



The Second Regular Session of the 100th General Assembly may best be remembered for an unprecedented interruption of legislative activities due to the COVID-19 crisis. The 2020 legislative session was sidelined for more than a month as local and state officials addressed the effects of the virus. When lawmakers returned to the Capitol, we had just three weeks to approve a balanced budget heavily focused on coronavirus relief efforts and pass priority legislation. Despite the challenges, the Legislature fully funded K-12 education, preserved essential services, made significant civil and criminal justice reforms and provided the governor with flexibility to respond to COVID-19.

The Missouri General Assembly passed 48 separate bills and resolutions during the 2020 legislative session, including 18 bills to authorize state budget spending and meet obligations. The legislation listed below are a few of the most significant measures approved by the Legislature and sent to the governor this year.

Bills Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed

Senate Bill 569 – Modifies provisions relating to victims of sexual offenses. Establishes statewide telehealth network of forensic examiners. Creates “Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights.” Requires electronic tracking of sexual assault evidence collection kits.

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

Senate Bill 599 – Expands the Missouri FIRST linked deposit program. Modifies provisions relating to trusts and credit unions.

Senate Bill 600 – Increases penalties for armed criminal action and felons in possession of a gun. Creates offense of vehicle hijacking. Expands list of felonies ineligible for probation. Establishes “Missouri Criminal Street Gang Prevention Act.”

Senate Bill 631 – Allows absentee voting for persons at risk of contacting or spreading COVID-19.

Senate Bill 644 – Modifies definition of “service dog.” Creates misdemeanor offense of misrepresenting a service dog to receive accommodations. (Sponsored by Sen. Hoskins).

Senate Bill 656 – Various provisions relating to veterans. Creates legal assistance program for military members and their families. Grants provisional teaching certificates for military spouses. State Ombudsman for Long-Term Care Facility Residents may provide services at Missouri veterans homes. Provides developmental disability services for military members

and families. Includes provisions related to service dogs (sponsored by Sen. Hoskins) and establishes a number of designations to honor military members and veterans.

Senate Bill 676 – Exempts CARES Act stimulus payments from state taxation. Property tax assessment increases above 15 percent require physical inspection.

Senate Bill 718 – Duplicates many veterans provisions of SB 656. Moves the office of the Adjutant General to newly created Missouri Department of Military Forces.

Senate Joint Resolution 38 – Places constitutional amendment regarding legislative ethics and redistricting reforms on upcoming ballot. Returns responsibility for creating legislative districts to bipartisan commissions. Eliminates lobbyist gifts. Lowers allowable campaign contribution limit for Senate races.

House Bill 1387 – Allows placement of audio or video monitoring devices by representatives or guardians of residents in long-term care facilities.

House Bill 1414 – Modifies provisions relating to the protection of foster children and homeless youth.

House Bill 1511 – Military spouses may apply for occupational licenses in Missouri if they hold a valid, current professional license issued by another state or territory of the United States.

House Bill 1682 – Provides no cost COVID-19 testing. Prohibits the use of vapor products in schools. “Long-term Care Dignity Act” allows tax deductions for savings accounts used to pay long-term care expenses. Allows physician assistants to serve as ambulance staff. Facilitates expanded access to postpartum depression

care. Extends powers and duties of State Ombudsman for Long-Term Care Facilities to include Missouri Veterans' Homes. Modifies limits on sale of pseudoephedrine products. Prohibits medical marijuana edible products in shapes or flavors likely to appeal to children. Provides "epi-pens" to rural fire departments. Modifies provisions relating to pharmacists and other health care providers.

House Bill 1854 – Modifies provisions relating to taxation of partnerships (sponsored by Sen. Hoskins). Establishes the "Missouri Local Government Expenditure Database." Allows transient guest tax vote in Cameron.

House Bill 1963 – Various provisions relating to transportation. Prohibits the unlawful use of unmanned aircraft over prisons, mental health hospitals and other

facilities (sponsored by Sen. Hoskins). Authorizes remote driver's license renewal system and digital driver's licenses. Clarifies expiration date of motor vehicle licenses. Allows motorcyclists over the age of 26 to ride without a helmet with proof of medical insurance. Provides accommodations for hearing impaired CDL applicants. Creates the Missouri Automobile Insurance Plan to provide coverage for uninsurable drivers.

House Bill 2046 – Modifies provisions relating to coroners, hospice care and death registration. Various provisions relating to professions, including modifications to licensing requirements for accountants (sponsored by Sen. Hoskins). "Fresh Start Act" prohibits disqualification for state licensing due to prior criminal convictions unrelated to the occupation requiring the license.

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

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