must certify that these requirements are met. If the Commission receives information that the electrical corporation has experienced a significant and long-term loss of load, the commission must determine if replacement generation is in the public interest.

Before the official date of the existing electric generating power plant closure, the electric utility company must provide certification to the Commission, the General Assembly, and the Governor that it has met the necessary requirements.

These provisions are similar to provisions in HCS HB 476 (2025) and SB 6 (2025).

#### RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD (Section 393.1030)

This bill specifies that electric utilities with more than 250,000 but less than 1 million retail customers in Missouri as of the end of 2024 with energy that meets the criteria of the renewable energy portfolio requirements and is contracted for by an accelerated renewable buyer must:

- (1) Have all associated renewable energy certificates retired by the accelerated renewable buyer and the certificates can not be used to meet the electric utility's portfolio requirements;
- (2) Be excluded from the total electric utility's sales used to determine the portfolio requirements; and
- (3) Be used to offset all or a portion of its electric load to determine compliance with the portfolio requirements.

The bill specifies that the accelerated renewable buyer is exempt from any renewable energy standard compliance costs as established by the utility and approved by the Public Service Commission. Each electric utility must certify, and verify as necessary, to the Commission that the accelerated renewable buyer has satisfied the exemption requirements as specified in the bill. The accelerated renewable buyer can also certify the exemption requirements to the Commission individually.

This provision is the same as provision in SB 6 (2025) and HB 1059 (2025).

#### ELECTRICAL CORPORATION'S PLAN TO OWN SUFFICIENT CAPACITY (Section 393.1080)

The Commission can also require electrical corporations to provide documentation reflecting an electrical corporation's plan to own sufficient capacity to meet the electrical corporation's obligations for the upcoming and three subsequent planning years. An electrical corporation must submit documentation reflecting it's capacity position, as specified in the bill.

The Commission can require additional audits and reporting necessary to determine whether an electrical corporation's plan provides for its ownership or contractual rights to sufficient capacity.

If an electrical corporation fails to have sufficient capacity for the upcoming planning year and the Commission determines the failure is the result of the corporation's imprudence, the Commission can disallow any associated costs related to the failure. The Commission can also require submission of a plan by the electrical corporation within six months to resolve any expected capacity deficiency for the subsequent three planning years

This provision is the same as a provision in SCS SB 186 (2025), and similar to a provision in SB 618 (2025), HB 92 (2025), SB 853 (2025), and a provision in HB 963 (2025).

#### DEFERRALS BY ELECTRICAL CORPORATIONS (Section 393.1400)

The bill removes "new natural gas units" from the definition of "qualifying electric plant" for the purposes of certain deferrals by electrical corporations.

The cost of investments in new generating units and energy storage systems are excluded from the total investments reflected in each year's capital investment plan for which required investments in grid modernization projects are determined.

The bill extends the sunset date of certain provisions relating to deferrals by electrical corporations from December 31, 2028 to December 31, 2035. The deadline to file an application seeking permission from the Public Service Commission relating to deferrals will be extended from December 31, 2026 to December 31, 2033.

Provisions relating to electrical corporations seeking deferrals expires on December 31, 2040, instead of on December 31, 2033.

This provision is the same as a provision in SB 6 (2025) and HCS HB 569 (2025),.

#### WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE RATE ADJUSTMENT (WSIRA) (Section 393.1506)

The bill allows a public utility with sewer service to more than 8,000 customer connections, or a combination of either water and sewer to more than 8,000 customer connections to file a petition and proposed rate schedules with the Public Service Commission to establish or change a WSIRA

that will provide for the recovery of the appropriate pretax revenues associated with the eligible infrastructure system projects.

This provision is similar to HB 1059(2025).

#### DISCOUNTS BY GAS CORPORATIONS (Section 393.1645)

The bill makes adjustments to the way in which a gas corporation can apply certain discounts to its customers in their use of the service. The way in which a customer can qualify for one of the discounts is set forth as follows:

- (1) When the customer is a new customer and the new load is reasonably projected to be at least 270,000 ccf annually, the discount must equal up to 25% subject to the limiting provisions of this section and will apply for four years; or
- (2) When the customer is an existing customer and the new load is reasonably projected to be at least 135,000 ccf annually, the discount will equal 25% subject to the limiting provisions of this section and must apply for four years.

To obtain the discount, the customer's load must be incremental; receive local, regional, or State economic development incentives; and meet the criteria set in the gas corporation's economic development rider tariff sheets.

In each general rate proceeding, the difference in revenues generated by applying the discounted rates and the revenues that would have been generated without such discounts will not be imputed into the gas corporation's revenue requirement. Instead, the revenue requirement should be set using the revenues generated by the discounted rates and allocated to all customer classes as specified in the bill.

These provisions are the same as provisions in HB 1059 (2025).

#### REVENUE REQUIREMENT IMPACT CAP (Section 393.1656)

The bill modifies the definition of "revenue requirement impact cap" to mean the product of one-twelfth of two and one-quarter percent, instead of two and one-half percent as currently provided, multiplied by the number of months that have elapsed from the effective date of new base rates in the electrical corporation's most recently completed general rate proceeding as provided in current law.

#### SPECIAL RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER RATES (Section 393.1680)

The bill authorizes the Public Service Commission to approve a special alternative residential customer rate or discount from a utility company, based on household utility burden, as defined in the bill. The rate or discount incorporates a Commission authorized discount from the appropriate base residential rate. Any eligibility verification needed to implement the alternative rate must be done by an independent third party as specified in the bill.

## SECURITIZED UTILITY TARIFF (Section 393.1700)

The bill specifies that if an electrical corporation has a Commission-approved market-based tariff as of 2022, any customer receiving electrical service under the market-based tariff with a load of at least 80 megawatts is exempt from any securitized utility tariff charges if the charge was approved by the Commission prior to customer energization and from any future securitized utility tariff charges as provided in the bill. No exemption may apply for electrical service that is not received by the customer under a Commission-approved market-based tariff.

## REVIEW OF FINANCING ORDERS FOR ENERGY TRANSITION COSTS (Section 393.1700)

The bill authorizes the Public Service Commission to directly contract counsel, financial advisors, or other consultants as necessary to implement the provisions of the law allowing for the Commission to approve the issuance of securitized utility tariff bonds by an electrical corporation. The Commission must establish a process for bidding such contracts and make the policy and rate case-specific contract information publicly available.

This provision is the same as a provision in HB 1059 (2025) and SB 6 (2025).

## INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANNING (Section 393.1900)

By August 28, 2027, and every four years as needed thereafter, the Commission must complete an integrated resource planning proceeding for electrical corporations as specified in the bill.

No later than August 28, 2027, the Commission must publish a schedule for electrical corporations to file an integrated resource plan every four years. Each integrated resource plan must include an alternative resource plan meeting certain requirements. All alternative resource plans must cover a minimum 16-year planning horizon and must reflect projections of an electrical corporation's load obligations and how an electrical corporation would reliably meet its projected load obligations. Additional requirements are specified in the bill.

After a hearing and no later than 360 days after the electrical corporation files an integrated resource plan, the Commission must issue a report and order determining whether the electrical corporation has submitted sufficient documentation and selected a preferred resource plan representing a reasonable and prudent means of meeting the electrical corporation's load serving obligations at just and reasonable rates. In making this determination, the Commission must consider whether the plan appropriately balances factors specified in the bill. The Commission can grant itself an extension for good cause for the issuance of the report and order. Up to 150 days after an electrical corporation makes its initial integrated resource plan filing, it can file an update of the cost estimates if the cost estimates have materially changed.

If the Commission determines that the preferred resource plan is a reasonable and prudent means of meeting the electrical corporation's load serving obligations, the determination will constitute the Commission's permission for the electrical corporation to construct or acquire the specified supply-side resources that were reflected in the implementation plan. When the electrical

corporation files an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity to authorize construction or acquisition of the supply-side resources, the Commission will be deemed to have determined that the supply-side resources are necessary or convenient for the public interest. In the certificate of convenience and necessity proceeding, the Commission's inquiry will be limited as specified in the bill.

If the Commission determines that the preferred resource plan is not a reasonable and prudent means of meeting the electrical corporation's load serving obligations, the Commission will have the authority to specify in its report and order the deficiencies in the preferred resource plan. The procedures for an electrical corporation to cure the deficiencies is specified in the bill.

If approved in a proceeding granting permission and approval to construct an electric plant, an electrical corporation may in certain circumstances be permitted to include in its rate base any amounts recorded to construction work in progress for the investments for which permission is granted. The inclusion of construction work in progress will be in lieu of any applicable allowance for funds used during construction that would have accrued from the effective date of new base rates that reflect inclusion of the construction work in progress in rate base. The Commission must determine the amount of construction work in progress that can be included in rate base as specified in the bill.

This provision is similar to a provision in SCS SB 186 (2025), and similar to a provision in SB 618 (2025), a provision in SB 48 (2025), a provision in SB 214 (2025), and a provision in HB 853 (2025).

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SS#2 SCS SB 22 -- JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

This bill increases the word limit on summary statements for ballot measures proposed by the General Assembly from 50 to 100 words, excluding articles.

The bill requires, for all measures except initiative petitions, challenges to official ballot titles or fiscal notes to be brought in the Cole County Circuit Court not later than the 22nd Tuesday prior to the general election at which the measure will be submitted to voters.

If, after a challenge, a summary statement is found to be sufficient and fair, the court must order the statement to be placed on the ballot. If the statement is found to be insufficient or unfair, the circuit court can make suggested revisions but will order the Secretary of State (SOS) to prepare a new summary statement that is sufficient and fair. The SOS can be ordered to write up to three revised summary statements and the court will determine whether they are sufficient and fair. If any of the revised statements are determined to be sufficient and fair, that summary statement will appear on the ballot, subject to any appeals. If, after submission of a third revised summary statement, the court still finds it to be insufficient and unfair, the court will write its own summary statement that is sufficient and fair and order it to appear on the ballot, subject to any appeals.

Current law requires all actions challenging ballot titles for statewide ballot measures to be fully and finally adjudicated no less than 56 days prior to the date of the election at which they will appear on the ballot. This bill extends that period to 70 days prior to the date of the election.

The bill specifies that once the SOS certifies the official ballot title, signatures can be collected, even if the ballot title is subject to an action in court challenging its sufficiency and fairness. Signatures gathered prior to a court order changing the ballot title will not be invalidated based on the fact that the title was modified.

This bill allows the Attorney General to appeal any action in which the state or a state official is preliminarily enjoined from implementing any provision of state law. This provision is retrospective in its application and contains an emergency clause.

This bill is similar to SB 730 (2025).

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CCS SS SB 28 -- TRANSPORTATION

This bill modifies the provision relating to transportation.

CONFIDENTIALITY OF MOTOR VEHICLE RECORDS (Section 32.056)

The bill clarifies that the Department of Revenue cannot release the home address or any other information that identifies a vehicle owned or leased by any person who is an active or retired county, State, or Federal parole officer, Federal pretrial officer, a peace officer, a person vested under the Missouri Constitution with judicial power, a member of the Federal judiciary, or a member of such person's immediate family contained in the Department's motor vehicle or driver registration records.

This provision is similar to HB 138 (2025).

COTTON TRAILERS (Sections 301.010 and 307.010)

Currently, the maximum speed at which cotton trailers may travel is 40 miles per hour. This bill increases the speed to less than 70 miles per hour and removes the requirement that the trailer is to be used exclusively for transporting cotton. The bill also specifies that cotton trailers are not in violation of the provisions relating to securing of loads if certain conditions are met and no portion of the load becomes dislodged and falls from the trailer.

This provision is similar to HB 169 (2025).

TEMPORARY PERMITS (Section 301.140)

Currently, temporary permits issued by a dealer selling motor vehicles under the provisions of Section 301.213, RSMo, last 90 days instead of the standard 30 days. The bill removes this 90-day duration and requires that a purchaser of a vehicle pay sales taxes on that vehicle before the purchaser can purchase a temporary permit. The sales tax requirement is subject to a contingent effective date and will become effective when the Department of Revenue (DOR) has implemented their modernized, integrated computer system and the Director of the Department gives notice that the sales tax requirement is feasible.



This provision is similar to those found in the perfected HB 378 (2025).

#### SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATES (Section 301.448 and 301.469)

Currently, a person who currently serves in or has been honorably discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Coast Guard, or the reserves for any such branch can apply for special personalized license plates with the seal, logo, or emblem along with words designating their branch or subdivision of service. The bill adds members of the Space Force.

The bill provides that the application for a Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation emblem license plate and payment of the \$25 contribution may be made at the time of registration to the Director of the Department of Revenue, who must deposit the contribution to the credit of the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation.

This provision is similar to HB 1355 and HB 61 (2025).

#### TRAILERS AND TRAILER DEALERS (Section 301.558)

Currently, motor vehicle dealers, boat dealers, and powersport dealers are allowed to fill in blanks on standardized forms as long as they do not charge for the service. Further, they can charge administration fees in connection to leasing or selling motor vehicles, vessels, and vessel trailers for the storage of documents and certain clerical work without being charged for the unauthorized practice of law.

The bill adds "trailer dealers" to these provisions. The bill changes the percent of fees collected by motor vehicle dealers and trailer dealers remitted to the maintenance of DOR's modernized, integrated motor vehicle registration and driver licensing system from 1% to 3.5%.

#### MOTORCYCLE OR ATV FRANCHISORS (Section 407.1034)

Currently, it is unlawful for a motorcycle or all-terrain vehicle franchisor to fail to pay reasonable compensation for certain items to a franchisee upon termination, cancellation, or refusal to continue a franchise or upon the discontinuation of certain line-make parts or products. This bill would make it unlawful to fail to repurchase a franchisee's inventory or other items if the motorcycle or all-terrain franchise agreement is terminated, canceled, or not renewed by the manufacturer for cause; if the dealer voluntarily terminates an agreement in a permitted manner; if the manufacturer terminates or discontinues a franchise by discontinuing a line-make or by no longer doing business in this State; or if the manufacturer changes the distributor or method of distribution of its products in this State or alters its sales regions or marketing areas within this State in a way that eliminates or diminishes the dealer's market area. The manufacturer must repurchase the items within 30 days of termination.

This provision is similar to HB 969 (2025).

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## HCS SS SB 43 -- PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE PERSONS

### CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN TAX CREDIT (Section 135.341)

Current law authorizes a tax credit for contributions made to Court-Appointed Special Advocate entities (CASAs), child advocacy centers, and crisis care centers, as those terms are defined in the bill, with such tax credit equal to 50% of the contribution. For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, this bill increases the credit to 70% of the contribution and provides that a taxpayer will not be allowed to claim a credit in excess of \$50,000 in any tax year.

Additionally, the current maximum amount of tax credits that can be authorized for contributions made to qualified agencies must not exceed \$1.5 million. This bill increases the maximum amount to \$2.5 million for all fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2025.

Currently, if a taxpayer is denied a tax credit because of a lack of available funds, and that denial results in a balance owed to the State, the taxpayer has 60 days from the notice of denial to make payment arrangements. If the balance is not paid within 60 days from the notice, the remaining balance will be due and payable in the same manner as personal income tax.

This bill states that if a full or partial denial of a tax credit because the cumulative maximum amount of credits has already been redeemed results in an income tax balance owed to the State, the taxpayer will not be held liable for any additional tax, penalty, or interest on that income tax balance due, provided that payment arrangements are made within 60 days from the issuance of the notice of the credit denial.

The bill repeals the provision stating that if the balance is not paid within 60 days from the notice, the remaining balance will be treated as personal income tax.

Finally, this bill reauthorizes and extends the expiration of the tax credit to December 31, 2031.

This provision is the same as a provision in HB 1292 (2025).

### YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACT (Section 135.460)

Current law authorizes a tax credit in the amount of 50% of contributions made to certain youth programs. This bill increases the tax credit to 70% of the amount of contributions made.

This provision is the same as a provision in HCS HB 235 and TAFP CCS SS HCS HB 737 & 486 (2025).

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO DIAPER BANKS TAX CREDIT (Section 135.621)

This bill reauthorizes the provisions of the "Diaper Bank Tax Credit" by extending the sunset date to December 31, 2031.

The bill expands the definition of a "diaper bank" to include the term national diaper bank, as described in the bill.

This provision is the same as a provision in HB 1522.

#### CHILDREN'S DIVISION SERVICE PROVIDER CONTRACTS (Section 210.112)

Under this bill, provisions in service provider contracts with Children's Division in which the State is indemnified, held harmless, or insured for damages, claims, losses, or expenses arising from any injury caused by or resulting from the State's negligence, in whole or in part, must be void as against public policy and unenforceable.

This provision is the same as a provision in TAFP CCS SS HCS HB 737 & 486 (2025).

#### SERVICES FOR YOUTH (Section 210.119)

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to establish a program to provide a comprehensive system of service delivery, education, and residential care for youth with severe behavioral challenges. To be eligible for the program, a youth must be under 21 years of age and in the custody of children's division within the Department of Social Services, and a team in the Department must have made a determination that the needs of the youth cannot be met with existing State programs.

The Department will have the authority to contract with qualified service providers to provide services to the youth under this bill. Such service providers must be: certified, licensed, or accredited in their respective fields of service; based in Missouri; and entities with proven experience in the areas for which they will provide services.

A qualified service provider providing services under this bill will have immunity as specified in the bill.

The Department will be authorized to enter into memoranda of understanding with any facility or campus under state ownership that is appropriate for the program and youth being served.

No qualified service provider will be liable for damages for any services provided under a contract entered into under this provision if such services or duties are performed in good faith and without gross negligence. In no case will a qualified service provider be immune for abuse or neglect of a child.

This provision is the same as a provision in TAFP HB 737 & 486 (2025).

#### CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS (Section 210.145)

Under this bill, if Children's Division is responding to an investigation of abuse or neglect of a child, the person responding must first ensure the safety of the child through direct observation and communication with the child. If the parent or alleged perpetrator is present during the investigation, the responding person must present identification and verbally identify himself or herself and his or her role in the investigation and must inform the child's parent or the alleged

perpetrator of his or her rights during the visit. The parent must be given a reasonable amount of time to read such notice or have such notice read to him or her by the case worker before the visit commences but must not exceed five minutes. If the child faces immediate threat or danger, exceptions will apply. If the Division is responding to an assessment of abuse or neglect, the person responding must present identification and verbally identify himself or herself and his or her role in the investigation prior to the child being interviewed.

This provision is the same as a provision in TAFP CCS SS HCS HB 737 & 486 (2025).

REPRESENTATION BY COUNSEL (Sections 210.160, 210.560, 210.565, 210.762, 211.032, 211.211, 211.261, 211.462, 477.700, 477.705, 477.710, and 477.715)

Beginning January 1, 2028, and subject to a specific appropriation for this purpose, unless operating under a pilot project established by the Missouri Supreme Court, a judge must appoint a child's counsel instead of a guardian ad litem (GAL) for children in certain abuse or neglect proceedings who are at least 14 but less than 18 years of age.

This bill creates the "Child and Family Legal Representation Coordinating Commission" within the judicial branch, with nine members appointed by the Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court and specifies the requirements for appointment. Duties are described in the bill and include making recommendations to the Missouri Supreme Court concerning the establishment or modification of minimum training requirements and practice standards for attorneys serving as GALs, children's counsel, or parent's counsel. The Commission can also develop, coordinate, and evaluate pilot projects relating to GALs, children's counsel, or parents' counsel and outcomes relating to the various models of representation, as well as implementation of the children's counsel appointment provisions of this bill.

The bill creates the "Child and Family Legal Representation Fund" in the State Treasury, to be distributed by the Coordinating Commission to the judicial circuits for the purpose of improving or providing high-quality legal representation for children or families, including the appointment of GALs, children's counsel, or parents' counsel. Under this bill, a circuit can participate in a pilot project established by the Missouri Supreme Court relating to GALs, children's counsel, or parents' counsel, in which case a judge can appoint a child's counsel instead of a GAL. This provision will expire on January 1, 2028.

These provisions are the same as provisions in TAFP CCS SS HCS HB 737 & 486 (2025).

NEWBORN SAFETY INCUBATORS (Section 210.950)

Currently, newborn safety incubators are authorized to be installed in certain locations for a relinquishing parent to leave a newborn child, up to 45 days of age, without fear of prosecution. This bill modifies the age limit of a newborn infant that may be brought to a newborn safety incubator from 45 days old to 90 days old.

Additionally, the bill creates the "Safe Place for Newborns Fund", and provides that the State will match moneys from the General Revenue Fund, in the amount of up to \$10,000 per installation of newborn safety incubators.

This provision is the same as a provision in HB 121 (2025).

#### JUVENILE COURT PROCEEDINGS (Sections 211.033, 211.071, 211.072, 219.021, and 221.044)

This bill applies provisions related to the filing of petitions to transfer a juvenile to a court of general jurisdiction when a juvenile is accused of an offense to motions to modify.

Additionally, if a juvenile who has been certified as an adult and is awaiting trial is ordered to be released from an adult jail following a transfer order and is subsequently detained on a violation of the conditions of release or bond, the juvenile must return to the custody of the adult jail pending further court order. An extension must be granted to hold a juvenile in an adult jail for longer than 180 days. If an extension is granted, this bill requires the court to hold a hearing every 30 days to determine whether the placement of the juvenile in an adult jail is still in the best interests of justice.

Currently, when a juvenile turns 18 or is convicted of adult charges, the juvenile must be transferred from juvenile detention to an adult facility. This bill applies this requirement to when a juvenile pleads guilty as well.

The bill requires county jail staff to designate a liaison who will be assigned to each juvenile who is awaiting trial in a juvenile detention facility and who has been certified as an adult. The liaison will assist in communication with the facility on the needs of the juvenile. Currently, the Division of Youth Services cannot keep any youth beyond his or her 18th birthday. This bill increases that to a youth's 19th birthday. As specified in this bill, if a person is 18 years old or older or turns 18 while in juvenile detention, upon a motion filed by a juvenile officer, the court can order that the person in juvenile detention be detained in an adult jail or other adult detention facility until the disposition of that person's juvenile court case.

These provisions are the same as provisions in HB 592 (2025).

#### USE OF RESTRAINTS ON A CHILD IN JUVENILE COURT (Section 211.436)

This bill prohibits the use of instruments of restraint on a child during a juvenile court proceeding and it requires the restraints to be removed prior to the child's appearance before the court, unless the court finds that certain exceptions, specified in the bill, apply. If the juvenile officer believes there is an immediate safety or flight risk, the juvenile officer must advise the child's attorney and make a written request, prior to the commencement of the proceeding, for the child to remain restrained during the proceeding. The child's attorney will have an opportunity to be heard and, if restraints are ordered, the court will make findings of fact in support of the order.

This provision is the same as a provision in HB 782 (2025).

#### AGE OF MARRIAGE (Sections 451.040, 451.080, and 451.090)

Currently, a marriage license cannot be issued in Missouri for individuals under 16 years of age or issued when one party to the marriage is under 18 years of age and the other party is over 21 years of age. Additionally, no marriage license can be issued if any party to the marriage is under 18 years of age without parental consent.

This bill repeals those provisions so no marriage license can be issued in Missouri for individuals under 18 years of age.

This provision is the same as a provision in TAFP CCS SS HCS HB 737 & 486 (2025).

#### ADMISSIBILITY OF EVIDENCE IN CRIMINAL CASES (Sections 491.075 and 492.304)

Currently, a statement made by a child under 14 years of age that would otherwise be inadmissible in court, including a visual and an aural recording of a verbal or nonverbal statement of that child, is admissible in court in matters relating to offenses under Chapter 565, 566, 568, or 573. This bill changes the age to children under 18 years of age. The bill also adds that a visual and an aural recording of a verbal or nonverbal statement of a "vulnerable person", as defined in the bill, is also admissible when relating to an offense under Chapter 565, 566, 568, or 573. These provisions of a delayed effective date of August 28, 2026.

These provisions are similar to provisions in Perfected HCS HB 615 (2025).

#### CIVIL ACTIONS FOR CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE (Section 537.046)

This bill modifies the offenses included in the definition of "childhood sexual abuse" for civil actions to recover damages from injury or illness caused by childhood sexual abuse. The bill will apply to any action arising on or after August 28, 2025. This bill also provides that a nondisclosure agreement by any party to a childhood sexual abuse action must not be judicially enforceable in a dispute involving childhood sexual abuse allegations or claims and will be void.

These provisions are the same as provisions in TAFP CCS SS HCS HBs 737 & 486 (2025).

#### SEXUAL OFFENSES (Sections 566.151 and 567.030)

This bill also modifies the offense of enticement of a child by increasing the age of the victim from less than 15 years of age to less than 17 years of age. The bill modifies the penalty provisions for the offense of patronizing prostitution. Currently, the penalty distinctions are for victims older than 14 years of age and 14 or younger. This bill increases the age from 14 to 15 years old and modifies the offense of patronizing prostitution if the individual being patronized is 15 years of age or younger from a class D felony to a class B felony.

These provisions are the same as provisions in Perfected HCS HB 615 (2025).

#### ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD IN THE FIRST DEGREE (Section 568.045)

Currently, a person commits the offense of endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree if he or she knowingly engages in sexual conduct with a person under the age of 17 years over whom the person is a parent, guardian, or otherwise charged with the care and custody of the child. This bill changes the age of the child from under 17 to under 18 years of age.

This provision is the same as a provision in TAFP SS#2 SCS HCS#2 HB 495 (2025) and TAFP CCS SS HCS HBs 737 & 486 (2025).

#### COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY HAZING (Section 578.365)

This bill provides that the offense of hazing will be known as "Danny's Law" and provides that a person must be found guilty of the offense of hazing if a person knowingly, actively, and not under duress, participates in, solicits another person to participate in, or causes or plans a willful act that endangers a student or certain members of organizations under the sanction of a public or private college or university.

This bill provides that a person will not be guilty of the offense of hazing if the person establishes that he or she:

- (1) Was present at the event where hazing occurred and a person was in need of immediate medical assistance;
- (2) Was the first person to call 911 or campus security to report the need for medical attention;
- (3) Provided the relevant information to the 911 operator or campus security; and
- (4) Remained at the scene until medical assistance arrived and cooperated with such assistance.

Additionally, this bill provides that a person is immune from prosecution if the person can establish he or she rendered aid to the hazing victim before assistance arrived.

These provisions are the same as provisions in HCS HB 234 (2025).

#### HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION FUND (SECTION 589.700)

This bill provides that a person who pled guilty to or was found guilty of certain sexual offenses, as specified in the bill, will be required to pay \$10,000 in restitution per identified victim, or \$2,500 in restitution if the person pled guilty to or was found guilty of patronizing prostitution, and \$2,500 for each county in which the offense or offenses occurred, payable to the State to be deposited into the newly established "Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Fund". Upon receipt of money from the Fund, a county must allocate disbursement of the funds according to the requirements in the bill. The moneys in the Fund will be distributed to the county where the human trafficking offense or offenses occurred. The county will allocate \$10,000, or \$2,500 if the offense for which the restitution was assessed was patronizing prostitution, toward local rehabilitation of human trafficking victims and \$2,500 toward local education programs for convicted human trafficking

offenders and to increase the number of law enforcement officers to enforce human trafficking laws.

These provisions are similar to provisions in Perfected HCS HB 615 (2025).

#### CRIME VICTIMS' COMPENSATION FUND (SECTION 595.045)

Currently a fee of \$46 is payable to the Crime Victims' Compensation Fund by a person who pleads to or is found guilty of a Class C or D felony. This bill adds a class E felony to the list of offenses required to pay the \$46 fee.

These provisions are the same as provisions in SCS HSC SB 615 (2025).

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**SS SCS SB 47 -- CLASS ACTIONS**

This bill amends Supreme Court Rule 52.08 relating to class actions.

With certain exceptions, this bill makes changes to mirror the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Further, the bill provides that an order certifying a class action must define the class and the class claims, issues, or defenses and must appoint class counsel. An order that grants or denies class certification can be altered or amended before final judgment or can be combined with orders for actions taken at the case management conference.

Notices to class members for certain class actions can be sent by United States mail, electronic means, or other appropriate means. Additionally, the rule states that the notice will clearly and concisely state in plain, easily understood language:

- (1) The nature of the action;
- (2) The definition of the class certified;
- (3) The class claims, issues, or defenses;
- (4) That a class member can enter an appearance through an attorney if the member so desires;
- (5 ) That the court will exclude from the class any member who requests exclusion;
- (6) The time and manner for requesting exclusion; and
- (7) The binding effect of a class judgment on members.

Currently, a class action must not be dismissed or compromised without the approval of the court and notice of the proposed dismissal or compromise will be given to all members of the class in such manner as the court directs. This bill repeals this provision and provides that the claims, issues, or defenses of a certified class, or a proposed class, can be settled, voluntarily dismissed, or compromised only with the court's approval.



Furthermore, the bill states that the parties will provide the court with information sufficient to enable it to determine whether to give notice of the proposal to the class and that the court must direct notice in a reasonable manner to all class members who would be bound by the proposal if giving notice is justified by the parties' showing that the court will likely be able to approve the proposal and certify the class for purposes of judgment on the proposal.

If the proposal would bind class members, the court can approve it only after a hearing and only on finding that it is fair, reasonable, and adequate after considering whether:

- (1) The class representatives and class counsel have adequately represented the class;
- (2) The proposal was negotiated at arm's length;
- (3) The relief provided for the class is adequate, taking into account the costs, risks, and delay of trial and appeal, the effectiveness of any proposed method of distributing relief to the class, the terms of any proposed award of attorney's fees, and any agreement required to be identified by the rule; and
- (4) The proposal treats class members equitably relative to each other.

Additionally, the bill requires the parties seeking approval to file a statement identifying any agreement made in connection with the proposal. If the class action was previously certified, the court can refuse to approve a settlement unless it affords a new opportunity to request exclusion to individual class members who had an earlier opportunity to request exclusion but did not do so. Any class member can object to the proposal if it requires court approval and such objection must state whether it applies only to the objector, to a specific subset of the class, or to the entire class. The grounds for the objection must be specified. Unless approved by the court after a hearing, no payment or other consideration will be provided in connection with forgoing or withdrawing an objection, or forgoing, dismissing, or abandoning an appeal from a judgment approving the proposal.

Unless a statute provides otherwise, the bill provides that a court certifying a class must appoint class counsel and in appointing such counsel, the court will consider:

- (1) The work that the counsel has done in identifying or investigating potential claims in the action;
- (2) The counsel's experience in handling class actions, other complex litigation, and the types of claims asserted in the action;
- (3) The counsel's knowledge of the applicable law; and
- (4) The resources that counsel will commit to representing the class.

Additionally, the court can consider any other matter pertinent to counsel's ability to fairly and adequately represent the interests of the class and can order potential class counsel to provide

information on any subject pertinent to the appointment and to propose terms for attorney's fees and nontaxable costs.

Furthermore, the court can include in the appointing order provisions about the award of attorney's fees or nontaxable costs and can make any further orders in connection with the appointment.

If more than one adequate applicant seeks appointment as class counsel, the court will appoint the applicant best able to represent the interests of the class. Additionally, the rule provides that the court can designate interim counsel to act on behalf of a putative class before determining whether to certify the action as a class action. The rule requires that class counsel fairly and adequately represent the interests of the class.

In a certified class action, the court can award reasonable attorney's fees and nontaxable costs that are authorized by law or by the parties' agreement. The bill provides the following procedures for an award of fees and costs:

- (1) A claim for an award must be made by motion at a time the court sets and notice of the motion will be served on all parties and, for motions by class counsel, directed to class members in a reasonable manner;
- (2) A class member, or a party from whom payment is sought, can object to the motion;
- (3) The court can hold a hearing and must find the facts and state its legal conclusions; and
- (4) The court can refer issues related to the amount of the award to a special master.

This bill is similar to SB 313 (2025).

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SS SCS SBs 49 & 118 -- ALLOWS SCHOOLS TO EMPLOY OR ACCEPT CHAPLAINS AS VOLUNTEERS

This bill authorizes a public school to employ a chaplain or accept a chaplain as a screened volunteer.

The bill specifies that a school chaplain must not be employed in any position that requires a teaching certificate unless the chaplain is a certified teacher. A school chaplain must be a member of a Department of Defense listed religious-endorsing organization recognized by the Armed Forces Chaplains Board.

The bill requires a background to be conducted on any school chaplain prior to the chaplain's commencement of employment or volunteer service. A school district or charter school must not employ or accept as a volunteer any chaplain who is required to be registered as a sex offender under current law.

PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES (Section 167.012, 167.013, and 167.790)

The bill provides that a school district or charter school must not be a member of, or remit any funds to, any statewide activities association that would require the school to prohibit a student receiving instruction at an FPE school, a home school, or a full-time virtual school from participating in any event or activity offered by the charter school or by the school district in which the student resides or that requires the student to take any class in order to participate in such event or activity.

The bill further provides that a school district or charter school must not prohibit the student from participating in any event or activity offered or require the student to take any class in order to participate in the event or activity. However, a school district or charter school can also require students to participate in components of instruction that are required for participation in fine arts activities, career and technical student organizations, or integrated cocurricular activities.

A school district or charter school can establish an attendance policy or disciplinary policy for any required coursework, rehearsals, practice sessions, or training sessions that are directly related to and required for trying out for, and if successful, participation in an event or activity.

Any school disciplinary policies and attendance policies will be applied in the same manner to all students who try out for and participate in an event or activity. A school district or charter school must not establish a separate disciplinary or attendance policy for students who receive instruction at an FPE school, a home school, or a full-time virtual school.

If a student whose academic performance or disciplinary status would preclude the student from eligibility to participate in extracurricular events or activities disenrolls from school in order to receive instruction at an FPE school, a home school, or a full-time virtual school, the student will not be eligible to participate in events or activities in the school of the student's disenrollment for 12 calendar months from the date of disenrollment.

The parent of a home school student must oversee any academic standards relating to such student's participation in a charter school or public school event or activity.

The bill provides certain criteria that an FPE school, home school, and full-time virtual school student must satisfy in order to be eligible to participate in charter school or public school activities in their district of residence, including: providing proof of residency in the district or within the boundaries of the attendance center or charter school in which they wish to participate in charter school or public school activities; and adhering to the same behavior, responsibility, performance and code of conduct standards related to the activity as students who are enrolled in the charter school or school district. Any records created pertaining to an FPE school student, home school student, or a full-time virtual school student will be confidential.

The bill allows schools to create policies that include or exclude FPE, home, and full-time virtual students in other functions of the school outside of athletic, fine arts, and integrated cocurricular.

## DECLARATIONS OF INTENT TO HOME SCHOOL (Section 167.042)

The bill modifies the provision authorizing parents to submit a written declaration of intent to home school their child to the recorder of deeds of the county where the child legally resides or to the superintendent of the public school district where the child legally resides. The bill changes the provision to allow for written notification to be provided to the school, instead of the recorder of deeds, and then the school will drop the child from the district rolls.

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**CCS HCS SS SCS SB 68 -- ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

This bill creates and modifies several provisions relating to Elementary and Secondary Education.

## LEAD IN SCHOOL DRINKING WATER (Sections 160.077 & 701.200)

This language modifies the “Get the Lead Out of School Drinking Water Act” and the definitions of “drinking water outlet” and “remediation”. A “drinking water outlet” now includes outlets that are used for cleaning cooking or eating utensils and “remediation” now excludes flushing and adds filtering the water.

The language requires that lead filters meet the standards set by the Department of Natural Resources and allow for the removal of a water outlet from service as an option if lead contamination is discovered. This language specifies that if all drinking water outlets in a school have test results of less than five parts per billion for lead, the school is only required to be tested every five years.

The bill repeals provisions regarding school districts serving students under first grade that were constructed before 1996.

These provisions are similar to HB 995 (2025).

## SUSPENSIONS (Section 160.265)

This bill provides that students who are suspended or expelled would not count against a district for purposes of any Missouri school improvement plan calculation for any student attendance metric or for calculations of an local education agency's weighted average daily attendance for calculation of the formula for State aid.

## EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (Section 160.480)

This bill requires school districts and charter schools to adopt a comprehensive emergency operations plan to address school safety, crises, and emergency operations. The plan will be shared with local law enforcement, fire protection services and emergency management. Schools must ensure a physical security site assessment annually and the Department of Education and Secondary Education (DESE) will develop standards for the emergency operation plans.

## CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN (Section 160.482)

Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, and all subsequent school years, this bill requires every public school to develop and implement a cardiac emergency response plan that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on a school campus. Members of public school's administration must coordinate directly with local emergency services providers to integrate the plan into the local emergency services providers' protocols and the core elements of the plan are detailed in the bill.

A public school with an athletic department or organized school athletic program must develop and implement a plan specific to life-threatening emergencies that may occur at an extracurricular event or school-sponsored event on campus.

Districts and charter schools must attempt to ensure that an automated external defibrillator (AED), is within 3 minutes of any athletic event or practice. Public schools are not required to purchase AEDs unless the state provides funding.

The bill requires the registration of placed AEDs to the Missouri 911 service board registry.

These provisions are similar to HB 416 (2025).

## STOP THE BLEED ACT (Section 160.485)

The bill establishes the "Stop the Bleed Act", which defines "bleeding control kit", and requires DESE to develop a traumatic blood loss protocol for school personnel by January 1, 2026.

The bill specifies the requirements for the blood loss protocol, which must include a bleeding control kit to be placed in areas where there is likely to be high traffic or congregation and areas where the risk of injury may be elevated, appropriate annual training in the use of the bleeding control kit for designated personnel, annual inspection of the inventory of the bleeding control kit, and the requirement that materials be replaced as necessary after use.

These provisions are similar to HB 416 (2025).

## GRADE LEVEL EQUIVALENCE (Sections 160.518 & 160.522)

The bill defines "Grade-level equivalence", as a metric developed and used by DESE or a nonprofit third-party chosen by DED, to show a student's proximity to doing grade-level work for grades three to eight.

This bill identifies and describes the performance level descriptors as: advanced, proficient, grade level, basic, and below basic, with specified characteristics for each level. The school accountability report card must provide each student's grade-level equivalence as measured on the Statewide assessment. Data relating to the grade-level equivalence must be searchable on a building-by-

building, school-by-school, district-by-district, and statewide level. The data must display a percentage of students at grade level or above for each level, provided that no data will disclose personal identification of any student except to a student's parent.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 712 (2025).

#### MISSOURI SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Section 160.660)

Beginning July 1, 2026, the State Board of Education (SBE) must modify school safety criteria in the Missouri School Improvement Program to require a primary and secondary school safety coordinator to complete the Federal Emergency Management Administration's (FEMA) Incident Command System training courses or any successor course created by FEMA to replace the Incident Command System course or the Incident Command System for Schools course provided by the Missouri School Boards' Association's Center for Education Safety (CES) or its successor course created by CES, within one year of being designated a coordinator.

These provisions are similar to HB 416 (2025).

#### SCHOOL SAFETY (Section 160.663)

The bill requires that school districts and charter schools equip each interior door with an anti-intruder door lock. This requirement is subject to appropriations to cover all costs; however, a school may receive donations, as specified in the bill.

The bill requires that only interior doors installed after 2029 must include the anti-intruder door locks and allows schools to use a master key box, as defined in the bill, to contain necessary keys and tools for fire protection and law enforcement to gain access to the school.

These provisions are similar to HB 416 (2025).

#### SCHOOL SAFETY INCIDENT REPORTS (Section 160.664)

This bill requires local educational agencies to report to DESE all school safety incidents and credible school safety threats that occur at each attendance center of the local educational agency. DESE will establish procedures for local educational agencies to follow when reporting a school safety incident or credible threat and maintain and regularly update a database of all school safety incidents and credible school safety threats.

The bill requires that the database not contain personally identifiable information of a student and must be a closed record under the Missouri Sunshine Law and data received must be shared with the Department of Public Safety.

#### ACTIVE-DUTY STUDENT REQUIREMENTS(Section 160.701)

This bill prohibits a statewide activities association from requiring an active-duty member of the U.S. uniformed services, National Guard, or Reserves to attend a minimum number of practices in order for such individual to be a member of a team or group.

#### ADULT HIGH SCHOOL AGE AND TRANSFER STUDENTS (Sections 160.2700-160.2710)

The bill changes the age for enrollment for adult high schools in the State from 21 to 18 years of age. A student who transfers from a local education agency to an adult high school will be considered a transfer student and not a dropout student by the State for the purposes of compiling and tracking dropout rates.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 32 (2025).

#### TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE ON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION (Section 161.026)

This bill modifies the appointment of teacher representatives to the State Board of Education by providing that, for the second and succeeding appointments, the newly appointed teacher representative must not be appointed from the same congressional district as the two immediately preceding teacher representatives, rather than requiring all appointments to be made in rotation from each congressional district.

Finally, the bill removes the expiration date of these provisions.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 1413 (2025).

#### STEM CAREER AWARENESS ACTIVITY PROGRAM (Section 161.264)

Subject to appropriations, this bill requires DESE to establish the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Program" for grades nine-12. The DESE will begin promoting the Program in the 2026-27 school year and solicit proposal to provide the Program by January 1, 2026. By March 1, 2026, DESE must select a provider. Alternatively, the bill authorizes DESE to choose a third-party nonprofit entity to implement the Program, solicit proposals, and select a provider.

The bill requires prospective providers to present data demonstrating effectiveness in the following areas:

- (1) Teacher instruction on STEM-related subjects;
- (2) Increased student enrollment in four year STEM related fields; or
- (3) Increased participation in STEM related workforce upon graduation.

The bill further outlines criteria for selecting Program providers.

This bill also creates the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Fund".

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 33 (2025).

#### MISSOURI COURSE ACCESS AND VIRTUAL SCHOOL PROGRAM (Sections 161.670 & 163.044)

Currently, school districts with an average daily attendance of 350 or less students qualify for additional funding. This bill removes from the average daily attendance count any nonresident students enrolled in the virtual school program in the school districts.

The bill specifies that any virtual school or program that is part of the Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program can administer any statewide assessment virtually. This bill outlines requirements for virtual assessments, including the monitoring of students via a camera and making a reasonable effort to maintain a student-to-proctor ratio that is targeted at 10 to one or lower.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 220 (2025).

#### STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE USAGE (Section 162.207)

Beginning in the 2025-26 school year school, districts and charter schools must have a policy governing the use of a student's electronic personal communications device in school. Policies must promote educational interests and safe working environments. Students can not use electronic personal communications devices during instructional activities, passing periods, and meal times.

District policies must provide disciplinary procedures and exceptions, as defined in the bill.

Districts and charter schools must publish the policy on the school website and the bill specifies liability protections for acting in accordance with the policy.

These provisions expire August 28, 2032.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 408, 306, and 854 (2025).

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES – DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY (Section 162.700)

This bill specifies that children whose age makes them eligible for kindergarten or first grade can continue their eligibility as a young child with a developmental delay if the child had been categorized as such before attaining eligibility for kindergarten or grade one. The bill additionally provides that the category of "young child with a developmental delay" will not be used to determine continuing eligibility for special education services for a student who is seven years of age before August first of a given school year.

These provisions are similar to HB 305 (2025).

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE CONTRACTING (Section 162.705)



Currently, if a school district cannot provide special education services they can contract for services or if the district fails to contract, the SBE can contract with an instate organization. This language allows the SBE or the school district to contract with eligible organizations in an adjacent state.

#### STATE AID FOR SCHOOLS WITH 169 CALENDAR DAYS (163.045)

This bill clarifies language relating to additional funding for teacher salaries that districts receive if the district has a school calendar with 169 school days. The clarification provided allows for the reduction in days necessary to qualify due to inclement weather or authorized reductions by the Commissioner of Education allowed by law.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 368 (2025).

#### SALARIES FOR TEACHERS' MASTER'S DEGREES (Section 163.172)

The bill modifies the minimum teacher salary to remove the requirement that a teacher's master's degree must be in an academic teaching field directly related to the teacher's assignment.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 607 (2025).

#### BEHAVIOR RISK ASSESSMENTS (Sections 167.020 & 167.022)

The bill requires behavioral threat assessments to be included in the records to be requested by school officials when enrolling a pupil. The language provides a definition for “personal safety plan” and “behavioral threat assessment”.

These provisions are similar to HB 416 (2025).

#### JUVENILE COURT (Section 167.115)

Currently, school districts must be notified if a petition is filed in juvenile court with specific allegations. This bill expands the current requirements to also include when a charge or indictment is filed, adds the prosecutor to the list of required notifiers, requires the notice to be within 24 hours, and reduces the requirement for a summary of facts from five days to two business days following the case disposition. The bill allows school districts to request an injunction to exclude students from educational services if there is a likelihood of danger to the safety of pupils or employees in the school district. The information can be used to provide an alternative environment for the student's educational services.

These provisions are similar to HB 416 (2025).

#### AGREEMENTS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT (Section 167.117)

The bill authorizes districts and charter schools to enter into written agreements with law enforcement on procedures for reporting criminal offenses, specified in the bill, and allows for

certain offenses for students under 11 years of age to be reported to the Children's Division, within the Department of Social Services.

These provisions are similar to HB 416 (2025).

#### SCHOOL TUITION (Section 167.151)

Beginning with the 2025-26 school year, this bill expands who can qualify for a tuition waiver and State aid qualification and allows any child whose parent is a contractor or regular employee of a nonresident school district or charter school to attend the school district or charter school without paying tuition if approved by a majority vote of the members of the school board of the school district or the governing board of the charter school.

Qualified students attending school districts will count as a resident pupil for the purpose of State aid or for a charter school student, for State aid payments calculated by a multiplication of the charter school's weighted average daily attendance for the student by the State adequacy target and the dollar-value modifier for the district the charter school is located in.

The bill requires the parent of the nondistrict student to provide certain information and the contractor or employee must have worked a minimum number of days, not to exceed 60, for the student to be eligible. The resident district or the nonresident district is not responsible for providing transportation and if the parent of the student no longer works at the school, the student is allowed to complete the school year.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 1238 (2025).

#### ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICIES (Section 167.167)

This bill requires school districts to prohibit any zero-tolerance disciplinary policy. Zero-tolerance discipline that results in an automatic disciplinary consequence without reviewing each pupil in a case-by-case manner is prohibited.

This provision is similar to HB 454.

#### CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (Section 167.624)

The bill requires that cardiopulmonary resuscitation training be required for school district and charter school employees and repeals language that authorizes the school board to make the completion of the program a requirement for graduation.

This provision is similar to HB 416 (2025).

#### RECOVERY HIGH SCHOOLS (Section 167.850)

Currently, only public high schools can establish a recovery high school for students diagnosed with substance use disorder or dependency.

This bill defines "sponsoring entity" and includes the DESE, magnet schools, charter schools, and public and private schools as entities that can establish a recovery high school.

The bill modifies the funding mechanism for a recovery high school from the State adequacy target plus the average local effort for a student above the State adequacy target to a calculation by DESE based on average daily attendance and the sending district annual secretary of the board report.

The bill provides for costs for special education students with an individualized education program that exceed three times the current expenditure for average daily attendance to be reimbursed for such excess and paid to the recovery high school.

These provisions are similar to HB 1386 (2025).

#### TEACHERS OF TOMORROW (Section 168.021)

The bill authorizes the SBE to issue a Missouri teaching certificate for individuals certified by Teachers of Tomorrow with verification of their ability to work with children, with 60 contact hours in the classroom.

The bill adds gifted education to the list of areas that the ABCTE and Teachers of Tomorrow certification will not be authorized to teach.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 1153 (2025).

#### TEACHER EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM (Section 168.025)

The bill repeals the sunset provision for the teacher externship program that expired August 28th, 2024.

These provisions are similar to HB 267 (2025).

#### SUBSTITUTE TEACHING RETIREMENT AUTHORIZATION (Section 168.036)

Currently, the authorization for teachers that are retired to substitute teach without a discontinuance of the teacher's retirement benefit is set to expire in 2025. This bill extends the authorization until 2030.

This provision is similar to HB 1039 (2025).

#### PRINCIPAL-ADMINISTRATOR ACADEMY (168.407, 168.409 & 168.500)

Currently, the Principal-Administrator Academy is housed under DESE. This bill allows DESE to work in conjunction with Statewide entities that support principal and superintendent development. The bill adds programming requirements including a review of all preparation programs, a mentor program, and early career coaching.

The bill provides for funding for the program to come from Federal sources, the excellence in education fund, up to 5% from career ladder funds, or can require a match from participating individuals or school districts employing participants.

#### THREE-CUEING SYSTEM (Section 170.014)

The bill prohibits school districts from using a "three-cueing system" to primarily teach students to read. A three-cueing system is defined as any model of teaching students to read based on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues, also known as "MSV". MSV can be included to improve knowledge, add context, and increase oral language and vocabulary to support comprehension as long as the strategies are not used to teach word reading.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 941 (2025).

#### ACTIVE SHOOTER AND INTRUDER RESPONSE TRAINING FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAM (Section 170.315)

The bill requires that, beginning in the 2026-27 school year, the Active Shooter and Intruder Response Training for Schools Program components be modified to include situations when an active shooter is present, how to identify potential threats, and protocols for emergencies be required for teachers and school employees.

The bill provides districts an option to elect to provide such training, with school personnel having the option to participate in a simulated active shooter drill.

Currently, public schools are required to foster an environment where students feel comfortable reporting a potentially threatening or dangerous situation to an adult.

This bill adds the requirement that schools must annually provide age-appropriate information on the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Courage2ReportMO reporting mechanism. Beginning with the 2026-27 school year, schools must annually hold age appropriate active shooter exercises in which students, teachers, and school employees participate in and practice the procedures for safety and protection to be implemented when an active shooter is present.

This provision is similar to HB 416 (2025).

#### TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION SCHOLARSHIPS (Section 173.232)

The bill modifies the current Teacher Recruitment and Retention State Scholarship Program to allow for scholarships to cover education costs related to teacher preparation in addition to tuition. If the maximum amount of scholarships or appropriated funds are not distributed, DESE will use any remaining moneys to award additional scholarships for tuition costs and educational costs related to teacher preparation.

The bill also removes a requirement that school districts pay 25% of the cost for any scholarship recipient that was hired by the district.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 712 (2025).

#### INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE EXAMINATIONS (Sections 173.1352)

This bill requires public community colleges, colleges, and universities to adopt a policy for undergraduate course credit for any student that receives a score of four or higher on an international baccalaureate exam.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 1017 & 291 (2025).

#### SCHOOL BUS DRIVER LICENSURE (Sections 302.177, 302.272 & 302.735)

Currently, the license for individuals 70 years and older, who have school bus endorsements on their drivers license, is issued or renewed for only one year at a time; the renewal fee is waived, the school bus portion of the drivers license examination must be taken annually, and a commercial driver's license with a school bus endorsement must be issued annually.

The bill changes the age for these specific provisions to the age of 75 or older and changes the license examination requirement to every two years.

These provisions are similar to HCS HB 538 (2025).

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HCS SS SCS SB 71 -- PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS (Sections 43.546, 168.014, 190.106, 208.222, 209.324, 210.482, 210.487, 301.551, 324.055, 324.129, 324.246, 324.488, 324.1105, 326.257, 330.025, 331.025, 332.015, 334.015, 334.403, 334.501, 334.701, 334.739, 334.805, 335.022, 335.042, 336.025, 337.018, 337.308, 337.501, 337.605, 337.702, 338.052, 339.015, 339.510, 345.016, 374.711, 436.225, 443.702, 476.802, 484.125, 590.060, and 640.011)

This bill modifies provisions related to criminal background checks.

The bill specifies that, if an application for a license or permit requires a fingerprint submission, the applicant must submit his or her fingerprint to the State Highway Patrol (MSHP) for the purpose of undergoing a State and Federal criminal background check. The following boards, commissions, departments, divisions, and committees are listed in the bill:

- (1) The State Board of Education, for applicants seeking certificates to teach or substitute teach in public schools and as otherwise required by law;
- (2) The Department of Health and Senior Services, for applicants seeking licensure as an emergency medical technician, an advanced emergency medical technician, or a paramedic, or seeking certification as an emergency medical technician-community paramedic;

- (3) The Medicaid Audit and Compliance Unit of the Department of Social Services, for a provider seeking to be enrolled as a MO HealthNet provider for the purpose of providing MO HealthNet services;
- (4) The State Committee of Interpreters, for applicants seeking licensure as an interpreter or seeking temporary license to practice as an interpreter;
- (5) The Department of Revenue, for applicants seeking licensure as a new motor vehicle franchise dealer, used motor vehicle dealer, powersport dealer, wholesale motor vehicle dealer, motor vehicle dealer, public motor vehicle auction, recreational motor vehicle dealer, trailer dealer, boat dealer, manufacturer, or boat manufacturer;
- (6) The Missouri Board of Occupational Therapy, for applicants seeking licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant;
- (7) The State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts, for applicants seeking licensure as a clinical perfusionist or provisional licensed clinical perfusionist, and for applicants seeking a permanent, temporary, or limited license as a physician or assistant physician, and applicants seeking licensure as an anesthesiologist assistant or a temporary license to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant, and for applicants seeking permanent or temporary license as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, and applicants seeking licensure as an athletic trainer, and for applicants seeking a license or temporary license as a physician assistant, and applicants seeking a license or provisional license as an audiologist, an audiology aide, a speech-language pathologist, a speech-language pathology aide, or a speech-language pathology assistant;
- (8) The Board of Therapeutic Massage, for applicants seeking a license, provisional license, or student license as a massage therapist and a license as a massage business;
- (9) The State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, for applicants seeking licensure as an acupuncturist or to practice chiropractic;
- (10) The Board of Private Investigator and Private Fire Investigator Examiners, for applicants seeking licensure as a private investigator or private fire investigator;
- (11) The State Board of Accountancy, for applicants seeking licensure as a certified public accountant or seeking permit for a certified public accounting firm;
- (12) The State Board of Podiatric Medicine, for applicants seeking a permanent or temporary license to practice podiatric medicine or seeking a permanent podiatric medicine license with ankle certification;
- (13) The Missouri Dental Board, for applicants seeking licensure as a dentist, a dental specialist, a volunteer dentist, a temporary dentist, a dental hygienist, or a volunteer dental hygienist, or for applicants seeking a limited dental teaching license or a dental faculty permit;

- (14) The Board for Respiratory Care, for applicants seeking licensure as a respiratory care practitioner, and applicants seeking an educational or temporary permit to practice respiratory care;
- (15) The State Board of Nursing, for applicants seeking licensure to practice as a registered nurse, practical nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse, and for those seeking employment with the Board;
- (16) The State Board of Optometry, for applicants seeking licensure as an optometrist;
- (17) The State Committee of Psychologists, for applicants seeking licensure as a licensed psychologist or provisional licensed psychologist, or seeking a temporary license to practice as a psychologist,
- (18) The Behavior Analyst Advisory Board, for applicants seeking licensure, provisional licensure, or temporary licensure as a behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst;
- (19) The Committee for Professional Counselors, for applicants seeking licensure as a licensed or provisional licensed professional counselor;
- (20) The State Committee for Social Workers, for applicants seeking a license or temporary permit to practice as a licensed clinical social worker, licensed advanced macro social worker, master social worker, or licensed baccalaureate social worker;
- (21) The State Committee of Marital and Family Therapists, for applicants seeking licensure or provisional licensure as a marital and family therapist;
- (22) The Board of Pharmacy, for applicants seeking licensure to practice as a pharmacist or temporary pharmacist, an intern pharmacist, a wholesale drug distributor, third-party logistics provider, drug outsourcer, seeking a permit for the practice of pharmacy described in Section 338.220, RSMo, seeking a certificate of registration as a pharmacy technician, or seeking a permit for work as a wholesale drug distributor facility manager-in-charge, wholesale drug distributor facility manager or owner, or third-party logistics provider facility manager or owner;
- (23) The Missouri Real Estate Commission, for applicants seeking licensure as a real estate broker, real estate salesperson, or real estate broker-salesperson;
- (24) The Missouri Real Estate Appraisers Commission, for applicants seeking licensure or certification as a state-certified residential real estate appraiser, residential appraiser trainee, general real estate appraiser, or general appraiser trainee, or a state-licensed real estate appraiser or appraiser trainee, or an appraisal management company or a controlling person of an appraisal management company;
- (25) The Department of Commerce and Insurance, for applicants seeking a license, or renewal of license, as a general bail bond agent, a bail bond agent, or a surety recovery agent;

- (26) The Division of Professional Registration, for applicants seeking licensure as an athlete agent;
- (27) The Division of Finance, for applicants seeking licensure as a residential mortgage loan broker or mortgage loan originator;
- (28) The Office of State Courts Administrator, for applicants seeking a certification as a qualified interpreter;
- (29) The Supreme Court of Missouri, for applicants seeking admission or reinstatement to the State bar;
- (30) The Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission, for applicants seeking entrance into a training program; and
- (31) The Department of Natural Resources, for applicants seeking to be employed or to volunteer with the Department.

The fingerprints and any required fees will be sent to the MSHP central repository and will be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The MSHP will notify the respective agency, board, or other oversight body of their applicants' criminal history or lack thereof.

Currently, if a child needs to be placed in a private home due to the unexpected absence of their parents or guardians, the juvenile court or children's division can request a background check. Law enforcement agencies conduct name-based criminal history checks on all residents over 17 years of age in the home. The bill changes the age to over 18 years of age.

Currently, if a child needs to be placed in a private home due to the unexpected absence of their parents or guardians, the children's division checks if any residents are listed on the child abuse and neglect registry. If the home hasn't been approved as a foster home, residents over 17 years of age and any children less than 17 years of age who have been certified as adults for crimes must provide fingerprints within 15 days. If anyone refuses to provide fingerprints, the child must be removed from the home immediately unless the person refusing to provide fingerprints ceases to reside in the private home. The bill changes those ages to over 18 years of age and any children less than 18 years of age who have been certified as adults for crimes.

PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Sections 70.630, 70.655, 70.680, 70.690, 70.745, 70.746, 70.747, 70.748, 86.200, 87.140, 87.145, 87.260, and 105.688)

This bill repeals the provision prohibiting membership in LAGERS for employees where continuous employment to the time of retirement eligibility will leave the employee with less than the minimum required number of years of credited service.

Currently, the measurement for the cost of living adjustment for LAGERS is measured with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. This bill repeals that provision and provides that the cost of living adjustment for LAGERS must be a measure of the CPI as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor and adopted by the Board of LAGERS.



The bill also repeals certain references to obsolete statutory provisions.

Currently, in the event a member's membership terminates, any accumulated contributions unclaimed by the member within three years must be transferred to the investment income fund of the system. This bill changes the amount of years from three years to 10 years.

The bill provides that the Board of LAGERS can deliberate or make decisions on investments or other financial matters in a closed meeting if the disclosure of such deliberations would jeopardize the ability to implement a decision or to achieve investment objectives. Furthermore, this bill repeals the provisions that the investment counselor of the Board must be registered as an investment advisor with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The bill also repeals the limitation that no more than one-tenth of the funds of the system be invested in real estate.

This bill provides that the Board can establish and maintain local government employee retirement systems of Missouri investment fund account in which investments of LAGERS can be placed and be available for investment purposes. The funds can be combined with funds of any retirement plan administered by LAGERS and any retirement plan established for providing benefits to employees of LAGERS, but such funds will be accounted for separately.

This bill modifies the definition of "earnable compensation", as used by the Police Retirement System of St. Louis, by providing that the term will not include any funds received through a judgment or settlement of a legal action or claim made or threatened by a member against the City of St. Louis if such funds are intended to retroactively compensate the member for the salary differential between the member's actual rank and the rank the member claims he or she should have received.

The bill specifies that the Board of Trustees of the Firefighter's Retirement System of St. Louis will not be prevented from simultaneously acting as the trustees of any other pension plan that provides retirement, disability, and death benefits for firefighters employed by St. Louis City.

This bill specified that the Board can establish rules and regulations for the administration of the funds and for the transaction of such other pension plan's business. The Board must maintain separate records of all proceedings of the other pension plan.

Furthermore, this bill specifies that the Board of Trustees will have the authority and discretion to invest and reinvest funds of the other pension plans in property of any kind, real or personal. The Board can choose to invest the funds of the Firefighter's Retirement System of St. Louis and the funds of the other pension plans in the same investments if the amounts invested and the gains, profits, or losses are accounted for separately .

This bill prohibits fiduciaries for public employee retirement systems from being prohibited from closing records related to information in connection with investments in or financial transactions with business entities.

PUBLIC SAFETY RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION (Sections 173.2655 and 173.2660)

This bill establishes the "Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act" to provide college tuition awards for certain public safety personnel and their legal dependents. The bill defines "public safety personnel" as including any police officer, firefighter, paramedic, telecommunicator first responder, emergency medical technician, or advanced emergency medical technician who is trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or treatment. Subject to appropriation, public safety personnel with at least six years of service will be entitled to an award worth up to 100% of the resident tuition charges, including fees, of a public institution of higher education located in Missouri if they present to the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (DHEWD) verification of their current, valid license in a profession specified in the bill, along with a certificate of verification signed by their employer verifying that they are employed full-time as public safety personnel. Such individuals must also meet all admission requirements of the public institution of higher education and pursue an associate or baccalaureate degree in an academic subject specified in the bill. Individuals who have already earned a baccalaureate degree are ineligible to use the tuition award to earn another degree. Each year an individual applies for and receives a tuition award, he or she must file with DHEWD documentation showing proof of employment and proof of residence in Missouri. Additionally, an applicant for a tuition award must first apply for all other forms of Federal and State student financial aid, including filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and, if applicable, applying for financial assistance under the G.I. Bill.

The legal dependent of public safety personnel with at least 10 years of service is also eligible for a tuition award if he or she executes an agreement with the public institution of higher education outlining the terms and conditions of the tuition award, including the legal dependent's commitment to reside in Missouri for the next five years, as well as a commitment to provide a copy of his or her State income tax return annually to DHEWD in order to prove residency in Missouri. The agreement must also include a provision that if the tuition award recipient fails to provide proof of residency in Missouri for the five-year period following the use of the tuition award, the tuition award must be treated as a loan to the recipient, with the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority as the loan servicer, as provided in the bill. Finally, the agreement must provide that any residency, filing, or payment obligation incurred by the tuition award recipient under the bill is canceled in the event of the tuition award recipient's total and permanent disability or death.

The five-year residency requirement for a legal dependent who receives a tuition award begins once the legal dependent applies for and receives the tuition award and continues until the tuition award recipient:

- (1) Completes the five-year tuition award eligibility period;
- (2) Completes a baccalaureate degree;
- (3) Completes an associate degree and notifies DHEWD that he or she does not intend to pursue a baccalaureate degree or additional associate degree using tuition awards; or
- (4) Notifies DHEWD that he or she does not plan to use additional tuition awards.

The legal dependent must satisfy certain criteria to be eligible for a tuition award. The legal dependent must not have previously earned a baccalaureate degree, and he or she must meet all admission requirements of the public institution of higher education he or she wishes to attend. The legal dependent will also file a FAFSA and, if applicable, apply for financial assistance under the G.I. Bill, as well as providing verification of the public safety personnel's eligibility for the tuition award to DHEWD, as provided in the bill.

Public safety personnel and their legal dependents can receive a tuition award for up to five consecutive years if they otherwise continue to be eligible. The five years of eligibility starts once the individual applies for and receives the tuition award for the first time. DHEWD must grant an award worth up to 100% of the individual's tuition remaining due after subtracting awarded Federal financial aid grants and State scholarships and grants. An application for a tuition award must include a verification of the public safety personnel's satisfaction of the requirements of the act, including proof of full-time employment and residency status. Public safety personnel must include the verification when they or their legal dependents are applying to DHEWD for a tuition award.

The death of public safety personnel in the line of duty will not disqualify an individual's otherwise eligible legal dependent from receiving the tuition award. In such a case, in lieu of submitting verification of the public safety personnel's employment, the legal dependent must submit a statement attesting that, at the time of death, the public safety personnel satisfied the requirements of the act, and the individual died in the line of duty, as specified in the bill.

DHEWD will provide a tuition award to an eligible applicant for the award who applies for an "open seat", defined in the bill as a vacant position in a class, course, or program that is available for enrollment. DHEWD will not provide a tuition award if doing so would require a public institution of higher education to create additional seats exceeding program capacity.

Applications for tuition awards must be submitted to DHEWD no later than December 15th, annually. No later than March 1st annually, DHEWD will send written notice of the applicant's eligibility or ineligibility for the tuition award and state whether the application has been approved or denied. If the applicant is determined not to be eligible for the tuition award, the notice must include the reason or reasons for the determination. If the application is denied, the notice must include the reason or reasons for the denial.

The "Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Fund" is created for purposes of granting tuition awards as provided in the bill. In the event that funds are insufficient to provide tuition awards for all eligible applicants, public safety personnel will be in the first class of applicants to receive the awards, and dependents will be in the second class, in a priority order specified in the bill.

The tuition awards provided for in this bill are subject to appropriation. If there are no moneys in the Fund, no tuition awards will be granted.

PATIENT MEDICAL RECORDS (Section 191.227)

Under this bill, records containing a patient's health history and treatment created by an emergency care provider or telecommunicator first responder, in the course of their official duties while responding to a formal request for assistance, must be made available to the patient or patient's representative upon written request. Such personal health information will not be considered a public record under the Sunshine Law.

#### LINE OF DUTY COMPENSATION ACT (Section 287.243)

Currently, the line of duty compensation act is set to expire on June 19, 2025. This bill changes the expiration date to December 31, 2031.

This provision is subject to an emergency clause.

#### MISSOURI EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (Section 292.606)

This bill extends the authority for the collection of certain fees by the Missouri Emergency Response Commission for six years. The bill also authorizes a one-time fee to be assessed, which must be calculated based on filings due March 1, 2025, and must be paid by November 1, 2025.

#### CRIMINAL OFFENSES (Sections 569.170 and 569.175)

The bill also adds to the offense of burglary in the second degree when a person unlawfully enters a motor vehicle or any part of a motor vehicle or enters into a restricted area of commercial business with the intent to commit a theft or any felony. The bill defines "enters" as a person intruding with any part of the body or any physical object connected with the body. If a person who commits a violation under this provision was in possession of a firearm at the time or stole a firearm from the motor vehicle during the violation, he or she is guilty of a class C felony.

The bill also creates the offense of unlawfully gaining entry into a motor vehicle, which a person commits if he or she lifts the door handles or otherwise tries the doors and locks of successive vehicles in an attempt to gain entry. A violation of this section is a class E felony. A person does not commit the offense of unlawfully gaining entry into a motor vehicle if the person is the owner of the vehicle or has the owner's permission to enter the vehicle.

#### MISSOURI TASK FORCE ON NONPROFIT SAFETY AND SECURITY (Sections 650.900 and 650.910)

This bill creates the "Missouri Task Force on Nonprofit Safety and Security" within the Department of Public Safety, Office of Homeland Security. The Task Force will study and make recommendations on the security needs of nonprofit organizations that are at elevated risk of terrorist attacks in Missouri. Members of the task force must be appointed by the Director of the Department of Public Safety, as described in the bill. The Task Force must annually issue a report to the Office of Homeland Security of its findings and recommendations with respect to terrorist attacks in Missouri.

The bill creates the "Supplemental Nonprofit Safety and Security Fund". The Fund will be used to defray the costs of security enhancements or measures, as described in the bill, for eligible

nonprofit organizations. A nonprofit organization that has been approved for funding by the Federal grant of up to five percent of the available grant pool distribution.

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SS#2 SB 79 -- HEALTH CARE

This bill modifies several provisions relating to health care.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS (Section 191.648)

Currently, a physician can utilize expedited partner therapy, meaning the practice of treating the sex partners of persons with chlamydia or gonorrhea without an intervening medical evaluation or professional prevention counseling, to prescribe and dispense medications for the treatment of chlamydia or gonorrhea even without an established physician/patient relationship.

Under this bill, physicians and certain health care professionals can use expedited partner therapy and such therapy can be used for designated sexually transmitted infections beyond chlamydia and gonorrhea. This bill repeals the requirement that antibiotic medications prescribed and dispensed through expedited partner therapy for the treatment of chlamydia or gonorrhea be in pill form.

These provisions are the same as provisions in SCS SB 178 (2025), and similar to a provision in SCS SB 317 (2025), and HCS/HB 943 (2025).

TELEHEALTH SERVICES (Section 191.1145)

Under this bill, "telehealth" or "telemedicine" will include the delivery of health care services through audiovisual and audio-only technologies and will not be limited only to services delivered via select third-party corporate platforms.

These provisions are the same as SB 94 (2025).

FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS OF VICTIMS OF SEXUAL OFFENSES (Section 192.2521)

Under this bill, a specialty hospital, meaning a hospital other than a general acute care hospital, will not be required to comply with certain statutory provisions relating to forensic examinations of victims of sexual assault if such hospital has in place a policy for the transfer of such victims to an appropriate hospital with an emergency department.

These provisions are the same as provisions in SCS SB 178 (2025).

MO HEALTHNET COVERAGE OF HEARING-RELATED DEVICES (Section 208.152)

Currently, reimbursable MO HealthNet services include hearing aids for eligible needy children, pregnant women, and blind persons. This bill mandates MO HealthNet coverage of medically necessary cochlear implants and hearing instruments for all eligible participants.

These provisions are the same as SB 419 (2025).

#### PRENATAL TESTS FOR CERTAIN DISEASES (Section 210.030)

Currently, a physician or other health care provider must, with her consent, draw and test a pregnant woman's blood, at or soon after her first prenatal examination, for syphilis, hepatitis B, or other similar diseases. Under this bill, the testing of the pregnant woman's blood will also occur at the 28th week of her pregnancy and immediately after birth. Additionally, the test will include hepatitis C and HIV. If a mother tests positive for syphilis, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV, the physician or other health care provider must treat the mother in accordance with the most recent accepted medical practice.

Current law requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to work in consultation with the Missouri Genetic Disease Advisory Committee to make rules pertaining to these blood tests. This bill repeals the requirement to work with the Committee and requires that the tests be approved or accepted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

All persons providing care under this provision must do so in accordance with State laws regarding consent to medical treatment.

These provisions are the same as provisions in SCS SB 178 (2025), and similar to provisions in SCS SB 317 (2025), and HCS/HB 943 (2025).

#### EXAMINATION OF HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS (Section 354.465)

This bill repeals the requirement that the Department of Commerce and Insurance examine health maintenance organizations at least once every five years.

#### INSURANCE COVERAGE OF SELF-ADMINISTERED HORMONAL CONTRACEPTIVES (Section 376.1240)

This bill requires health benefit plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2026, that provide coverage for self-administered hormonal contraceptives, as defined in the bill, to cover a supply of the contraceptives which is intended to last up to 90 days, or up to 180 days for a generic self-administered hormonal contraceptive.

These provisions are similar to provisions in SCS SB 178 (2025).

#### CONTRACTS FOR HEALTH BENEFITS PROVIDED BY CERTAIN MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS (Section 376.1850)

This bill provides that statutes governing health insurance will not apply to contracts for health care benefits provided by a qualified membership organization, as such terms are defined in the bill, to its members who have been members for at least 30 days, and that the qualified membership organization must not be considered to be engaging in the business of insurance. Qualified membership organizations providing the contracts will register with the Department, as specified in the bill.

Contracts for health services under the bill must be sold, solicited, or negotiated only by insurance producers licensed to produce accident and health or sickness coverage. A qualified membership organization providing contracts, as specified in the bill, will use the services of a licensed third-party administrator, and must agree in the contract with the administrator to be subject to certain processes for benefit determinations and claims payment procedures applicable to health carriers and health benefit plans, as specified in the bill. Contracts for health care benefits must not be subject to the insurance laws of the State except as provided in the bill.

Financial risk under the contracts can be reinsured as provided by law. The contracts and related applications and renewal forms will bear a disclaimer, as specified in the bill, which must be signed by the organization member.

Contracts under the bill will not be subject to individual post-claim medical underwriting while coverage remains in effect, and members covered by the contracts must not be subject to cancellation, nonrenewal, modification, or increase in premium for reason of a medical event.

The Division of Consumer Affairs within the Department of Commerce and insurance will receive and review complaints and inquiries from members of qualified membership organizations, and qualified membership organizations providing contracts under the bill will annually pay a fee to the Department, as described in the bill.

Lastly, the bill requires the qualified membership organizations to pay to the Department of Commerce and insurance a fee equal to 1% of the Missouri claims paid under the contracts during the preceding year, prohibits the organizations from referring to or marketing the contracts as insurance, and requires the contracts to include certain coverage.

#### MAMMOGRAMS (repeal of Section 192.769)

This bill repeals a provision of current law requiring the provision of a specific notice to patients upon the completion of a mammogram.

These provisions are the same as provisions in SCS SB 178 (2025).

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#### CCS HCS SS SCS SBs 81 & 174 -- PUBLIC SAFETY

FIREWORKS PROTECTIONS (Sections 49.266, 253.195, 320.106, 320.111, 320.116, 320.121, 320.126, 320.127, 320.131, 320.141, 320.147, 320.151, 320.371, and 568.070)

This bill modifies several definitions relating to fireworks standards, manufacturers and sellers of fireworks, and other pyrotechnic definitions and updates the edition of the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL) from the 2012 edition to the 2022 edition.

The bill modifies the permit and licensing fees and penalties that the State Fire Marshal is authorized to assess, as provided in the bill. Fees will be deposited to the Fire Education Fund and the Cigarette Fire Safety Standard and Firefighter Protection Act Fund as specified in this bill.

The State Fire Marshal may revoke or suspend any permit upon evidence that the influence of alcohol or any illicit controlled substance is taking place by any permit holder, employee, or representative within the permitted annual or seasonal retail sales location during normal business hours. The Fire Marshal may also refuse to issue a permit when the individual or partner of the individual is under suspension. This bill modifies provisions relating to permitting requirements for municipalities, fair associations, amusement parks, organizations, persons, firms, and corporations for outdoor fireworks displays. The permit must be submitted to the State Fire Marshal a minimum of 10 working days prior to the event.

The bill provides that only holders of a state-issued manufacturer or distributor permit are allowed to sell certain fireworks in Missouri and may sell only to persons who maintain a state-issued manufacturer or distributor permit or a valid state issued display operator license or pyrotechnic effect operator license. Proof of any required federal license or permit is required to finalize the sale.

The State Fire Marshal must inspect any establishment, venue, or shoot site where certain fireworks are to be discharged. Any person selling fireworks must allow the State Fire Marshal to inspect any location where fireworks are stored, kept, or sold. Failure to allow an inspection will result in suspension or revocation of the person's permit. Any new construction of a permanent structure in a jurisdiction without a local building code must submit a full set of construction plans to the State Fire Marshal for review.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS (Sections 43.546, 168.014, 190.106, 208.222, 209.324, 210.482, 210.487, 301.551, 324.055, 324.129, 324.246, 324.488, 324.1105, 326.257, 330.025, 331.025, 332.015, 334.015, 334.403, 334.501, 334.701, 334.739, 334.805, 335.022, 335.042, 336.025, 337.018, 337.308, 337.501, 337.605, 337.702, 338.052, 339.015, 339.510, 345.016, 374.711, 436.225, 443.702, 476.802, 484.125, 590.060, and 640.011)

The bill modifies provisions related to criminal background checks.

This bill specifies that, if an application for a license or permit requires a fingerprints submission, the applicant must submit his or her fingerprint to the State Highway Patrol (MSHP) for the purpose of undergoing a State and Federal criminal background check. The following boards, commissions, departments, divisions, and committees are listed in the bill:

- (1) The State Board of Education, for applicants seeking certificates to teach or substitute teach in public schools and as otherwise required by law;
- (2) The Department of Health and Senior Services, for applicants seeking licensure as an emergency medical technician, an advanced emergency medical technician, or a paramedic, or seeking certification as an emergency medical technician-community paramedic;



- (3) The Medicaid Audit and Compliance Unit of the Department of Social Services, for a provider seeking to be enrolled as a MO HealthNet provider for the purpose of providing MO HealthNet services;
- (4) The State Committee of Interpreters, for applicants seeking licensure as an interpreter or seeking temporary license to practice as an interpreter;
- (5) The Department of Revenue, for applicants seeking licensure as a new motor vehicle franchise dealer, used motor vehicle dealer, powersport dealer, wholesale motor vehicle dealer, motor vehicle dealer, public motor vehicle auction, recreational motor vehicle dealer, trailer dealer, boat dealer, or boat manufacturer;
- (6) The Missouri Board of Occupational Therapy, for applicants seeking licensure as an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant or seeking a limited permit to practice occupational therapy;
- (7) The State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts, for applicants seeking licensure as a licensed clinical perfusionist or provisional licensed clinical perfusionist, and for applicants seeking a permanent, temporary, or limited license as a physician or assistant physician, and applicants seeking licensure as an anesthesiologist assistant or a temporary license to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant, and for applicants seeking permanent or temporary license as a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant, and applicants seeking licensure as an athletic trainer, and for applicants seeking a license or temporary license as a physician assistant, and applicants seeking a license or provisional license as an audiologist, an audiology aide, a speech-language pathologist, a speech-language pathology aide, or a speech-language pathology assistant;
- (8) The Board of Therapeutic Massage, for applicants seeking a license, provisional license, or student license as a massage therapist or a license as a massage business;
- (9) The State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, for applicants seeking licensure as an acupuncturist or to practice chiropractic;
- (10) The Board of Private Investigator and Private Fire Investigator Examiners, for applicants seeking licensure as a private investigator or private fire investigator or as an employee of a private investigator or private fire investigator agency;
- (11) The State Board of Accountancy, for applicants seeking licensure as a certified public accountant or seeking permit for a certified public accounting firm;
- (12) The State Board of Podiatric Medicine, for applicants seeking a permanent or temporary license to practice podiatric medicine or seeking a permanent podiatric medicine license with ankle certification;
- (13) The Missouri Dental Board, for applicants seeking licensure as a dentist, a dental specialist, a volunteer dentist, a temporary dentist, a dental hygienist, or a volunteer dental hygienist, or for applicants seeking a limited dental teaching license or a dental faculty permit;

- (14) The Board for Respiratory Care, for applicants seeking licensure as a respiratory care practitioner and applicants seeking an educational or temporary permit to practice respiratory care;
- (15) The State Board of Nursing, for applicants seeking licensure to practice as a registered nurse, practical nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse, and for those seeking employment with the Board;
- (16) The State Board of Optometry, for applicants seeking licensure as an optometrist;
- (17) The State Committee of Psychologists, for applicants seeking licensure as a licensed psychologist or provisional licensed psychologist, or seeking a temporary license to practice as a psychologist, and applicants seeking licensure, provisional licensure, or temporary licensure as a behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst from the Behavior Analyst Advisory Board;
- (18) The Committee for Professional Counselors, for applicants seeking licensure as a licensed or provisional licensed professional counselor;
- (19) The State Committee for Social Workers, for applicants seeking a license or temporary permit to practice as a licensed clinical social worker, licensed advanced macro social worker, licensed master social worker, or licensed baccalaureate social worker;
- (20) The State Committee of Marital and Family Therapists, for applicants seeking licensure or provisional licensure as a marital and family therapist;
- (21) The Board of Pharmacy, for applicants seeking a license or temporary license to practice as a pharmacist, an intern pharmacist, a wholesale drug distributor, third-party logistics provider, drug outsourcer, a permit for the practice of pharmacy described in Section 338.220, RSMo, a certificate of registration as a pharmacy technician, or seeking a license for work as a wholesale drug distributor facility manager-in-charge, wholesale drug distributor, manager or owner, or third-party logistics provider facility manager or owner;
- (22) The Missouri Real Estate Commission, for applicants seeking licensure as a real estate broker, real estate salesperson, or real estate broker-salesperson;
- (23) The Missouri Real Estate Appraisers Commission, for applicants seeking licensure or certification as a state-certified residential real estate appraiser, residential appraiser trainee, general real estate appraiser, or general appraiser trainee, or a state-licensed real estate appraiser or appraiser trainee, or an appraisal management company or a controlling person of an appraisal management company;
- (24) The Department of Commerce and Insurance, for applicants seeking a license, or renewal of license, as a general bail bond agent, a bail bond agent, or a surety recovery agent;
- (25) The Division of Professional Registration, for applicants seeking licensure as an athlete agent;

(26) The Division of Finance, for applicants seeking licensure as a residential mortgage loan broker or mortgage loan originator;

(27) The Office of State Courts Administrator, for applicants seeking a certification as a qualified interpreter;

(28) The Supreme Court of Missouri, for applicants seeking admission or reinstatement to the state bar for the purpose of licensure to practice law as attorneys and counselors in this State;

(29) The Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission, for applicants seeking entrance into a training program; and

(30) The Department of Natural Resources, for applicants seeking to be employed or to volunteer with the Department.

The fingerprints and any required fees will be sent to the MSHP central repository and will be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The MSHP will notify the respective agency, board, or other oversight body of their applicants' criminal history or lack thereof.

Currently, if a child needs to be placed in a private home due to the unexpected absence of his or her parents or guardians, the juvenile court or children's division can request law enforcement agencies or juvenile officers to conduct name-based criminal history checks on all residents over 17 years of age in the home. The bill clarifies that Children's Division is within the Department of Social Services and changes the age of residents who could be subjected to a background check to over 18 years of age.

Currently, if a child needs to be placed in a private home due to the unexpected absence of his or her parents or guardians, Children's Division checks if any residents are listed on the child abuse and neglect registry. If the home hasn't been approved as a foster home, residents over 17 years of age and any children less than 17 years of age who have been certified as adults for crimes must provide fingerprints within 15 days. If anyone refuses to provide fingerprints, the child must be removed from the home immediately unless the person refusing to provide fingerprints ceases to reside in the private home. The bill changes those ages to over 18 years of age and any children less than 18 years of age who have been certified as adults for crimes and clarifies that the fingerprints must be used for searching the State criminal records repository and will be forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a Federal criminal records search under section 43.540.

The bill repeals provisions regarding lost or destroyed fingerprints, the requirement of ongoing electronic updates to the criminal history background checks, and that Children's Division and the Department of Health and Senior Services can waive the requirement for a fingerprint background check for any subsequent recertification.

#### LINE OF DUTY COMPENSATION ACT (Section 287.243)

The bill extends the sunset provision to December 31, 2031.

This section contains an emergency clause.

#### MO EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (Section 292.606)

This bill extends the authority of the MO Emergency Response Commission to collect fees to August 28, 2031, and it authorizes a one-time fee assessment based on filings due as of March 1, 2025, which must be paid by November 1, 2025.

#### PROFESSIONAL LICENSE EXAMINATIONS (Section 324.009)

Current law requires an oversight body for professional licenses to waive any examination, educational, or experience requirements within 30 days for a resident military spouse or a nonresident military spouse and issue the applicant a license if the applicant meets all other requirements. This bill provides a waiver to resident and nonresident spouses of Missouri law enforcement officers.

#### NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS (Section 537.046)

A nondisclosure agreement by any party to any child sexual abuse claim will not be judicially enforceable in a dispute involving any child sexual abuse allegations or claims and will be null and void.

This provision applies to any action arising on or after August 28, 2025 and repeals the provision that includes any action that would have been barred by the application of the statute of limitation applicable prior to that date.

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#### SS SCS SB 82 -- WATER RESOURCES

This bill prohibits any person from exporting water resources outside the State unless the person holds a water exportation permit issued by the Department of Natural Resources, subject to certain specified exemptions.

The Director of the Department must review each water exportation permit application and all supporting documents to ensure the required conditions, specified in the bill, have been met prior to accepting a water exportation permit application for public comment and review by the State Soil and Water Districts Commission. In the event of a conflict between water uses outside the State and the needs of the State, the Director and the Commission must prioritize the needs of the State.

Within 120 days after receipt of a complete application, the Director must determine whether the applicant complied with the requirements for a permit. After making such a determination, the Director must hold a 30-day public comment period regarding the determination. Within 60 days after the comment period, the Director must recommend approval or denial of the permit and

submit the recommendation and public comments to the Commission. The Commission must make the final decision as to the approval or denial of the permit, as specified in the bill.

To renew a valid water exportation permit, an applicant must file a renewal application with the Department, as required in the bill. The process for reviewing the renewal application is described in the bill. In the absence of an appeal, the decision of the Commission must be final.

The permit will be in effect for three years from the date of issuance and the permit holder will annually report the water use volumes, withdrawal rates, and end use to the Department. The report will be made available to the public on the Department's website. The water exportation permit application must include all water exportation requested by the applicant. An applicant can include multiple water withdrawals for export from various locations within one water exportation permit application.

A major water user can request the Department to reevaluate any existing water exportation permit using the criteria specified in the bill. The Department must create a mechanism for a major water user to submit a request for reevaluation of the permit and must provide the major water user with the Director's findings within 120 days of the request for reevaluation.

A person is not precluded from bringing any claim to defend the person's water rights. A permit will not serve as a defense to any claim brought against a water permit holder for the infringement of water rights. In addition, any person harmed by the issuance of a permit can bring action to enforce the provisions of the bill.

If the Attorney General receives a complaint for violations of the provisions of the bill, or at the request of the Department, the Attorney General must bring an injunctive action or other appropriate action. A suit can be brought in Cole County or any county where the defendant's principal place of business is located or where the withdrawal of water occurred. Any member of the commission deemed to have violated the provisions of the bill must forfeit his or her office upon such findings of a violation.

Whenever a state of emergency is declared by the Governor in any part of the State based on drought conditions, the Department must reevaluate any existing water exportation permit.

These provisions are similar to HB 1295 (2025) and SB 29 (2025).

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SS SCS SB 98 -- FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

CAMPAIGN FINANCE - USE OF DEBIT AND CREDIT CARDS (Sections 130.011, 130.021, 130.031, 130.036 and 130.041)

This bill defines "electronic means" as any instrument, device, or service that facilitates an electronic withdrawal of funds from a bank account including, but not limited to, credit cards, debit cards, and the presentation of a credit or debit card account number. Under the bill a committee, as currently defined in the bill, can use credit or debit cards that are in the name of the committee,

to make payments for expenditures through the official depository account, as authorized by the treasurer, deputy treasurer, or candidate.

In addition to the information that is currently included in the statement of organization that is filed when a committee is created, the account number and issuer of any credit card in the committee's name also needs to be included.

The bill removes a provision relating to a petty cash fund that is maintained by withdrawal of funds from the committee's depository account, and for record-keeping requirements for expenditures made from petty cash. Under the bill, expenditures that are more than \$50, except an in-kind expenditure, can be made by check signed by the treasurer, deputy treasurer, or candidate or by other electronic means authorized by the treasurer, deputy treasurer, or candidate and drawn on the committee's depository, or by credit card that is authorized by the treasurer, deputy treasurer, or candidate.

The bill provides that records and accounts that are maintained by a committee under current law, will include credit card statements, and records that need to be filed under Chapter 130, RSMo. Further, the records will be made available for inspection by the Missouri Ethics Commission and its duly authorized representatives. Expenditure reports under Section 130.041, RSMo, must include the total amount of expenditures made by electronic means.

These provisions are similar to HB 707 (2025) and HB 1158 (2025).

#### TAXATION (Sections 143.081 and 143.341)

Current law provides for a tax credit in the amount of any income tax imposed in another state on income that is subject to tax in Missouri. Under this bill, the credit is allowed with respect to any estate or trust to the extent its Missouri adjusted gross income is excluded from Missouri taxable income under the subtraction set forth below.

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, this bill provides for a subtraction of an amount included in Missouri taxable income of an estate or trust that would not be included as Missouri taxable income if the estate or trust were considered a nonresident estate or trust. The subtraction only applies to the extent it is not a determinant of the Federal distributable net income of the estate or trust.

These provisions are the same as the provisions in SCS HCS HB 1259 (2025).

#### MONEY TRANSMISSION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2024 TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS (Section 361.909)

This bill exempts from the Money Transmission Modernization Act of 2024, a person appointed as an agent of a payor for purposes of providing payroll processing services for which the agent would otherwise need to be licensed by the Director of the Division of Finance within the Department of Commerce and Insurance, provided that the requirements, including a written agreement between the payor and agent, as specified in the bill apply.

This provision is the same as SS SCS HB 754 (2025) and similar to a provision in SS SB 61 (2025).

#### VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSK CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT (Section 361.1100)

This bill creates the "Virtual Currency Kiosk Consumer Protection Act" which establishes certain requirements governing virtual currency kiosk operators, as defined in the bill.

Each virtual currency kiosk operator (Operators) must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Operators must make certain disclosures upon establishing a relationship with a customer, when opening an account for a new customer, and prior to entering into an initial transaction for, or on behalf of, or with such customer, indicating all material risks associated with the products, services, and activities offered, as well as the terms and conditions of the services provided, as specified in the bill;
- (2) Prior entering into a virtual currency transaction with a customer, the operator must ensure a warning is disclosed to a customer in the form that is similar to the text included in the bill;
- (3) Upon completing a transaction, an operator must provide a digital or physical receipt containing specific information, specified in the bill;
- (4) Operators are required to use blockchain analytics software to assist with the prevention of sending purchased virtual currency to a digital wallet that is known to be affiliated with fraudulent activity at the time of a transaction;
- (5) Operators must provide live customer service, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. and the customer service toll-free number must be displayed on the virtual currency kiosk or the kiosk screens;
- (6) Operators must take steps to detect and prevent fraud, as specified in the bill, including by establishing and maintaining a written anti-fraud policy;
- (7) Operators must maintain, implement, and enforce a written "Enhanced Due Diligence Policy", to identify individuals at risk of fraud based on age or mental capacity;
- (8) Operators must designate and employ a full-time compliance officer with responsibilities as specified in the bill, and maintain, implement, and enforce written compliance policies and procedures;
- (9) Operators must designate and employ a full-time consumer protection officer, with responsibilities as provided in the bill.

Virtual currency kiosk operators are required to submit a report, within 45-days of the end of the calendar quarter, to the Division of Finance, within the Department of Commerce and Insurance, detailing the location of each virtual currency kiosk in the State of Missouri.

Virtual currency kiosk operators are deemed to be money transmitters and are required to be licensed under, and comply with the Money Transmission Modernization Act of 2024. This bill requires any unlicensed virtual currency kiosk operator to apply for a money transmitter license within 60 days after this provision becomes effective. Any operator that applies within this time is allowed to continue operations while the Division reviews the application. Any application that is denied must cease operations until granted a money transmitter license.

The Director of the Division of Finance is permitted to request evidence showing compliance with this bill as reasonably necessary or appropriate to administer and enforce this bill, and other applicable laws such as the Bank Secrecy Act and the United States PATRIOT Act. An operator is required to provide the Director with any records as requested to ensure compliance with the provisions.

All information or reports obtained by the Division of Finance from a virtual currency kiosk operator, and all information contained in or related to an examination, investigation, operating report, or condition report are confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Sunshine Law.

These provisions are the same as SS SCS HB 754 (2025) and SB 779 (2025).

#### BANK AND TRUST COMPANIES (Sections 362.020, 362.247, 362.275, and 362.295)

This bill modifies the requirements for articles of agreement applicable to bank or trust companies. The bill adds that the articles of agreement can include conditions and procedures relating to the issuance of additional shares of capital stock or other classes of stock, provided the terms and procedures are acceptable to the Director of Finance and notice or other approval required to be given or obtained from the State of Missouri has been given or obtained from the Director of the Division of Finance.

Under current law, unless prohibited by statute or regulation, the board of directors can attend board meetings by telephone conference call or video conferencing, and the bank or trust company can include as a quorum, directors who are not physically present but are allowed to vote, provided the bank or trust company has a composite rating of one or two under the Uniform Financial Institutions Rating System of the Federal Financial Institution Examination Counsel (FFIEC).

This bill repeals reference to a prohibition by regulation and allows an order or memorandum of understanding entered into with the Director of Finance relating to bank safety and soundness to prohibit the directors attending the board meetings by phone or video. Further, the bill repeals reference to composite rating under the FFIEC.

Under current law, the board of directors is required to submit a list at the monthly meetings showing the aggregate of the existing indebtedness and liability to the bank or trust company of each of the directors, officers and their employees. This bill repeals this requirement.

The bill repeals the requirement for a bank or trust company to publish certain reports informing the public as to the financial condition and solvency of the bank or trust company in the newspaper. A bank or trust company can instead provide a paper or electronic copy of such reports



that are required to be filed with the Department of Commerce and Insurance, to each customer, upon request.

These provisions are the same as SS SCS HB 754 (2025) and SS SCS SB 97 (2025)

#### TRUSTED CONTACTS (Sections 362.424 and 370.245)

This bill authorizes a bank to offer a "trusted contact" program, as defined in the bill, to customers who can designate one or more trusted contacts for the bank to contact in the event of an emergency, loss of contact with the customer, the customer is not responsive to bank communications, or suspected third party fraudulent activity or financial exploitation targeting the customer, or the account has been dormant and the bank is attempting to verify the status and location of the customer. A bank can report suspected fraudulent activity or financial exploitation targeting any of its customers to a Federal, State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency or any appropriate public protective agency and will be immune from civil liability in doing so.

Under the bill, a bank is not liable for the actions of a trusted contact. The bank is also not liable for declining to interact with a trusted contact if the bank determines the trusted contact is not acting in the best interests of the customer. This bill also allows a customer to withdraw the appointment of a trusted contact. The bank can request documentation that supports the withdrawal or termination of a trusted contact.

No bank is civilly liable for implementing or not implementing or for actions or omissions relating to providing a trusted contact program.

The bill allows a credit union to offer a trusted contact program to members similar to that offered by a bank.

These provisions are similar to SS SCS HB 754 (2025), HB 1049 (2025) and SCS SB 99 (2025)

#### SINGLE BANK POOLED COLLATERAL (Section 362.490)

This bill creates an alternative for banking institutions serving as depositaries for public funds to secure their deposits in lieu of the method provided by current law, known as the single bank pooled method. This method allows a banking institution to secure the deposit of public funds of one or more government entities through a pool of eligible securities held in custody and safekeeping with one or more other banking institutions or safe depositaries, to be held subject to the order of the Director of the Division of Finance or an administrator, appointed as provided in the bill, for the benefit of the government entities having public funds deposited with the banking institution. The bill prohibits the use of the single bank pooled method absent the appointment of an administrator for that purpose, as provided in the bill. Furthermore, the administrator can be required to post a surety bond in an amount up to \$100,000.

The administrator of the single bank pooled method can establish the procedures and reporting requirements as necessary for depository banking institutions and their safekeeping banks or depositaries to confirm the amount of insured public fund deposits, the pledge of securities to the

administrator to secure the deposit of public funds, as agent for each participating banking institution, and to monitor the market value of pledged securities as reported by the custody agents, and to add, substitute, or remove securities held in the single bank pool as directed by the depository banking institution.

In the event of the failure and insolvency of a banking institution using the single bank pooled method, subject to any order of the director, the administrator will direct the safekeeping banks or depositories to sell the pledged securities and direct proceeds to the payment of the uninsured public fund deposits or to transfer the pledged securities to that banking institution's primary supervisory agency or the duly appointed receiver for the banking institution to be liquidated to pay out the uninsured public fund deposits.

These provisions are the same as SS SCS HB 754 (2025), SB 657 (2025) and HB 1313 (2025)

#### USE OF CERTIFIED FUNDS (Section 381.410)

This bill modifies the definition of "certified funds" for purposes of a statute regulating the use of certain funds by real estate settlement agents and title insurance agents.

This provision is the same as HB 1257 (2025), SB 488 (2025) and SS SCS HB 754 (2025)

#### COMMERCIAL FINANCING DISCLOSURE LAW (Section 427.300)

Current law contains various exemptions from the Commercial Financing Disclosure Law. This bill adds commercial financing products that are premium finance agreements, as defined in current law, offered or entered into by a provider that is a registered premium finance company to that list.

This provision is the same as the provision in HB 707 (2025) and SS SCS SB 97 (2025)

#### OFFENSE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION ACCOUNTS FRAUD (Section 570.148)

This bill establishes the offense of financial institution accounts fraud where a person uses false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, or any physical or electronic devices, or other means, to withdraw moneys from a financial institution as defined in the bill, or withdraw money from a customer's account or transfer money to another person or another financial institution in order to deprive the customer or the financial institution of the moneys.

The offense is classified as a class B misdemeanor if the fraud amount is less than \$500. If the amount is greater than \$500, the bill provides for various felony classifications based upon whether the person acted with criminal negligence; recklessly; knowingly; or purposefully.

The prosecutor may charge alternative offenses under chapter 570, RSMo, as long as no person is convicted under this provision and another section related to the same theft of moneys.

This provision is the same as HB 707 (2025).

## DORMANT ACCOUNTS (Section 447.200)

This bill repeals Section 447.200 regarding inactive consumer deposit accounts

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## SS SCS SB 105 -- NONNATIVE INVASIVE PLANTS

This bill requires that all nurseries and nursery dealers in the State submit to the Department of Agriculture an affidavit that the dealer will not knowingly or intentionally import, export, buy, sell, transport, distribute, or propagate any plant or seeds of Coloratus variety of climbing euonymus, any variety of Japanese Honeysuckle, any variety of Sericea Lespedeza, or perilla mint beginning January 1, 2027, or the Compactus variety of Burning Bush or any variety of Callery Pear beginning January 1, 2029.

This bill is the same as HCS HB 60 (2025).

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## SS SCS SB 133 -- UNDERGROUND FACILITIES

This bill requires an underground facility owner to ensure that all new and active underground facilities, except certain storm sewers and sanitary sewer mains and laterals, installed after August 28, 2025, feature a detectable underground location device, unless the facility is capable of being detected from above ground with an electronic locating device.

The bill modifies the composition of the Board of Directors for the notification center. The board must have at least four voting directors from other damage prevention stakeholders within the construction industry, of which three must be from a heavy civil, site grading, road or highway contractor, and one must be from a utility or underground contractor. None of the directors appointed from the construction industry will work for a contractor that owns or operates an underground facility.

Notice provided to the notification center is valid until 11:59 p.m., 21 days from the start date of work.

When the location of the planned excavation cannot be clearly identified, the excavator can designate the planned excavation route or area to be excavated by means specified in the bill and provide the information to the notification center before or with the notice of intent to excavate.

The bill requires that the location of underground facilities provided by a facility owner or operator to any person engaging in scheduled excavating be accurate. If any underground facility becomes damaged by an excavator due to the furnishing of inaccurate information as to its location by the facility owner or operator, the excavator will not be liable for the damage to the underground facility as a result of the excavating, provided that the excavating complies with the safety and notice requirements and current law and there is no evidence visible and obvious to the excavator of the presence of a mismarked underground facility.

Currently, the failure of an underground facility owner to mark his or her facilities or to become a participant in the notification system is a rebuttable presumption of negligence on the part of the owner. The bill adds a locator or other contractor engaged by the facility owner in the event the failure causes injury, loss, or damage.

This bill is the same as HCS HB 752 (2025).

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SS#2 SB 145 -- LICENSURE OF CERTAIN BUSINESSES

Under current law, a municipal corporation can impose a license tax upon businesses as authorized by law. This bill provides that no municipal corporation will impose a license tax upon any enterprise owned by a person 18 years or younger.

Currently, a constitutional charter city with a population size of more than 350,000 inhabitants, can license, tax, and regulate certain occupations and businesses, for conducting business in such cities. Under this bill, no constitutional charter city can license, tax, or regulate any enterprise owned by a person 18 years or younger.

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CCS HCS SS SB 150 -- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

ADULT HIGH SCHOOLS (Section 160.2700-160.2710)

The bill changes the age for enrollment for adult high schools in the State from 21 to 18 years of age. A student who transfers from a local education agency to an adult high school will be considered a transfer student and not a dropout student by the State for the purposes of compiling and tracking dropout rates.

STEM CAREER AWARENESS (Section 161.264)

Subject to appropriations, this bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to establish the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Program" for grades nine through 12. DESE will begin promoting the Program in the 2026-27 school year and solicit a proposal to provide the Program by January 1, 2026. By March 1, 2026, DESE must select a provider. Alternatively, the bill authorizes DESE to choose a third party nonprofit entity to implement the Program, solicit proposals, and select a provider.

The bill requires prospective providers to present data demonstrating effectiveness in the following areas: teacher instruction on STEM-related subjects; increased student enrollment in four year STEM related fields; or increased participation in STEM related workforce upon graduation. The bill outlines criteria for Program providers that includes: an activity program led by teachers fully certified to teach grades nine through 12 in STEM-related subjects; and facilitates a cohort of students in grades nine through 12 to participate in STEM-related competitions, as specified in the bill.

This bill also creates the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Fund".

#### INSTITUTIONAL DOCTORAL PROGRAM EXPANSION (Sections 172.280 and 174.160)

Currently, only the University of Missouri may offer research doctorates, doctor of philosophy degrees, or specific first-professional degrees. This bill allows Missouri State University to have the power to grant philosophy degrees in disciplines other than engineering and to grant a bachelor of science degree in veterinary technology.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION BOARD (Sections 173.612 & 173.616)

This bill requires a proprietary school that closes without properly compensating the students, to forfeit the security deposit required to be on record with the Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development. The Department will use the funds to help the students affected by the closure.

If funds remain after students receive restitution from the security deposit proceeds, the remaining money will be used to secure and administer student records in the Department's care.

The bill also creates a specific exemption category for U.S. Department of Labor-approved registered apprenticeships from the certification requirements with the Department.

The Department currently exempts training partners that only enroll registered apprentices and only requires certification or exemption of providers who seek to enroll non-apprentices in the same program in order to ensure those students have oversight protections in place. This bill clarifies the exemption category for those wishing to offer postsecondary training as part of a registered apprenticeship program.

#### STEM GRANT (Section 173.685)

Subject to appropriation, this bill directs the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (DHEWD) to make available a STEM grant for up to \$1,500 a semester with a maximum grant of \$6,000 to eligible recipients. Eligibility for a STEM grant is provided in the bill, and includes financial considerations similar to the Missouri Access Program.

Recipients must also be working toward a STEM degree, which includes science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields as specified in the bill.

The bill specifies requirements for STEM grant renewal, include satisfactory academic progress, and five or less semesters at a two-year institution, or no more than 10 semesters at an approved four-year institution, or a combination of the two.

These provisions sunset six years after the effective date.

#### CAREER-TECH CERTIFICATE PROGRAM (Section 173.836)

This bill creates the "Career-Tech Certificate (CTC) Program" and the "Career-Tech Certificate (CTC) Program Fund".

The CTC Program is for students who have met the GPA, attendance, and service requirements for the A+ Program and are eligible for reimbursement of tuition, books, and fees, and are attending an approved institution of postsecondary education, as defined in the bill, for an eligible program of study or specified training program.

Beginning with the 2026-27 academic year, DHEWD must establish a procedure to reimburse the costs of tuition, books, and fees from the CTC Program Fund to the approved institution where the student is enrolled in an eligible program of study or a training program. Tuition reimbursements shall not exceed the tuition rate charged by a public community college for coursework offered by a two-year private vocational or technical school, virtual institution, or eligible training provider. A private vocational or technical school, institution, or training provider shall request authorization from DHEWD for tuition reimbursement before a student enrolls if there is a public community college or vocational or technical school in the same service region offering the same or a substantially similar eligible program of study or training program, as provided in the bill.

The bill provides reimbursement for students for one certificate program or completion of a program of study or until a student has completed 150% of the time usually required to complete such a program.

#### POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDS (Sections 173.1102, 173.1103, and 173.1105)

Beginning in the 2025-26 academic year, this bill specifies an increase for eligible recipients of the Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program.

For public two-year institutions the maximum increases from \$1,300 to \$1,700 and the minimum from \$300 to \$500.

For public four-year institutions and the State Technical College, and approved private and virtual institutions, the maximum increases from \$2,850 to \$3,500 and the minimum by \$1,500 to \$1,750.

The bill replaces the phrase "expected family contribution" with "student aid index" which is the amount of money a student and family should pay to the cost of postsecondary education as calculated by the US Department of Education.

#### MISSOURI SOUTHERN MISSION STATEMENT(Section 174.231)

This bill modifies the current statewide mission designation for Missouri Southern State University to include health and life sciences and immersive learning experiences.

#### HIGHER EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM (Section 178.786)

This bill specifies that the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of a representative from each public community college and four-year institution of higher education, must approve a 60 credit hour, transferable, lower-division course, and common course numbering equivalency matrix for the five applicable degree programs outlined in the bill beginning in the 2028-29 academic year. For any community college or public institution of higher education, offering the approved degree programs, must adopt and include an approved 60 hour program equivalency matrix, as specified in the bill.

If a student successfully completes the transferable lower-division courses at a public institution of higher education, such courses may be transferred and will be substituted for core curriculum courses in the same degree program at a receiving institution. The transferring student receives credit toward the student's degree and is not required to take additional core classes for the same degree program at the receiving institution. Transferring students who have not fully completed the transferable coursework curriculum may be required to satisfy further course requirements at the receiving institution.

The bill includes procedures for dispute resolution for institutions and an appeals process for students if the student is not awarded credit as required in the bill.

The coordinating board shall maintain a website providing students with clear information on the articulation pathways and must report to the House of Representatives Higher Education Committee and the Senate Education Committee on progress related to the requirements of the bill by December 31, 2026.

#### MISSOURI STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (Section 191.600-191.615)

This bill modifies provisions relating to the existing "Health Professional Student Loan Repayment Program" by renaming it to the "Missouri State Loan Repayment Program (MOSLRP)" and expanding the program to include those who have graduated from an accredited graduate training program in a discipline designated by the Department of Health and Senior Services.

Current law requires, in order to be eligible to participate in the program, that a person is enrolled as either a full-time medical student, dental student, or chiropractic student, and is in the final year of course study, or that a person is licensed to practice in these fields. This provision and the designation for an area in need of chiropractic services are repealed and replaced with the requirements that the person is authorized to practice as any type of health professional and is going to practice in an area of defined need.

The bill requires that 35% of the annual appropriated funds that are allocated to this loan repayment program must be designated for awards to primary care physicians and general dentists, and unused portions of those designated funds will be made available in the same fiscal year to the other types of health professions designated by the Department.

Currently, individuals who have entered into written contracts with the Department and who either fail to maintain an acceptable level of academic standing, who voluntarily terminate enrollment, or

who are dismissed from the institution, are liable to the State for the amount that has been paid on their behalf under the contract. This bill repeals that provision.

#### LICENSING OF CHILD CARE FACILITIES (Section 210.221)

This bill allows the DESE to grant a temporary child care license to a child care provider, upon submission of a complete license application to expand an existing site or add a new location, provided that the provider's license is in good standing and also submits approved fire-safety, state and local sanitation inspections, city inspections, staff background checks, and evidence of completion of required staff training for the site being added or expanded. The new facility will be subject to an unannounced inspection by the Office of Childhood, within the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, within 60 days of opening the new facility. Temporary licenses will be valid for up to 12 months or until the DESE makes a final determination on full licensure.

Prior to obtaining the temporary child care license for another facility, the child care provider has to have been in operation for at least 13 months. If a child care facility is an existing child care facility but there is a change in ownership, the facility will be subject to an unannounced inspections by the Office of Childhood within 60 days of the change of ownership.

#### LICENSURE RECIPROCITY FOR SPOUSES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT (Section 324.009)

Currently, an oversight body for professional licenses must waive any examination, educational, or experience requirements within 30 days for a resident military spouse or a nonresident military spouse and issue the applicant a license if the applicant meets all other requirements. This bill provides a waiver to resident and nonresident spouses of Missouri law enforcement officers.

#### EMBALMERS (Section 333.041)

The bill provides that a practicum embalming student licensee may assist, under the direct supervision of a licensed embalmer, in a licensed funeral establishment after approval by the State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors (Board), within the Division of Professional Registration, but cannot assist when not under supervision.

This bill repeals the current requirements to become a licensed embalmer and replaces them with new requirements.

In the bill, an applicant for an embalmer license must provide evidence to the Board that he or she:

- (1) Is 18eighteen years of age or older;
- (2) Possesses a high school diploma, a general equivalency diploma, or equivalent, as determined, at its discretion, by the Board;



- (3) Has completed a funeral service education program accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education, any successor organization, or other accrediting entity as approved by the Board;
- (4) Received passing scores on the National Board Examination-Sciences and the Missouri law examination administered by the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, any successor organization, or other organization approved by the Board; and
- (5) Has been employed in a qualifying embalmer's apprentice program for six months and has personally embalmed at least 25 dead human bodies under the supervision of a licensed embalmer. The first 12 embalmings must be conducted under the direct supervision of the licensed embalmer.

Upon written request to the Board, any person licensed under this section may, at his or her election, sit for the National Board Examination-Arts administered by the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards, any successor organization, or other organization approved by the Board.

Currently, if an applicant does not complete all requirements for licensure within five years from the date of his or her completion of an accredited program, his or her registration as an apprentice embalmer is automatically canceled. The applicant is required to file a new application and pay applicable fees. The applicant cannot use the previous apprenticeship for the new application. This bill repeals that provision.

The bill adds the requirement to pass the Missouri law examination in order to become a licensed embalmer.

Currently, if any applicant fails to pass the national board examination of the Conference of Funeral Service Examining, he or she may retake the examination at the next regular examination meeting. The applicant must notify the Board office of his or her desire to retake the examination at least 30 days prior to the date of the examination. Each time the examination is retaken, the applicant must pay a new examination fee in an amount established by the Board. This bill removes the 30 day requirement and specifies that the examination is the National Board Examination-Arts. The bill repeals a provision requiring the Board to hold the examinations at least twice a year.

#### FUNERAL DIRECTORS (Section 333.042)

This bill repeals the current requirements to become a licensed funeral director and replaces them with new requirements.

In the bill, an applicant for a funeral director license must provide evidence to the Board that he or she is 18 years of age or older and possesses a high school diploma or the equivalent thereof and has either:

- (1) Completed a funeral service education program accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education, any successor organization, or other accrediting entity as approved by the Board

and received passing scores on the National Board Examination- Arts and the Missouri law examination. The Board can accept, in lieu of a passing score on the National Board Examination- Arts, a passing score on an administration of the Missouri arts examination that occurred before the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards ended all administrations of the Missouri arts examination on January 1, 2023; or

(2) Made application for a funeral director provisional license and successfully either:

(a) Within 24 months of receipt of the provisional license:

(i) Completed a 12-month qualifying funeral director apprentice program as determined by the board during which the applicant arranged and conducted 10 funeral services. The program must be under the personal supervision of a licensed funeral director in a Missouri funeral establishment licensed for the care and preparation for burial and transportation of the human dead in this state; and

(ii) Received passing scores on the National Board Examination-Arts and the Missouri law examination. The Board can accept, in lieu of a passing score on the National Board Examination- Arts, a passing score on an administration of the Missouri arts examination that occurred before the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards ended all administrations of the Missouri arts examination on January 1, 2023; or

(b) Within 36 months of receipt of the provisional license:

(i) Completed an 18-month qualifying funeral director apprentice program as determined by the Board during which the applicant arranged and conducted 25 funeral services. The program must be under the personal supervision of a licensed funeral director in a Missouri funeral establishment licensed for the care and preparation for burial and transportation of the human dead in this state; and

(ii) Received a passing score on the Missouri law examination.

Any person holding a provisional license can be eligible, upon written request to the Board, to sit for the National Board Examination-Arts and the Missouri law examination at any time during the period in which his or her provisional license is effective.

Any licensed funeral director who has not previously sat for the National Board Examination-Arts may, at his or her election and upon written request to the board, sit for the examination.

A person can apply for a limited license to work only in a funeral establishment licensed for cremation. A person holding a limited funeral director license can perform duties related to cremation. To qualify for a limited funeral director license, an applicant must be 18 years of age or older and successfully complete the Missouri law examination. Completion of a qualifying funeral director apprentice program will not be required to obtain a limited funeral director license.

Currently, the board must, upon request, waive any requirement to become a licensed funeral director and issue a temporary funeral director's license, valid for six months, to the surviving spouse or next of kin or the personal representative of a licensed funeral director, or to the spouse, next of kin, employee or conservator of a licensed funeral director disabled because of sickness, mental incapacity or injury. This bill adds that the waiver can allow the spouse, next of kin, personal representative, or conservator of the absent director to conduct business until a licensed funeral director can be obtained or business arrangements are made to close or sell the establishment. The waiver does not allow for any services to be provided for which formal funeral service education is required.

#### SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION (Sections 337.600, 337.604, 337.615, 337.627, 337.628, 337.644, and 337.645)

Currently, an individual can become a social worker if he or she has received a baccalaureate or master's degree in social work. The social work programs must be accredited and approved by the Council on Social Work Education.

This bill allows individuals to get a master's degree from a social work program in candidacy and precandidacy for accreditation that is recognized and approved by the committee for social workers.

This bill is similar to provisions of HCS for HB 32, HCS HB 33, HB 168, HB 183, HB 265, HCS HB 268, HCS HB 331, HB 419, HB 720, HB 834, HB 850, 53 & 482, HB 946, HCS HB 1017 & 291, and HB 1269,(2025).

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#### SS SB SB 152 CAMPAIGN FINANCE (Sections 130.170, 130.173, 130.176, 130.179, 130.185, and 130.188)

Upon forming a campaign committee to support or oppose any ballot measure, the treasurer of the committee is required to file an accompanying certification that no preliminary activity, as defined in the bill, was funded, directly or indirectly, by a prohibited source, defined as any contribution from, or expenditure by, a foreign national with the intent to influence an election on a ballot measure.

After a campaign committee has been formed, the committee will not knowingly or willfully receive, solicit, or accept contributions or expenditures from a prohibited source, whether directly or indirectly.

The bill requires donors of more than \$2,000 to campaign committees to affirm that the donor is not a foreign national and has not knowingly or willfully accepted funds, directly or indirectly, aggregating in excess of \$10,000 from one or more prohibited sources within, for an individual, the two-year period immediately preceding the date the contribution is made, or within the four-year period immediately preceding the date the contribution is made in case of any other entity.

Within 48 hours of making one or more expenditures supporting or opposing a ballot measure, an entity making an expenditure in support of or opposition to a ballot measure will affirm to the Missouri Ethics Commission (MEC) that it has not knowingly or willfully accepted funds, directly or indirectly, aggregating in excess of \$10,000 from one or more prohibited sources within the four-year period immediately preceding the date the expenditure is made and that it will not do so through the remainder of the calendar year in which the ballot measure will appear on the ballot. Receipt of an affirmation from a donor that it is not a foreign national will create a rebuttable presumption that the entity has not knowingly or willingly accepted funds from prohibited sources.

A contribution from a donor or entity of funds obtained through its usual course of business or in any commercial or other transaction from any source that is not a contribution does not violate this section.

Committees are prohibited from accepting in-kind contributions from foreign nationals or from any individual or entity that knowingly or willfully accepted funds aggregating in excess of \$10,000 from one or more foreign nationals within the four year period immediately preceding the date the in-kind contribution is made.

The bill prohibits foreign nationals from directing, dictating, controlling or directly or indirectly participating in the decision-making process of any person with regard to that person's activities to influence an election on a ballot measure; and from soliciting, directly or indirectly, the making of a donation, contribution or expenditure by another person to influence an election on ballot measure.

The bill creates a new enforcement mechanism for foreign funding of campaign committees that is separate and distinct from the process that the MEC uses to investigate complaints of campaign finance law. The Attorney General is allowed to issue civil investigative demands in the same manner as provided for under the Missouri Merchandising Practices Act and can bring a civil action to enforce this act, as described in the bill. If, after the hearing, the court determines that probable cause exists to believe that a violation has occurred, the court will enter an order to that effect and the case should proceed to trial on an expedited basis.

Within 30 days of a finding that a committee has violated these provisions of the bill, the committee must refund the contribution to the original contributor. In the event of an appeal, the contribution will be placed in escrow, after which the funds will be disbursed in accordance with the final order. If the campaign committee is unable to return the funds, the directors, officers, or executive members of the campaign committee will be liable in their personal capacity, jointly and severally, for the refund of the funds.

Within 30 days of a finding that a committee, person, or other entity making an expenditure has violated these provisions of the bill, the entity making the expenditure must disgorge to the Attorney General, funds in an amount equal to the reported cost of the expenditure. If the funds cannot be disgorged, the person or directors, officers or executive members of the committee or other entity are liable in their personal capacities, jointly and severally, for the payment of the amount due. In the event of an appeal, the funds subject to disgorgement will be placed in escrow, after which they must be disbursed in accordance with the final order.

If any lobbyist violates any of the provisions of the bill relating to foreign funding of ballot measures, the lobbyist's registration can be revoked or suspended and the lobbyist can be enjoined from receiving compensation or making expenditures for lobbying.

If the Attorney General prevails in an action brought under the provisions of this bill, the court will award injunctive relief sufficient to prevent the defendant from violating this bill or engaging in acts that aid or abet violations and statutory damages up to twice the amount of the prohibited contribution or expenditure.

In addition to other penalties provided in the bill, if the court finds a knowing or willful violation, the court can assess a penalty of up to three times the statutory damages.

Collection of information pursuant to this bill must be done in accordance with the Personal Privacy Protection Act and any public disclosure will be considered a violation of the Personal Privacy Protection Act subject to civil action and penalties, as provided in that bill.

This bill is similar to provisions in HCS for HB 794 (2025).

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#### CCS HCS SS SB 160 -- EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

This bill creates the "Missouri Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (Missouri CROWN) Act", which governs discriminatory practices in elementary and secondary educational institutions as they relate to protective hairstyles. The bill defines an "educational institution" as including any public or private prekindergarten program, public or private elementary or secondary school, charter school, or public or private school board, charter school governing board, or other school administrative body.

Under the bill, educational institutions that receive State financial assistance or enroll students who receive State financial aid will not discriminate based on a person's hair texture or protective hairstyle if it is commonly associated with a particular race or origin. However, educational institutions can require hair nets, coverings, or secured hair for safety reasons in career and technical training courses, as needed to meet safety regulations.

These provisions will not apply to an educational institution that is controlled by a religious organization if the application of such provision would not be consistent with the religious tenets of that organization (Section 160.082).

The bill gives the Missouri State University board of governors the power and authority to grant doctor of philosophy degrees in disciplines other than engineering and to grant bachelor of science degrees in veterinary technology (Sections 172.280 and 174.160).

This bill prohibits public institutions of higher learning, such as State colleges, community colleges, and technical schools, from taking adverse action against a student association because of the association's beliefs or the actions of its leaders. Specifically, these institutions will not deny a

belief-based student association, such as a political, ideological, or religious association, any benefits that are available to other student groups, including access to campus facilities and communication channels. A belief-based student association will be responsible for defining its own mission, beliefs, practice requirements, and conduct standards. A belief-based student association can seek relief in a judicial or administrative proceeding against an institution that violates the provisions of the bill.

The provisions of this bill will not apply to a belief-based student association if there is substantial evidence that such association's viewpoint or expression of the viewpoint would materially and substantially disrupt the educational environment or interfere with the rights of others, in accordance with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Healy v. James*, 408 U.S. 169 (1972) (Sections 173.1555 and 173.1556).

The bill provides that the offense of hazing will be known as "Danny's Law", and provides that a person is guilty of the offense of hazing if a person knowingly, actively, and not under duress participates in, solicits another person to participate in, or causes or plans a willful act that endangers a student or prospective member, current member or former member of organizations under the sanction of a public or private college or university. The acts of hazing are specified in the bill.

This bill provides that a person will not be guilty of the offense of hazing if the person establishes that he or she:

- (1) Was present at the event where hazing occurred and a person was in need of immediate medical assistance;
- (2) Was the first person to call 911 or campus security to report the need of immediate medical attention;
- (3) Provided the relevant information to the 911 operator or campus security; and
- (4) Remained at the scene until medical assistance arrived and cooperated with such assistance.

Additionally, this bill provides that a person will be immune from prosecution if the person can establish he or she rendered aid to the hazing victim before assistance arrived (Section 578.365).

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HCS SS SB 218 -- COURT OPERATIONS

#### INTERPRETER SERVICES IN COURT PROCEEDINGS (Section 476.806)

Currently, an interpreter's or translator's fees and expenses in a criminal proceeding are payable by the State from funds appropriated for that purpose. This bill allows the fees and expenses in any civil, juvenile, or criminal proceeding to be paid by the State from the appropriated funds.

This provision is the same as HB 182 (2025).

#### CONFIDENTIALITY OF DECEASED INDIVIDUALS IN CERTAIN CONVICTIONS (Section 476.1025)

This bill specifies that a parent, spouse, child, or personal representative of a person who was convicted of a misdemeanor offense can petition the court to have the record of the offense made confidential in any automated case management system if the person has been deceased for six months or more. The petition must be accompanied by a copy of a death certificate and the court must make the case confidential. Before making the record confidential in the system, the court must determine whether any person would be unfairly prejudiced by having the record made confidential in the system.

This provision is the same as HB 143 (2025).

#### JUDICIAL PRIVACY ACT (Sections 476.1300 TO 476.1313)

This bill amends the Judicial Privacy Act to replace the definition for "judicial officer" with a definition for "court-related officer", which includes various judges, prosecuting and circuit attorneys, circuit clerks, court administrators, deputy circuit clerks, division clerks, municipal clerks, juvenile officers, and chief deputy juvenile officers.

The definition of "written request" is amended to exclude a court-related officer's personal information. The bill specifies that the prohibition on a government agency publicly posting or displaying publicly available content of a court-related officer does not apply to a court-related officer's personal information that is included in any records of court proceedings of this State contained in any statewide court automation system.

These provisions are the same as HCS HB 1457 (2025).

#### BASIC CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES FUND (Section 477.650)

Currently, the Basic Civil Legal Services Fund is set to expire on December 31, 2025. The money in the Fund is used to provide legal representation to eligible low-income persons in civil matters. This bill repeals that expiration date. The bill also corrects an incorrect reference to a provision in the Missouri Constitution.

This provision is the same as HB 124 (2025).

#### TREATMENT COURTS (Section 478.001)

The bill adds mental health treatment court to the list of treatment court divisions, defined as a court focused on addressing the mental health disorder or co-occurring disorder of defendants charged with a criminal offense. This bill specifies that a mental health treatment court can be established by any circuit court to provide an alternative for the judicial system to dispose of cases that stem from a mental health disorder or co-occurring disorder.

This provision is similar to HB 83 (2025).

## CIRCUIT JUDGES (Sections 478.330, 478.376, 478.610, 478.625, 478.690, and 478.710)

Currently, when an annual judicial performance report indicates for three consecutive years the need for two or more full-time judicial positions in any judicial circuit, an additional circuit judge position will be authorized if money for such position is appropriated. This bill requires the clerk of the Missouri Supreme Court to notify the Revisor of Statutes of any such authorized new circuit judgeships, and the Revisor must publish a footnote listing the authorized judgeships and the corresponding judicial circuits. Any new judgeship so authorized will be elected at the next general election and every six years thereafter, unless the judgeship is in a circuit where the circuit judges are selected under the Missouri Nonpartisan Court Plan or except as otherwise provided by law. Such newly authorized judicial positions will not be considered vacant or filled by appointment until the January following the authorization.

In addition to statutorily recognizing that the 6th judicial circuit has three circuit judges, the bill authorizes the following additional judgeships:

- (1) One additional circuit judge in the 13th judicial circuit. The judge will be elected in 2030 and every six years thereafter;
- (2) One additional circuit judge in the 19th judicial circuit. The judge will be elected in 2030 and every six years thereafter;
- (3) One additional circuit judge in the 24th judicial circuit. The Governor will appoint the judge, who will serve until January 1, 2031, and a judge will be elected in 2030 and every six years thereafter; and
- (4) One additional circuit judge in the 32nd judicial circuit. The Governor will appoint the judge, which will serve until January 1, 2029, and a judge will be elected in 2028.

These provisions are the same as HCS HBs 93 & 1139 (2025).

## JUROR COMPENSATION (Sections 488.040 and 494.455)

This bill specifies that each grand and petit juror will receive at least \$6 per day for every day the juror actually serves and a mileage reimbursement rate as provided by law for State employees. Each county and the City of St. Louis can authorize additional compensation for its jurors. Alternatively, a governing body, as specified in the bill, can, by a majority vote, vote to restructure juror compensation so that grand and petit jurors do not get paid for the first two days of service but thereafter will receive \$50 per day, as well as mileage reimbursement at the rate provided by law for State employees for necessary travel from the juror's residence to the courthouse and back, to be paid by the county.

This provision is the same as HB 131 (2025).

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## SS SB 221 -- JUDICIAL REVIEW OF AGENCY DETERMINATIONS

This bill repeals a provision related to judicial review of actions by state agencies. The bill requires a court or officer hearing an administrative action to review the meaning and effect of a statute, rule, regulation, or other subregulatory document de novo rather than relying on a state agency's interpretation of the statute, rule, regulation, or other document. In an action brought by or against a state agency, the court or officer hearing the administrative action, after applying customary tools of interpretation, must decide any remaining doubt in favor of a reasonable interpretation that limits agency power and maximizes individual liberty.

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## SS SCS SB 271 -- EMERGENCY SERVICES

This bill modifies provisions related to emergency services.

### COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION ORDINANCES (Sections 64.003 and 321.220, RSMo)

This bill prohibits any fire prevention ordinance adopted by any county or fire protection district from imposing regulations on or requiring permits with respect to the erection, maintenance, or repair, alteration, or extension of farm buildings or structures.

These provisions are similar to HB 533 (2025) and SB 602 (2025).

### ST. LOUIS CITY FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (Sections 87.140, 87.145, 87.155, 87.260, and 87.350)

This bill specifies that the Board of Trustees of the Firemen's Retirement System of St. Louis will not be prevented from simultaneously acting as the trustees of any other pension plan that provides retirement, disability, and death benefits for firefighters employed by St. Louis City.

The administration of any other pension plan includes the ability of the Board to establish rules and regulations for the administration of the funds and for the transaction of such other pension plan's business. The Board must maintain separate records of all proceedings of such other pension plan.

This bill specifies that the Board of Trustees will have the authority and discretion to invest and reinvest funds of the other pension plan in property of any kind, real or personal. The Board can choose to invest the funds of the Firemen's Retirement System of St. Louis and the funds of the other pension plan in the same investments if the amounts invested and the gains, profits, or losses are accounted for separately. No benefits due from the other pension plan will be paid from the funds of the Firemen's Retirement System.

The bill provides that no expenses incurred by the Board in the administration of any other pension plan or in the investment of any other pension plan's funds will be paid by the funds of the Firemen's Retirement System.

These provisions are the same as SB 255 (2025) and similar to HB 205 (2025), HB 147 (2025), and HCS HB 532 (2025).

#### USE TAXES OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS (Section 144.757)

Currently, any county or municipality can, by a vote of its governing body, impose a local use tax if a local sales tax is imposed. This bill extends this authority to any taxing jurisdiction with the ability to impose a sales tax for emergency services.

This provision is similar to HCS HB 641 (2025).

#### AMBULANCE DISTRICTS (Sections 190.053, 190.076, 190.109, 190.112, and 190.166)

This bill modifies training requirements for members of an ambulance district board of directors. Board members are required to complete three hours of continuing education for each term of office. Failure to do so will result in immediate disqualification with the office remaining vacant until filled.

Each ambulance district must arrange for an audit of the district's records and accounts every three years by a certified public accountant. The audit will be made available to the public on the district's website or otherwise freely available by other electronic means.

The Department of Health and Senior Services, as a part of regulating ground ambulance service licenses, will promulgate rules regarding participation with regional emergency medical services advisory committees, and ambulance service administrator qualifications.

This bill requires ambulance services to report to the Department individuals serving as ambulance service administrators. Each administrator is required to complete at least 40 hours of training regarding the operations and staffing of the ambulance service and two hours of continuing education annually, as specified in the bill. Ambulance service administrators serving in this capacity as of August 28, 2025, will have until January 1, 2026, to demonstrate compliance with the provisions of this section.

The Department can refuse to issue, deny renewal of, or suspend a license required for ground ambulance services or take other corrective actions based on the following considerations:

- (1) If the license holder is determined to be financially insolvent;
- (2) The ambulance service has inadequate personnel to provide basic operations;
- (3) The ambulance service requires an inordinate amount of mutual aid from neighboring services;
- (4) The principal manager, board members, or other executives determined to be criminally liable for actions related to the license or service provided;

(5) The license holder has been determined to be ineligible for participation in Medicare or MO HealthNet;

(6) The ambulance district administrator has failed to meet the required qualifications or the required training; and

(7) If three or more board members have failed to complete required training.

If the Department makes a determination of insolvency or insufficiency of services, then the Department can require the license holder to submit and complete a corrective plan, as specified in the bill.

The Department is required to provide notice of any determination of insolvency or insufficiency of services to other license holders operating in the license holder's vicinity, members of the General Assembly who represent that area, other governing officials, the appropriate regional emergency medical services advisory committee, and the State Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services.

The Department must immediately engage with other license holders in the area to determine how ground ambulance services can be provided to the affected area during the service disruption. Assisting license holders can be compensated for the assistance, as specified in the bill.

#### STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (Section 190.101)

The bill changes the number of council members from 16, to no more than 23 and updates the criteria for member appointment.

This bill changes the procedure for electing a chairperson by removing the designation of the chairperson by the Governor and instead requiring the council to select the chairperson annually or any other officer as deemed necessary. The appointment of council members are specified in the bill.

The bill also repeals a provision stating that the regional EMS advisory committees must serve as a resource for identifying potential members of the council.

This provision is the same as HCS HB 943 (2025) and similar to SCS SB 317 (2025), SB 548 (2025), SB 206 (2025), and SB 270 (2025).

#### GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICE (Section 190.800)

Currently, ground ambulance services owned and operated by an entity owned and operated by the State, including but not limited to, any hospital owned or operated by the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri, are exempt from the requirement to pay an ambulance service reimbursement allowance tax. This bill repeals this exemption.

This provision is the same as SB 629 (2025).

## SPECIALTY HOSPITAL TRANSFER AGREEMENTS (Section 197.135)

This bill exempts specialty hospitals from certain provisions of State law relating to forensic examinations of victims of sexual assault if the hospital has a policy for the transfer of those individuals to an appropriate hospital with an emergency department.

## FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT SALES TAX (Sections 321.552, 321.554, and 321.556)

Currently, upon voter approval, ambulance districts and fire protection districts are authorized to impose a sales tax of up to 0.5% in all counties with the exception of St. Louis, St. Charles, Clay, Platte, and Greene. An ambulance district or fire protection district imposing a sales tax authorized by this section must reduce any property tax levy imposed by the district or political subdivision for the purposes of providing ambulance and fire protection services such that the revenue generated by the property tax levy is offset in an amount equal to 50% of the amount of revenue generated by the sales tax imposed pursuant to this bill.

This bill increases the amount of the sales tax authorization to 1% and repeals statutory language prohibiting ambulance districts and fire protection districts in St. Louis, St. Charles, Clay, Platte, and Greene counties from submitting this tax authorization to voters.

These provisions are the same as SCS SB 33 (2025).

## IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY FOR CIVIL DAMAGES (Section 537.038)

This bill provides that any person can, without compensation, render emergency care or assistance at the scene of an emergency or accident without being liable for any civil damages, unless the damages are occasioned by gross negligence or willful or wanton acts or omissions.

This provision is similar to SB 521 (2025).

## ----- HCS#2 SCS SB 348 -- STATE DESIGNATIONS

This bill makes the following designations:

- (1) Every February 20th as "John Donaldson Day" in Missouri (Section 9.005). This is the same as SB 303 (2025);
- (2) Every November 9th as "Links, Incorporated Day" in Missouri (Section 9.171). This section of the bill is the same as SB 433 (2025);
- (3) The month of September every year as "Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month" in Missouri (Section 9.234). This section of the bill is the same as SB 111 (2025);

- (4) Every August 19th as "Eddie Gaedel Day" in Missouri (Section 9.292). This section of the bill is the same as SB 799 (2025);
- (5) Every August 6th as "Chris Sifford Day" in Missouri (Section 9.367). This Section is the same as SB 156 (2025);
- (6) Every October 16th as "Michael Collins Day" in Missouri in honor of Michael Collins, an Irish revolutionary, soldier, and politician (Section 9.385). This section is the same as SB 798 (2025).
- (7) Designates the last Saturday of April each year as "Emmett Kelly Day" in Missouri (Section 9.386). This section is the same as SB 580 (2025) and HB 310 (2025);
- (8) Designates the second Tuesday of April of each year as "Celia Day" in Missouri (Section 9.388);
- (9) Designates the week in which the second Tuesday of April falls each year as "Human Trafficking Awareness Week" (Section 9.389);
- (10) Designates November 13th each year as "Believe in Gianna Day" in Missouri to raise awareness of Sanfilippo Syndrome (Section 9.401). This Section is the same as HB 604 (2025);
- (11) Designates May 8th each year as "Amyloidosis Awareness Day" in Missouri (Section 9.402). This section the same as SB 304 (2025);
- (12) Designates January 5th each year as "Kappa Alpha Psi Day" in Missouri (Section 9.409). This section is the same as SCS SB 110 (2025);
- (13) Designates June 17th each year as "End Neighborhood Gun Violence Day" in honor of Preston Ja'mon "Tink" Jones, Sr. (Section 9.416). This section is the same as SB 777 and HB 1403 (2025);
- (14) The month of May as "Alpha-Gal Syndrome Awareness Month" (Section 9.420);
- (15) Designates Waverly as the official apple capital of Missouri (Section 10.250). This section is the same as HB 132 and SB 673 (2025);
- (16) Designates Concordia as the official patriotic mural city of Missouri (Section 10.251). This section is the same as HB 133 and SB (674) (2025);
- (17) Designates the City of Branson as the official "Live Entertainment Capital" for the State of Missouri (Section 10.254). This bill is the same as HB 109 (2025);
- (18) Designates KSHE 94.7, or "KSHE 95", as the official rock radio station of Missouri (Section 10.260). This section is similar to HB 602 (2025);
- (19) Designates POW/MIA CPT Steven N Bezold Memorial Highway in Montgomery County. Costs for the designation must be paid by the Department of Transportation(Section 226.886). This section is the same as HB 1106 (2025);

(20) Renames the Heart of America Bridge, which carries Route nine over the Missouri River in Kansas City, to the "Sam Graves Heart of America Bridge". The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs with the costs to be paid by private donations (Section 227.503 & 227.887). This section is the same as HB 841, HB 1596, and HB 1394 (2025);

(21) Designates "Senator Bill Foster Bridge" in Butler County (Section 227.830). Costs for the designation will be paid by private donations. This section is the same as HB 37 (2025);

(22) Designates "Celia Memorial Highway" in Callaway County. Costs for the designation will be paid by private donations (Section 227.840);

(23) Designates "Adam Ellis Memorial Highway" in Pike County. Costs for the designation will be paid by private donations (Section 227.841);

(24) Designates "Deputy Marshal David Thurman Memorial Highway" in McDonald County. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.857). This section is the same as HB 734 (2025);

(25) Designates the "Officer Cody Allen Memorial Highway" in Lafayette County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs with the costs to be paid by the Department (Section 227.862). This section is the same as HB 787 (2025);

(26) Designates "Officer James Muhlbauer K-9 Officer Champ Memorial Bridge" in Jackson County. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.871). This section is the same as SB 422 (2025);

(27) Designates "Corporal Richard E Rutherford Memorial Highway" in Montgomery County. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.875). This section is the same as (2025);

(28) Designates "PFC Byron Lea Brown Memorial Highway" in Montgomery County. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.876). This section is the same as HB 65 (2025);

(29) Designates "LCPL Keo Joe Keshner Memorial Highway" in Montgomery County. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.877). This section is the same as HB 63 (2025);

(30) Designates "Police Officer Phylicia Carson Memorial Bridge" in Camden County. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.878). This section is the same as HB 107 (2025);

(31) Designates "Sergeant Colin I Arslanbas Memorial Highway" in St. Charles County. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.879). This section is the same as SB 577 and HB 636 (2025);

(32) Designates the "US Representative Billy Long Highway" in Greene County. The Department of Transportation must erect and maintain appropriate signs with the costs to be paid by private donations (Section 227.882). This section is the same as HB 809 (2025);

(33) Designates "Police Officer David Lee Memorial Highway" in St. Louis City. Costs for the designation will be paid by the Department of Transportation (Section 227.883). This section is the same as HB 957 (2025);

(34) Designates "John Lucas Memorial Highway" in Moniteau County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs with the costs to be paid by private donations (Section 227.884). This section is the same as HB 1097 (2025);

(35) Designates "COL Elmer R Parrish Memorial Bridge" in Pulaski County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain the signs, with the costs paid by the Department (Section 227.885). This section is the same as HB 1088 (2025);

(36) Designates "PFC LeLand S Deeds Memorial Highway" in Sullivan County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs with the costs to be paid by the Department (Section 227.888). This section is the same as HB 1418 (2025);

(37) Designates "William Patrick Thompson Memorial Highway" in Webster County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs designating the highway, with costs to be paid by private donations (Section 227.889). This section is the same as HB 1539 (2025);

(38) Designates "Cotton Fitzsimmons Memorial Highway" in Pike County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs with the costs to be paid by private donations (Section 227.892);

(39) Designates "Mayor Stan Salva Bridge" in Jackson County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs designating such highway, with the costs to be paid by the private donations (Section 227.893);

(40) Designates "Beulah Poynter Memorial Bridge" in the City of Bethany in Harrison County. The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs designating the bridge, with the costs to be paid by private donations (Section 227.894); and

(41) Designates the portion of State Highway 77 from Scott County Road 352 South to Mississippi County Road 220 as the "E E Crader Highway". The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs designating such highway with the costs to be paid by private donations (Section 1).

OZARK HIGHLAND DISTILLERS GUILD (Section 226.1170)

The bill authorizes the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Ozark Highland Distillers Guild, to erect and maintain suitable markings and signs designating the Ozark Highlands Spirits Region.

This section is the same as HB 201 (2025);

#### ROUTE 66 (Sections 226.796, 226.804 and 620.2200)

Currently, the Department of Transportation may not use State money for Route 66 signs. This bill repeals that prohibition and creates the "Route 66 Signage Maintenance and Enhancement Act of Missouri".

The bill establishes the "Route 66 Maintenance and Enhancement Program" and the "Route 66 Supplemental Signage Fund", within the Department, to maintain and repair existing Route 66 supplemental signage across the State. The Program can be expanded to include enhancement of the signage, including beyond rights-of-way to include county and city roads. Signs must highlight historical roadside features and comply with certain Department standards.

No later than January 31, 2026, the Department, in coordination with the Missouri Route 66 centennial commission, must establish guidelines for supplemental signage design and collaborate with counties and municipalities to implement the installation and maintenance of the signage. The replacement of existing signage and installation of new signage must be completed by May 30, 2026. The program must implement theft prevention measures for the signage.

The Department must seek guidance from the Route 66 Association of Missouri with respect to historical context and expertise on signage placement and must seek assistance from the Association on public outreach and education campaigns. The Department can establish a program to provide matching grants for local governments and organizations to address specific signage needs or enhancements within their jurisdictions. The bill also specifies that the Missouri Route 66 Centennial Commission can use its funds for the signage program. Currently, the Commission must submit its final report by June 30, 2027. This bill extends the date to June 30, 2030.

#### FEES FOR ADMINISTRATIVELY DESIGNATED HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES (Section 227.299)

This bill provides that the fee charged by the Highways and Transportation Commission for the 20-year administrative designation of a bridge or highway must not exceed the cost of the materials needed to construct the sign, rather than the cost of constructing and maintaining the proposed signs.

The bill also specifies that highways or bridges designated for certain first responders, military personnel, and State employees must be exempt from the requirement to submit signatures and fees, rather than excluded from this designation method.

#### STEPHEN LEE IRVIN MEMORIAL HIGHWAY (Section 227.781)



Currently, the signs and statute for the Corporal Steven Lee Irvin Memorial Highway are misspelled. This section changes the incorrect "Steven" to the correct "Stephen". The Department of Transportation will erect and maintain appropriate signs designating the highway and will pay the associated costs.

This section is the same as HB 1493 (2025).

#### FREEDOM 13 ORGANIZATION SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES (Section 301.3183)

This bill provides that motor vehicles can be issued The Freedom 13 Organization special license plates by the Department of Revenue. An annual application and payment of a \$25 emblem-use contribution fee to The Freedom 13 Organization is required.

A vehicle owner who was previously issued a plate or plates with The Freedom 13 Organization's emblem but who does not provide an emblem-use authorization statement upon registration will be issued a new plate or plates that do not bear the emblem.

This section is the same as SB 358 (2025).

#### HISTORIC LEGACY TRAILS OF MISSOURI (Section 620.471)

This bill designates certain trails, specified in the bill, as "Historic Legacy Trails of Missouri". The Department of Economic Development must place at least two signs along each trail, denoting the trail's status as a historic legacy trail.

This section is the same as HB 510 (2025).

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#### SB 396 -- CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICTS

Currently, State law sets the fiscal year for each consolidated public library district as July first to June 30th. This bill allows boards of trustees of consolidated public library districts to set the dates of their own fiscal years.

This bill is the same as HB 369 (2025).