

The Missouri General Assembly convened at 12 noon Wednesday, Jan. 4, in Jefferson City. It will adjourn at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 18. Missouri Press Association has spotted some bills that MPA will be monitoring. (See list below.)

Missouri Press Association expects an active session, and publishers and newspaper staffers will be called upon to contact their senators and representatives on various issues. Grassroots contacts by MPA members are vital, or we will not prevail on issues important to the newspaper industry. MPA thanks its members who stay in touch with their local Senate and House members.

If you would like to receive a weekly report during the legislative session from Gallagher Consultants (MPA's lobbyists), please contact Doug Crews (dcrews@socket.net). If you received the report last session by email, you don't need to reply. You are already on the list.

You may track House and Senate bills on the state government web site in Jefferson City: www.mo.gov

House and Senate Joint Bill Tracking: <http://www.house.mo.gov/billcentral.aspx>

House Bill List: <http://www.house.mo.gov/billlist.aspx?year=2012>

Senate Bill List:

http://www.senate.mo.gov/12info/BTS_Web/BillList.aspx?SessionType=R

Here are bills of interest that have been filed: Bill number, sponsor and topic of the bill.

SB=Senate Bill **SJR**=Senate Joint Resolution (constitutional amendment)

HB=House Bill **HJR**=House Joint Resolution (constitutional amendment)

SB 447 - Goodman - Adds mail to the list of types of property that, when stolen, increase the classification of the crimes of stealing and receiving stolen property to class C felonies (CRIME)

SB 451 - Cunningham - Establishes the "Sharing of Services and Increasing Efficiencies Act" to allow school districts and other entities to achieve efficiencies (PUBLIC NOTICES)

SB 467 - Munzlinger - Requires agencies that receive federal grants to track on their web sites and disclose the usage of the funds

SB 477 - Crowell - Modifies the state do-not-call list by allowing cell phone numbers on the list and banning certain automated calls

SB 484 - Rupp - Modifies the state do-not-call list and creates "paid for by" requirements for political phone calls (ELECTIONS)

SB 494 - Wright-Jones - Creates the Medical Harm Disclosure Act (TRANSPARENCY)

SB 501 - Wright-Jones - Creates the Council on Digital Inclusion

SB 525 - Engler - Provides for nonpartisan elections of judicial candidates and forbids certain judges and candidates from engaging in political activities (ELECTIONS)

SB 542 - Chappelle-Nadal - Establishes a paper ballot as the official ballot (ELECTIONS)

SB 546 - Purgason - Imposes campaign contribution limits

SB 550 - Schaaf - Requires certain state agencies to update and verify the accuracy of the information on the respective websites, as the websites pertain to health care, at least twice each year

SB 554 - Curls - Changes the notice requirement to a tenant in a foreclosure action from 10 business days to 90 days for the tenant to vacate the property

SB 556 - Curls - Allows courts to suspend imposition of an adult criminal sentence for certain juvenile offenders (CRIME)

SB 559 - Curls - Allows petitions for expungement of certain criminal records (CLOSING CRIMINAL RECORDS)

SB 562 - Dixon - Modifies provisions relating to the transfer of property by certain state universities without authorization from the General Assembly

SB 569 - Kraus - Modifies the dates available for public elections, removing February and June dates (ELECTIONS)

SB 576 - Stouffer - Modifies provisions relating to charter schools. (Audit reports and annual financial reports must be published on the charter school's website or on DESE's website.)

SB 584 - Richard - Creates state and local sales and use tax exemptions for data storage centers and allows municipalities to enter into loan agreements, or sell, lease, or mortgage municipal property for a technology business facility project (SALES TAX

EXEMPTIONS)

SB 692 – Stouffer – Establishes procedures for counties to decrease their annual budgets when unanticipated funding reductions occur. Allows public notices on county web sites

SB 694 – Nieves – Modifies the use of the Capitol complex grounds by non-public entities. Eliminates parking spots near the Capitol and use of office space for news media

SB 698 – Richard – Establishes construction contract bidding standards for political subdivisions

SB 729 – Schaefer – Modifies provisions relating to county purchases, increasing thresholds before bid notices are required in newspapers.

SB 733 – Richard – Revises statutes concerning the Missouri Science and Reinvestment Act and related statutes

SJR 23 - Crowell - Proposes a constitutional amendment to create term limits for all statewide elected officials

SJR 24 - Crowell - Requires the joint election of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor beginning in the year 2016

SJR 25 - Crowell - Lowers the number of State Representatives from 163 to 101

SJR 26 - Lager - Proposes a constitutional amendment to create term limits for all statewide elected officials

SJR 27 - Munzlinger - Increases the number of commissioners on the Conservation Commission and provides term limits

SJR 28 - Munzlinger - Amends the Constitution to require the development and sale of a veterans lottery ticket

SJR 29 - Lamping - Requires the legislative session to end in late March rather than mid-May, beginning with the 98th General Assembly

SJR 30 - Lamping - Requires the joint election of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor beginning in the year 2016

SJR 31 - Chappelle-Nadal - Makes St. Louis city a part of St. Louis county

SJR 32 - Chappelle-Nadal - Proposes a constitutional amendment to require the St. Louis Board of Freeholders to meet monthly and authorizes the people of St. Louis City and County to modify the Missouri Constitution regarding the Board

SJR 33 - Chappelle-Nadal - Proposes a constitutional amendment replacing the Highways and Transportation Commission with a Director of Transportation

SJR 34 - Purgason - Replaces all taxes on income with a sales and use tax

SJR 35 - Ridgeway - Replaces all taxes on income with a sales and use taxes that are capped at certain rates

SJR 36 - Ridgeway - Caps the tax on real property and freezes the property taxes on individuals 62 years old or older

SJR 37 - Crowell - Requires all meetings of apportionment commissions to be conducted in public

SJR 38 - Kraus - Requires refunds to taxpayers when state revenues grow by seven and a half percent or more

SJR 39 - Cunningham - Prohibits laws interfering with freedom of choice in health care

SJR 40 - Kraus - Amends the constitution to repeal the ban on retrospective laws and allow propensity evidence in certain cases

SJR 41 – Lembke – Provides for election of certain judges and appointment by Governor of a Supreme Court judge

SJR 42 – Lembke – Provides for appointment by the Governor of certain judges with Senate approval

SJR 43 – Green – Limits the total service in the General Assembly to 16 years in any proportion between the Senate and the House of Representatives

SJR 44 – Green – Creates a two-year budget cycle

SJR 45 – Nieves – Prohibits Missouri state government from recognizing, enforcing, or acting in furtherance of certain actions of the federal government

SJR 46 – Lager – Limits general revenue appropriations and mandates state income tax rate reductions in certain situations

SJR 47 – Rupp – Removes a portion of the Missouri Constitution that prohibits distribution of public funds to religious organizations

SJR 48 – Dixon – Prohibits apportionment commission members from serving in the General Assembly for four years from the date the commission is discharged for failure to file a map with the Secretary of State

HB 1029 - Flanigan, Tom - Requires the Oversight Division of the Committee on Legislative Research to conduct program evaluations of state agencies, including budget transparency and accountability

HB 1034 - Allen, Sue - Requires the State Auditor to conduct a one-time comparative audit of at least five, but no more than 10, of the largest state agencies

HB 1036 - Dugger, Tony - Repeals the provision that requires a political party's emblem to be printed on an election ballot above the party caption

HB 1041 - Thomson, Mike - Authorizes the governing board of any state university to convey or transfer real property, except in fee simple, without an authorizing act of the General Assembly through August 28, 2017

HB 1044 - Weter, Ray Requires - wholesalers to notify retailers and retailers to notify the general public of a price increase of three cents or more for a gallon of motor fuel

at least 24 hours prior to the increase

HB 1051 - Allen, Sue - Requires the State Auditor to perform, on a one-time basis, a comparative audit of at least five, but no more than 10, of the largest state agencies

HB 1052 - Allen, Sue - Establishes a closed primary election system

HB 1054 - Lant, Bill - Changes the laws regarding unlawful picketing or protesting of a funeral

HB 1059 - Dugger, Tony - Changes the required percentage necessary to initiate a recount of the votes cast in an election

HB 1060 - Dugger, Tony - Changes the laws regarding elections

HB 1079 - Sater, David - Allows the State Registrar to issue a heritage birth certificate

HB 1080 - Kander, Jason - Changes the laws regarding ethics, lobbying, and campaign finance

HB 1101 - Brattin, Rick - Authorizes Missouri to enter into the multistate Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement, eliminates all state tax credits, phases in a flat income tax rate, and increases the sales and use tax by .25%

HB 1104 - Schoeller, Shane - Establishes photo identification requirements for voting

HB 1106 - Dugger, Tony - Changes the laws regarding county collectors and collector-treasurers

HB 1115 - McCaherty, John - Establishes the Paperless Documents and Forms Act which requires the Department of Revenue to develop and implement a method of providing to the public all department documents and forms electronically

HB 1121 - Kander, Jason - Changes the laws regarding the filing of a financial interest statement with the Missouri Ethics Commission

HB 1123 - Frederick, Keith - Changes various provisions regarding the licensure and inspection of hospitals

HB 1127 - Largent, Scott - Requires certain specified crime scene photographs and video recordings to be considered closed records and not subject to disclosure under the Open Meetings and Records Law

HCS HB - 1140 Smith, Jason - Requires the Office of Administration to maintain public school and municipal and county government accountability information on the Missouri Accountability Portal

HB 1168 – Franz, Ward

Repeals the provision authorizing state departments to directly purchase certain information technology products and services

HB 1181 Parkinson, Mark

Establishes the Transparency in Private Attorney Contracts Act

HB 1190 - Allen, Sue

Repeals provisions regarding the maintaining of police records in municipalities located within St. Louis County

HB 1197 - Kelly, Chris

Requires the Director of the Department of Revenue to enter into the multistate Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement and the department to implement the compliance provisions

HB 1279 - Smith, Clem

Establishes the Employment Advertisement Fairness Act which prohibits a person or entity from including in a job advertisement certain statements requiring an applicant to be currently employed

HB 1327 - Cox, Stanley

Authorizes a public body to close certain foster care licensure data and requires the Children's Division to prepare a detailed report of specific information obtained in the licensure process

HB 1344 - Nasheed, Jamilah

Authorizes a person to apply to a court for the expungement of certain criminal records

HB 1345 - Cauthorn, John

Allows the Secretary of State to enter into an agreement with a nonprofit organization to print and distribute the Official State Manual

HB 1356 - Funderburk, Doug

Requires the Director of the Department of Revenue to enter into the multistate Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement and the department to implement the compliance provisions

HB 1484 - McCaherty, John

Authorizes the Department of Revenue to use technology to make processes for filing certain forms and sending certain notifications more efficient

HB 1544 - Kirkton, Jeanne

Requires a certificate of value to be filed with the assessor before the recorder of deeds can accept the filing of any document by which any interest in certain real property is conveyed

HB 1553 - Hughes IV, Leonard

Authorizes a one-time expungement of certain criminal records including a conviction for any nonviolent crime, misdemeanor, or nonviolent drug violation

HB 1564 - Hummel, Jacob

Specifies that any personal identifying information that is utilized in a voluntary registry of persons with health-related ailments to assist them during a disaster is not considered a public record

HB 1573 Schneider, Vicki

Changes myriad provisions relating to political subdivisions

HB 1615 - Oxford, Jeanette Mott

Changes the laws regarding actions against a person for conduct or speech at a public hearing or meeting

HB 1622 - Jones, Caleb

Establishes the criteria for advertisements for health care services

HB 1627 Jones, Caleb

Expands restrictions on the release of the home addresses or other information contained in department of revenue motor vehicle or driver registration records to include state and federal judges

HB 1634 - Ruzicka, Don

Repeals Section 260.255 relating to the recycling of newspapers

HB 1645 - Fisher, Barney

Authorizes the expungement of certain misdemeanor offenses after a period of eight years

HB 1653 - Kelly, Chris

Requires certain tax records to be disclosed to the Missouri Ethics Commission by certain entities giving more than twenty-five thousand dollars in campaign contributions

HJR - 39 Schoeller, Shane - Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting any change by the General Assembly to a statute as approved by voters through the initiative petition process without a certain percentage of votes. (HJRs are constitutional amendments.)

HJR 40 - Schoeller, Shane - Proposes a constitutional amendment establishing a Fair Ballot Commission to determine official ballot language

HJR 41 - Nasheed, Jamilah - Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting anyone

elected to the General Assembly after November 1, 2008, from serving more than 12 years in any one house nor more than 24 years total in both houses

HJR 42 Sater, David

Proposes a constitutional amendment changing the dates that specified actions can take place on bills filed in a legislative session

HCS HJR 43 - Burlison, Eric -

Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting state appropriations in any fiscal year from exceeding certain limits

HJR 44 - Cox, Stanley -

Proposes a constitutional amendment changing the composition of nonpartisan judicial commissions and increasing the number of candidates nominated to the Governor for certain judicial vacancies

HJR 45 - Solon, Sheila -

Proposes a constitutional amendment requiring the State Lottery Commission to develop and sell a Veterans Lottery Ticket to support the Veterans Commission Capital Improvement Trust Fund

HJR 46 - Day, David -

Proposes a constitutional amendment changing the composition of the State Board of Education

HJR 47 - Dugger, Tony -

Proposes a constitutional amendment changing the number of voter signatures that are required to place an initiative petition or a referendum on a ballot

HJR 48 - Phillips, Don -

Proposes a constitutional amendment requiring the composition of the Missouri Conservation Commission to be fixed by law instead of specified in the Missouri Constitution

HJR 49 - Brattin, Rick -

Proposes a constitutional amendment specifying that the right of every citizen to possess or purchase ammunition and articles for the proper functioning of arms must not be infringed or limited

HJR 50 - Cauthorn, John -

Proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing an additional sales and use tax to be deposited into the Veterans' Trust Fund

HJR 51 - Ruzicka, Don -

Proposes a constitutional amendment increasing the number and establishing term limits for members of the Missouri Conservation Commission

HJR 52 - Ruzicka, Don -

Proposes a constitutional amendment requiring a two-thirds majority for voter approval

of any initiative petition relating to harvesting bird, fish, game, wildlife, or forestry resources

HJR 53 - Neth, Myron -

Proposes a constitutional amendment allowing a person to serve any proportion of the 16-year limit between the House of Representatives and the Senate

HJR 54 - Hinson, Dave -

Proposes a constitutional amendment restricting appropriations to the Life Sciences Research Board from being used for specified types of projects

HJR 55 - Dugger, Tony -

Proposes a constitutional amendment requiring the approval of both a majority of voters statewide and a majority of voters in a majority of the Congressional districts for an amendment to take effect

HJR 56 - Cauthorn, John -

Proposes a constitutional amendment reauthorizing the Department of Conservation sales and use tax until a general election in 2022 or a special election called by the Governor for that purpose

HJR 57 - Kelly, Chris -

Proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the General Assembly to issue bonds to fund higher education improvements, constructions, landscaping, and

land or building purchases

HJR 58 - Kelly, Chris -

Proposes a constitutional amendment specifying that the General Assembly has no power or authority to contract any liability or to issue certain bonds if repayment is dependent on appropriations

HJR 59 - Pollock, Darrell -

Proposes a constitutional amendment guaranteeing citizens the right to hunt, fish, trap, and harvest wildlife using traditionally approved devices or methods

HJR 60 - Black, Linda -

Proposes a constitutional amendment reducing the number of members of the House of Representatives to 120 and increasing the number of members of the Senate to 40

HJR 61 - Loehner, Tom -

Proposes a constitutional amendment affirming the right of persons to raise livestock in a humane manner without the state imposing an undue economic burden on their owners

HJR 62 - Schupp, Jill -

Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting a person from serving more than 16 years in the General Assembly in any proportion split between the House

of Representatives and the Senate

HJR 63 - Loehner, Tom -

Proposes a constitutional amendment requiring a four-sevenths voter majority approval of an initiative petition related to crop production, livestock, or agriculture in order for it to take effect

HJR 64 - Curtman, Paul -

Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting any person, employer, or health care provider from being compelled to participate in any health care system

HJR 65 - Walton Gray, Rochelle -

Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting a person from serving more than 16 years in the General Assembly in any proportion split between the House of Representatives and the Senate

HJR 66 - Colona, Mike -

Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting a person from serving more than 16 years in the General Assembly in any proportion split between the House of Representatives and the Senate

HJR 67 - Denison, Charlie -

Proposes a constitutional amendment which freezes the level of tax liability

on residential property owned by a person who is 65 years of age or older

HJR 68 - Nasheed, Jamilah -

Proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing state bonding authority for certain higher education capital improvements in the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County

HJR 69 - Funderburk, Doug -

Proposes a constitutional amendment phasing out the state individual income tax and replaces the current sales and use tax with a sales tax on retail sales of new personal property and services

HJR 70 - Schoeller, Shane -

Proposes a constitutional amendment eliminating the prohibition on the use of public funds for the benefit of any religious or sectarian educational purpose

HJR 71 - Elmer, Kevin -

Proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing an exemption for certain property from personal property tax for active-duty military personnel stationed outside the country

HJR 72 - Bahr, Kurt -

Proposes a constitutional amendment relating to health care services and products

HJR 73 - Smith, Jason -

Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting the design or construction of toll roads in the state