



2021 END OF SESSION REPORT

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**STATE
SENATOR** **Karla May**

Dear Constituent,

The First Regular Session of the 101st General Assembly has come to a close. While the session was tense at times, state legislators were able to pass several important pieces of legislation that I believe will help make Missouri a better place to live, work and raise a family.

In order to help keep you informed on the work happening in the State Capitol, I have provided this legislative report. In it, you will find updates on several of the measures I sponsored this year, information on the state's operating budget for the 2022 fiscal year and other highlights. For a full list of bills truly agreed to and finally passed by the General Assembly this year, please visit senate.mo.gov/legislation.

As always, it is an honor to serve our community in the Missouri Senate. 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. To receive updates from my office, please text "May" to 55469.

Sincerely,



State Sen. Karla May
4th Senatorial District

**STAY CONNECTED &
MAKE YOUR VOICE
HEARD**

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This year, the Missouri General Assembly passed a broad, bipartisan policing reform bill. **Senate Bills 53 & 60** contain several key provisions that I was proud to support, including:



Policing Reforms: The legislation prohibits law enforcement officers from using respiratory chokeholds unless it is necessary to prevent serious physical injury or death. The bill also makes sexual interactions between law enforcement officers and those in their custody a class E felony.



Use-of-Force Transparency: I added language to SBs 53 & 60, requiring law enforcement agencies throughout the state to annually report use-of-force data involving their officers to the Missouri Department of Public Safety and the National Use of Force Data Collection, administered by the FBI. This data will then be made publicly available. I believe this will provide critical information to our communities as we continue to work to reform policing and improve accountability.



Mental Health: I was also able to include my **Senate Bill 551** and **Senate Bill 488** in this legislative package. These pieces of legislation establish the "Critical Incident Stress Management Program" and an accompanying 988 Public Safety Fund to provide mental health support services to law enforcement officers following a difficult or traumatic event while on the job. The legislation also requires law enforcement officers to meet with a program service provider once every three to five years for a mental health check-in. Missouri's peace officers deserve the treatment and attention necessary to treat mental health issues brought on by their experiences in the line of duty.

IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY

I am pleased to report that one of my proposals made it across the legislative finish line this year as a standalone measure. **Senate Bill 57** establishes the Economic Distress Zone Fund. Money from this fund will be used to support nonprofits working to deter crime in high-crime areas. It's no secret our state has been battling a surge of violent crime in recent years. I believe our crime problem will not be solved by policing alone, but will require a range of initiatives and efforts, such as this one, that seek to address the root causes of crime, like poverty and a lack of opportunities.

Senate Bill 57 also includes my "Critical Incident Stress Management Program" and accompanying 988 Public Safety Fund legislation. I look forward to seeing the governor sign SB 57 into law in the near future.

The General Assembly also approved **House Bill 271**, a local government omnibus bill, which includes my **Senate**

Bill 318. My legislation aims to crack down on the theft of catalytic converters, copper and other metals by creating new rules and regulations for buying and selling scrap metal. The bill requires a license in order to sell scrap metals and for dealers to maintain additional records of sales.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Throughout my time in the Legislature, I have consistently advocated for increased access to behavioral health services, especially for our underserved youth. As a result, I have reached out to the CEO and staff at Hopewell Center to discuss urban behavioral health access in our community, specifically regarding programs for traumatized children. Recently, I met with Mark Stringer, the director of the Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH), and Brent McGinty, CEO of the Missouri Coalition for Behavioral Health, to discuss providing needed trauma services in our community. During that discussion, both pledged to me their support for a pilot program focused on urban children who have been impacted by environmental trauma, particularly gun violence. That informal discussion led to an initiative to bring the Hopewell Center, DMH and the Coalition together to develop and fund a children's trauma informed program to address the unique needs of our underserved urban children affected by traumatic experiences.



HONORING PIONEERING BLACK WOMEN

The General Assembly also approved **Senate Bill 72**, creating a variety of new state designations. Included in this bill is my **Senate Bill 610**, which designates March 26 of each year as "Pioneering Black Women's Day" in honor of Gwen B. Giles, the first Black woman to serve in the Missouri Senate. This legislation honors Sen. Giles and other Black women in history who were trailblazers and recognizes the opportunities they created for Black women in Missouri and across the country.

Senator Karla May

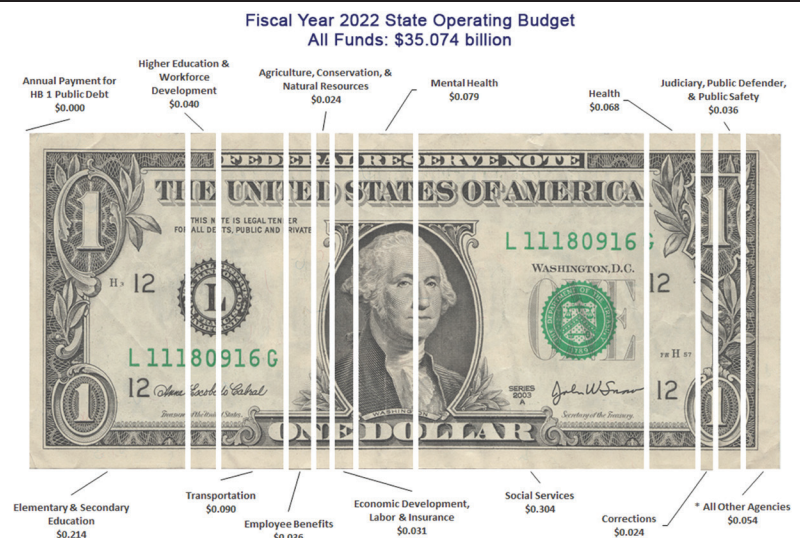
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Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Information

Each year, the Missouri General Assembly is tasked with creating a balanced budget for the upcoming fiscal year. With that in mind, below is information on funds from the state's Fiscal Year 2022 operating budget that benefit our state and the 4th Senatorial District.

\$2,500,000 - STL Public School Literacy Program
\$21,831,384 - MO Excels Program
\$1,000,000 - Lincoln University Land Grant
\$600,000 - Mission: St. Louis
\$500,000 - Harris-Stowe Entrepreneurship Program
Core Funding Restored - UMSL
\$10,000,000 - Community Colleges
\$550,000 - UMSL - Biotech Collaboration Office
\$3,364,367 - State Historical Society
\$500,000 - 988 Public Safety Fund
\$500,000 - Economic Distress Zone Fund
\$1,000,000 - State Crime Labs - Rapid DNA Testing
\$300,000 - Juneteenth Celebrations
\$455,117 - AMACHI (Big Brothers Big Sisters Partnership)
\$2,500,000 - Offender Reentry/Reducing Recidivism Program
\$500,000 - Save Our Sons Program
\$200,000 - Cochran Youth Center



\$300,000 - Midtown Youth Programming
\$250,000 - Employment Connection Program
\$250,000 - Habitat for Humanity
\$2,000,000 - Child Support Authority
\$3,621,808 - Constitutionally Mandated Judicial Representation
\$3,500,000 - Workforce Development Build-Out

Total: \$56,222,676