## SECOND REGULAR SESSION

## SENATE BILL NO. 804

## 93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GROSS.

Read 1st time January 4, 2006, and ordered printed.

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TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

## AN ACT

To repeal section 506.150, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to service of summons and petitions in civil actions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

or required by law to receive service of process;

Section A. Section 506.150, RSMo, is repealed and one new section 2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 506.150, to read as follows:

506.150. 1. The summons and petition shall be served together. Service shall be made as follows:

- (1) Upon an individual, including an infant or disabled or incapacitated person not having a legally appointed guardian or conservator, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to him personally or by leaving a copy of the summons and of the petition at his dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of his family over the age of fifteen years, or by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to an agent authorized by appointment
- 10 (2) If the infant or disabled or incapacitated person has a legally 11 appointed conservator, by serving a copy of the summons and of the petition on 12 such conservator as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection;
- (3) Upon a domestic or foreign corporation or upon a partnership, or other unincorporated association, when by law it may be sued as such, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to an officer, partner, a managing or general agent, or by leaving the copies at any business office of the defendant with the person having charge thereof, or to any other agent authorized by appointment or required by law to receive service of process and, if the agent is one authorized by statute to receive service and the statute so requires, by also

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20 mailing a copy to the defendant;

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- (4) Upon a domestic corporation that has been dissolved according to law, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to the last registered 22agent of the corporation or upon the secretary of state, and if upon the secretary 24of state, the secretary of state shall send a copy of the summons and petition by registered mail, requesting a return receipt signed by addressee only, addressed to each member of the last board of directors of the corporation at the address of such directors, as shown by the secretary of state's records;
  - (5) Upon a public, municipal, governmental, or quasi-public corporation or body, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to the clerk of the county commission in the case of a county, to the mayor or city clerk or city attorney in the case of a city, and to the chief executive officer in the case of any other public, municipal, governmental or quasi-public corporation or body. If there is, for the time being, no such officer as is specified by this subdivision, the court may designate an appropriate officer to whom the copies of the summons and petition may be delivered in order to effect service.
  - 2. When a defendant shall acknowledge in writing, endorsed on the writ, signed by his own proper signature, the service of such writ, and waive the necessity of the service thereof by an officer, such acknowledgment shall be deemed as valid as service in the manner provided by law.
  - 3. In all cases when the defendant shall refuse to hear the writ read or to receive a copy of the writ or petition, the offer of the officer to read the same or to deliver a copy thereof, and such refusal, shall be sufficient service of such writ.
  - 4. Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, in any civil action arising from injury to person or property caused by a resident's use of any motor vehicle or trailer, if the plaintiff alleges, either in a verified petition or affidavit, that a defendant cannot be served personally in this state in the manner prescribed by law for personal service, then the court shall order that the summons and petition be served upon any insurance company through which such defendant maintains an automobile insurance policy. In the affidavit or petition, the plaintiff must describe specifically at least one prior attempt to serve the defendant personally, including the date, time, place, and manner by which service was attempted. The plaintiff also must provide the last known address of the defendant and the address

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and name of the insurance company through which the defendant maintains an automobile insurance policy. The summons and petition shall be served upon the insurance company in the same manner as on any domestic or foreign corporation, as provided by this section. Such summons and petition also shall be mailed to the defendant at his or her last known address.

- 62 5. Service of the summons and petition upon a defendant of any class referred to in subdivision (1) or (3) of subsection 1 of this section may be made by 63 the plaintiff or by any person authorized to serve process pursuant to section 64 506.140, by mailing a copy of the summons and petition by first-class mail, 65 postage prepaid, to the person to be served, together with two copies of a notice 66 67 and acknowledgment conforming substantially to the form contained in subsection 68 5 of this section and a return envelope, postage prepaid, addressed to the sender. 69 If no acknowledgment of service under this subsection is received by the sender 70 within thirty days after the date of mailing, service of the summons and petition shall be made as otherwise provided by this section or supreme court 7172rule. Unless good cause is shown for not doing so, the court shall order the payment of the costs of personal service by the person served if such person does 73 not complete and return within thirty days after mailing the notice and 74acknowledgment of receipt of summons. 75
- 76 [5.] 6. The acknowledgment form required by subsection 4 of this section 77 shall be substantially as follows:

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Notice and Acknowledgment for Service by Mail
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                            Circuit Court for ...... County
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                                      Division ......
    Civil Action, File Number
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    A.B.,
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      Plaintiff,
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    vs.
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    C.D.,
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      Defendant.
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92	RECEIPT OF
93	SUMMONS AND PETITION NOTICE
94	TO: (Insert the name and address of the person to be served.)
95	The enclosed summons and petition are served pursuant to section
96	506.150, RSMo.
97	You must complete the acknowledgment part of this form and return one
98	copy of the completed form to the sender within thirty days.
99	You must sign and date the acknowledgment. If you are served on behalf
100	of a corporation, unincorporated association, including a partnership, or other
101	entity, you must indicate under your signature your relationship to that entity.
102	If you are served on behalf of another person and you are authorized to receive
103	process, you must indicate under your signature your authority.
104	If you do not complete and return the form to the sender within thirty
105	days, you or the party on whose behalf you are being served may be required to
106	pay any expenses incurred in serving a summons and petition in any other
107	manner permitted by law.
108	If you do complete and return this form, you or the party on whose behalf
109	you are being served must answer the petition within thirty days. If you fail to
110	do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in
111	the petition.
112	I declare, under penalty of filing a false affidavit, that this Notice and
113	Acknowledgment of Receipt of Summons and Petition was mailed on (insert date).
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115	Signature
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117	Relationship to Entity/Authority to Receive Service of Process
118	Copy
119	(Date of Signature)

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