



STATE SENATOR

*Gina* WALSH

DISTRICT 13

**Legislative  
Achievements**

**Stand Up for  
Democracy**

**Capitol  
Visitors**

**Salute to  
District 13**



# Legislative Achievements

## Minority Floor Leader

Shortly after being re-elected to serve a second term in the Missouri Senate in 2016, I proudly accepted my caucus' nomination to serve as minority floor leader. Being the leading voice for my caucus in the Missouri Senate was difficult at times, but I am pleased with the accomplishments we reached through fair debate and diplomatic compromise to benefit workers, protect children and make Missouri a great place to call home.



*Senator Walsh addresses legislative issues at a press conference earlier in the session.*

## Voice for Victims

One of the leading charges throughout my legislative career was to put forth commonsense policies to protect victims of asbestos exposure and its by-product, mesothelioma. During debate in March, I stood on the side of victims and worked against legislation that I believe was intended to limit the amount of damages they could collect. I am proud to say that this legislation never came to a vote during the 2020 legislative session.

## Wages and Workers

It is no secret that I am a champion for workers and wages, and my career as an insulator catapulted this passion into sponsoring bills to protect workers' rights and safeguard the middle class. Some of this legislation governed construction contracts and ensured that women receive equal pay for equal work.

## Progress and Development Committee Chairwoman

I humbly served as the chairwoman of the Missouri Senate Progress and Development Committee for several years, and I was proud of the committee's work on legislation that I believe made a difference in the lives of countless Missourians. As the chairwoman of this committee, my goal was to make sure that the bills assigned to this committee received prompt hearings and that those hearings served as opportunities for the public to participate in the legislative process.

## Ally for Children

As a mother, grandmother and a senator, children have always been my priority. I have championed legislation to provide assessments for children who are deaf or hard of hearing, to outlaw deadly bumper pads for cribs, to modify the registration process for sex offenders, to enhance educational opportunities and to require lead testing for potable water in older schools.



*Senator Walsh discusses legislation on the Senate floor.*

## Sentry for North St. Louis

I was born and raised in North St. Louis, a true, blue-collared city girl with a mission to serve and improve our great district. Over my legislative career, every action I have taken was with the residents of our community in mind. Every time I entered the State Capitol, I was constantly reminded of the people I represented in our community. During long days and late nights, my friends, family members and neighbors fueled me to do everything within my power to stand up for our community in the General Assembly. Representing our community in the State Capitol has been one of the greatest honors in my life, and I am eternally grateful for the opportunity.

## COVID-19 Resources/Information

### NORTH COUNTY RESOURCES

St. Louis County COVID-19 Information Center:  
[www.stlcorona.com](http://www.stlcorona.com)

**COVID-19 HOTLINE 24/7: 314-615-2660**

**Text "STLOUISCOALERT" to 67283**

For COVID-19 Updates in St. Louis County

### STATEWIDE RESOURCES

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Chat Bot:  
[www.info.mo.gov/covid/index.php](http://www.info.mo.gov/covid/index.php)

### NATIONAL RESOURCES

Latest Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

# Stand Up for Democracy!

As I reflect on my time in the State Capitol, I hope my legacy will be that I always stood up for democracy. My constituents, staff and colleagues have truly educated me about the valuable, necessary role of grassroots advocacy in the policy process. It has been my pleasure to be your voice in Jefferson City for diversity, inclusion and solidarity.

## SJR 39

In 2016, I participated in a 39-hour filibuster against Senate Joint Resolution 39, a proposed constitutional amendment that I believe discriminated against the LGBTQ community and constitutionally-protected same-sex marriages.

With the added support of advocates who testified against the bill, the legislation was successfully defeated.

## The Real Right-to-Work

I cannot think of a better example of democracy in action than the advocates who worked to overturn the right-to-work bill passed in 2017. Communities mobilized and collected enough signatures to warrant a statewide referendum, and Proposition A was defeated by voters in the 2018 election, blocking the law from going into effect.



**Register to Vote.**  
[www.sos.mo.gov](http://www.sos.mo.gov)



**Complete the 2020 Census.**  
[www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)

## Capitol Photos



Senator Walsh welcomes former Rep. Danny Ward of Bonne Terre to the Senate chamber.



Congrats to the St. Louis Blues for bringing home the Stanley Cup to Missouri.



Members of the Missouri Technology Student Association visit Sen. Walsh during their annual Career and Technology Education Legislative Day on Feb. 12.



The family of William G. Buchholz joins Sen. Walsh after his appointment to the State Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors on Jan. 22.



Senator Walsh introduces individual representatives of the Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition to the Senate on March 3.



Several activists from the Moms Demand Action public safety advocacy group met with Sen. Walsh following their rally at the Capitol on Feb. 18.

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## Forever Grateful to the Citizens of the 13th Senatorial District



*Senator Walsh addresses a colleague during a committee hearing.*

This session has been extraordinary on many counts. I believe the COVID-19 virus had a profound impact on our work this legislative session, and I even had to miss several days in April to self-quarantine after a possible exposure to the virus. I am very proud of the way our community has united during this pandemic, and I know that our grit and determination will help us recover and rebuild, stronger than ever.

Over the past 16 years, I have fought to speak up for the voiceless, create meaningful and lasting opportunities for our families and protect the working and middle class. Serving as your state senator has been the biggest honor and privilege of my life. Thank you for trusting me with this important job.

If you have not already done so, please consider getting involved in public service. The word, advocate, has Latin roots that mean “add your voice to”. Although the process is a little more complex than that, I believe advocacy is a necessary part of public service. Get to know your local and state elected officials, offer to be their resource in your field of expertise, share your related personal stories and tell them why you agree or disagree with their stance. I encourage each of you to embrace your civic duty and participate in the legislative process. Whether at home or under the dome, everyone has an opportunity to make a difference. I believe legislators are elected to office to serve you. Let them!