



## MISSOURI SENATE

John Griesheimer  
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# Senate Gives First-Round Approval to Sen. Griesheimer's Proposed County Planning Act

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JEFFERSON CITY — The Missouri Senate today (3/25) gave first-round approval to a bill sponsored by Sen. John Griesheimer, R-Washington, that would create the “Missouri County Planning Act” to allow county commissioners to form planning commissions to draft master plans for county improvement.

Senator Griesheimer's [Senate Bill 5](#) seeks to allow counties with assessed valuations of more than \$200 million to create planning commissions to draft comprehensive plans containing proposals and procedures for street plans, zoning, and subdivisions. Proposals would be subject to public hearings and voter approval.

“What we would be doing here is allowing elected county commissioners to draft plans for a more coordinated, efficient, and orderly physical development of a county when they see a need,” Sen. Griesheimer said. “This act starts the process for counties to do the legwork first before going to the community for a vote. Then, if the county votes in favor of the proposals, the county commission would have the authority to carry out the plan.”

Under the bill's provisions, the planning commission would determine the applicability to the county of such things as land use, transportation, housing, community facilities, economic development, natural, cultural, or historical resources, human services, community design, and sustainability.

Senator Griesheimer has worked to advance the bill for the past several years.

“I've worked really hard and for a long time on this bill because I believe it makes good sense to give these elected officials the capacity to do this kind of proactive, progressive work for improving counties,” Sen. Griesheimer said.

The bill requires a second vote before it moves to the House for similar consideration.

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