

Senator Karla May

2020 End of Session Report

Dear constituent,

It's been a difficult time for many in our community due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Congress has passed several relief packages, including the CARES Act, to help individuals, businesses and states with recovery efforts and our continued fight against COVID-19. You can learn more about this funding inside this report, along with information on the 2020 legislative session.

While COVID-19 temporarily halted the 2020 legislative session, lawmakers were able to return to the Capitol in Jefferson City for the final three weeks of session. During that time, the General Assembly managed to pass more than 40 pieces of legislation and send them to the governor for his consideration. Included in this report is a list of bills truly agreed to and finally passed by the General Assembly this year. I encourage you to learn more about these bills and others at www.senate.mo.gov.

As our community and state continue to navigate the effects of the virus, my office is here to serve you. If you have any questions about your state government or if my office can ever be of service, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



State Sen. Karla May
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Also
available
online!

Inside This Issue:



Passed Bill List



CARES Act Funding



Truly Agreed To & Finally Passed

Below is a brief summary of legislation truly agreed to and finally passed by the Missouri General Assembly during the 2020 legislative session. Many of the bills listed below contain multiple provisions. For more information about these bills or other bills introduced this session, please visit www.senate.mo.gov/legislation.

Senate Bill 551 modifies provisions relating to insurance.

Senate Bill 569 streamlines the procedures for processing evidentiary kits and directs the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish a statewide telehealth network for forensic examinations of victims of sexual offenses.

Senate Bill 591 modifies provisions relating to civil actions, including punitive damages and unlawful merchandising practices.

Senate Bill 599 updates various regulations regarding securities, credit unions and family trusts.

Senate Bill 600 is an omnibus crime bill. This legislation creates the offense of vehicle carjacking, increases penalties for armed criminal action, as well as establishes the Missouri Criminal Street Gangs Prevention Act.

Senate Bill 631 temporarily allows individuals who are at-risk for contracting or transmitting COVID-19 to vote by absentee ballot during the 2020 primary and general elections.

Senate Bill 644 establishes penalties for knowingly misrepresenting a dog as a service dog in order to receive accommodations.

Senate Bill 653 modifies provisions relating to child protection.

Senate Bill 656 designates the 22nd day of each month as “Buddy Check 22 Day” to encourage citizens to check in on veterans and to raise awareness of the problem of suicide facing veterans and military personnel.

Senate Bill 676 ensures COVID-19 stimulus checks are tax exempt.

Senate Bill 718 creates the Department of Military Forces.

Senate Bill 739 prohibits public entities from entering into contracts with entities boycotting Israel.

Senate Bill 913 eliminates the sunset on the peer review process for architects, surveyors and engineers.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 32 urges Missouri’s congressional delegation to support federal legislation declassifying certain POW/MIA records.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 38 disapproves of the Missouri Hazardous Waste Management Commission’s recommendations to increase fees for generators of hazardous waste.

Senate Joint Resolution 38 is a constitutional amendment which, if approved by voters, enacts new provisions regarding legislative redistricting and eliminates the nonpartisan state demographer.

House Bill 1330 authorizes the conveyance of certain state properties.

House Bill 1386 excludes government agency legislative liaisons from having to register as lobbyists.

House Bill 1387 allows residents in nursing homes and their families to use electronic monitoring in the resident's room to help prevent abuse and neglect.

House Bill 1414 strengthens state law to protect vulnerable children.

House Bill 1467 makes changes to retirement systems for state employees.

House Bill 1511 allows any resident or nonresident military spouse to apply for an occupational license in

Missouri, as long as they hold a valid, current license issued by another state.

House Bill 1655 allows Missourians to access remote online notaries public.

House Bill 1682 designates August as "Minority Organ Donor Awareness Month," among other provisions.

House Bill 1711 allows deer jerky to be donated to local food pantries, among other provisions.

House Bill 1768 expands opportunities for broadband access.

House Bill 1854 modifies provisions relating to political subdivisions.

House Bill 1896 updates controlled substance statutes and imposes

penalties on fentanyl trafficking.

House Bill 1963 allows for a public-private partnership to construct a Hyperloop in Missouri.

House Bills 2001-2015; 2017-2019 are appropriation bills for Missouri's Fiscal Year 2021 operating budget, as well as supplemental budgets for the Fiscal Year 2020.

House Bill 2046 expands professional license reciprocity opportunities in Missouri.

House Bill 2120 establishes provisions relating to water safety and security.

House Bill 2456 extends the sunset for Missouri's federal reimbursement allowance (FRA) tax until Sept. 30, 2021.

Minority Organ Donor Month

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health, African-Americans face higher rates of diabetes and high blood pressure than white Americans, putting them at an increased risk for organ failure. In addition, African-Americans make up the largest group of minorities in need of organ transplants, but few are donors. In 2019, 28.7 percent of individuals waiting for transplants were African-Americans, but only 12.5 percent of organ donors were African-Americans. Hoping to raise awareness of this disparity and encourage minority organ donation, I filed an amendment to House Bill 1682, which passed this year, designating August as Minority Organ Donor Awareness Month.

CARING FOR MO

Breaking Down Missouri's CARES Act Spending

Missouri received more than \$2 billion in funding through the federal CARES Act passed by Congress in March. I am a member of a working group, led by the state treasurer, tasked with making spending recommendations for the use of these federal funds.

Funding has already begun to be distributed to state departments, local governments and other organizations. Some of this information can be found to the right.

For more information about Missouri's relief spending, including breakdowns by departments, programs and vendors, visit www.treasurer.mo.gov/COVID.

COVID-19 Related Expenditures

\$522 Million for Local Governments
\$35.2 Million for the City of St. Louis
\$173 Million for St. Louis County
\$272 Million in Enhanced FMAP Funding
\$54.8 Million in Aid to Educational Institutions and School Districts (DESE)
\$58.6 Million in Aid to the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)

Source: www.treasurer.mo.gov/COVID
Date: June 16, 2020

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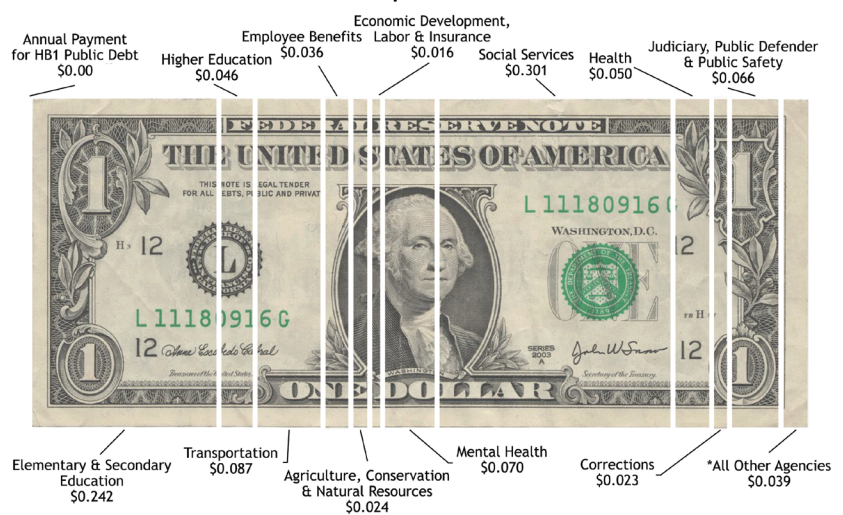
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Fiscal Year 2021 State Budget

Each year, the Missouri General Assembly must pass a balanced state operating budget for the next fiscal year. While the General Assembly was able to accomplish this goal by its constitutional deadline once again this year, the process was significantly impacted by COVID-19. In the end, the General Assembly approved a more than \$35 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2021, which begins on July 1, 2020, and runs through June 30, 2021.

Just as there were uncertainties during the budget process as what revenue will look like for the fiscal year ahead, I believe it is likely withholds will be made to the 2021 budget as a result of the financial impact of the COVID-19 virus. I am concerned about the impact these cuts will have on our children's education, higher education and other important services many in our state rely on.

DISTRIBUTION OF EACH DOLLAR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 OPERATING BUDGET All Funds: \$35.291 Billion



* Includes: Revenue, Office of Administration, Elected Officials, General Assembly and Statewide Real Estate

**STAY CONNECTED &
 MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD**

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