

# THIS WEEK IN THE MISSOURI HOUSE

95th General Assembly  
First Regular Session

Volume 2, Issue 11  
April 6, 2009

## FLOOR ACTIONS

On Thursday, April 2, the House passed **HCS HB 381** by a vote of 143 to 4. The bill changes the way in which contracts for fee offices are awarded. It requires the Department of Revenue to give first priority to charitable organizations and then to local political subdivisions when awarding fee office contracts. The department must ensure that an entity is capable of reducing customer wait times to 30 minutes or less before a contract is awarded.

The House also passed **HCS HB 681**, which requires special elections to fill vacancies in the offices of Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer and U.S. Senator. Currently, when an office is vacated before the end of the term, the governor appoints a replacement to finish the term. This bill passed the House by a vote of 94 to 63.

The House also passed:

- **HB 481**, which adds claims within the scope of the Missouri Human Rights Act to which public entities are protected against punitive or exemplary damages.
- **HCS HB 187 & 235**, which changes the laws regarding court procedures and repeals the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act and replaces it with the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

The House also passed 65 consent bills last week.

## BY THE NUMBERS

House Actions  
as of 4/6/09  
9:30 a.m.

# House Bills Filed	1,234
# HBs Referred to Committee	1,081
# HBs Reported Do Pass	142
# HBs Reported Do Pass Consent	110
# HBs Perfected	135
# HBs Third Read	134
# HBs Reported Do Pass in the Senate	2
# HBs Third Read in the Senate	2

### Photo of the Week



Rep. Jason Smith speaks on House Bill 681 on Thursday. This bill will require the state to hold a special election if certain statewide offices are vacated.

### Dates of Interest

- April 1 - Last day to file bills
- April 13 - Easter Break
- May 8 - Appropriation bills must be Truly Agreed and Finally Passed
- May 15 - Session ends
- July 14 - Deadline for the governor to sign bills
- September 16 - Veto session begins



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## FAST FACTS

Below is a comparison of House and Senate actions as of April 6 of each year.

Year	HBs Filed	SBs Filed	HBs 3rd Read	SBs 3rd Read	HBs TAFP	SBs TAFP
2009	1,234	594	134	104	1	1
2008	1,336	600	131	108	5	0
2007	1,329	732	122	153	2	2
2006	1,206	723	134	155	3	1
2005	988	576	103	140	2	3

## COMMITTEE ACTIONS

- The **Senate Appropriations Committee** has scheduled a hearing on **HBs 1-13**. The hearing will be held on April 9 at 8 a.m.
- The **Senate Transportation Committee** held a hearing on **HCS HB 359**, which allows the Highways and Transportation Commission to enter into more than three design-build highway project contracts. (4.1.09)
- The **Budget Committee** passed **HCS HB 937**, which waives the limitations on the transfer of moneys from a school district's incidental fund to its capital projects fund for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years under certain circumstances. (4.2.09)
- The **Special Committee on General Laws** passed **HJR 11**, which proposes a constitutional amendment guaranteeing a citizen's First Amendment right to pray on public property and reaffirming a citizen's right to choose any or no religion. The committee also passed **HCS HB 228**, which changes the laws regarding the circulation of petitions. (4.2.09)

### Quiz

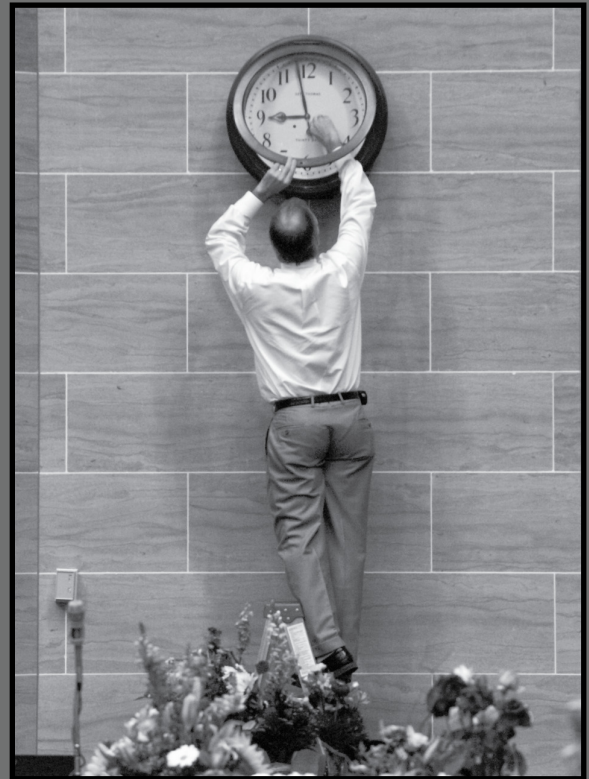
What year was this picture taken?

A. 1917 B. 1948 C. 1981 D. 2006

Answer to be revealed next week.



## Did you know?



When the Capitol was built it included 72 clocks in the corridors and principal rooms. Above: Director of Operations Keith Sappington adjusts a clock in the chamber.