



Dear friends and neighbors,

The 2021 legislative session presented unique challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but I am happy we were able to push through and pass several meaningful reforms. This End of Session Report details my legislative successes, as well as information about the FY 2022 state operating budget and property tax rates in our community and the surrounding counties.

I am proud to report one of my biggest priorities, the Second Amendment Preservation Act, was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the governor. House Bill 85 declares that state and local officials will not enforce federal gun laws that restrict or prohibit the use, ownership or manufacture of firearms. This legislation sends a clear message that Missouri will always stand up for our Second Amendment rights and work to protect them.

Each year, the Legislature must create and pass a balanced state operating budget for the upcoming

fiscal year. I have included a dollar bill graphic that represents how the budget is distributed throughout state government.

This report also includes a graphic comparing property tax rates in our district and some of the surrounding counties. I believe it is important to stay updated on local property tax rates so you know where your tax dollars are going. I am committed to supporting legislation to keep your taxes low.

I hope you find this End of Session Report helpful. It is an honor to serve you in the Missouri Senate, and I am thankful for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have questions or concerns about state government.

Sincerely,

Eric Burlison
20th Senatorial District



Legislative Successes

SECOND AMENDMENT PRESERVATION ACT

I am proud to say that **House Bill 85**, the Second Amendment Preservation Act (SAPA), was passed this year by the Legislature and signed into law by the governor. I filed this legislation as **Senate Bill 39**, and it has been one of my biggest priorities since I was elected to the Missouri Senate. The Second Amendment Preservation Act declares that any federal laws, rules, orders or other actions which restrict or prohibit the manufacture,

ownership and use of firearms, firearm accessories or ammunition in Missouri will not be enforced by state law enforcement, state municipal officials and other state officials.

I have been advocating for SAPA for years now, and finally getting this crucial legislation across the finish line and signed into law by the governor gives me an incredible feeling of accomplishment. I am thankful for my colleagues and their hard work to protect Missourians from overreaching federal gun laws and further secure our Second Amendment rights.

Article V Convention

The Legislature adopted **Senate Concurrent Resolution 4**, legislation I sponsored to call for an Article V convention of the states to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution. These amendments would limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, impose fiscal restraint on the federal government and impose term limits for federal officials and members of Congress. I believe it is time for the states to take back a measure of control and limit the federal government.

Alternate Energy Sources

I filed **Senate Bill 230** to protect Missourians who wish to install alternative energy methods for powering their homes, such as solar panels. My legislation restricts political subdivisions from adopting an ordinance, resolution, regulation, code or policy that prohibits the connection or reconnection of a utility service based upon the type or source of energy to be delivered to an individual customer. It was passed and signed into law by the governor as a part of **House Bill 734**.

Expungement

Senate Bill 540 revises state law to add if a person was convicted of a federal misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, an order of expungement granted under this act shall be considered a complete removal of all effects of the expunged conviction, including the expungement of ex parte orders and the restoration of Second Amendment rights. This bill was added to **Senate Bill 26**, which was signed into law by the governor.

Professional Registration

One of my priorities this year was to simplify our state's professional registration statutes. I filed three bills to accomplish that goal, and they were all signed into law by the governor as a part of **House Bill 273**. **Senate Bill 330** adopts the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact, allowing eligible occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants to practice in states that join the compact. This legislation does not change Missouri's scope of practice rules or affect other states' licensure requirements. **Senate Bill 257** eliminates the age requirement for architects and landscape architects in line with current regulations on engineers and land surveyors. This bill aligns our regulations with national standards by eliminating the four year experience requirement before being eligible to take the professional engineering exam and allowing people to take the exam once they are ready. This legislation allows the licensing board to recognize licensed individuals who may not have a degree in landscape architecture, but have an equivalent degree with the same requirements. **Senate Bill 232** allows health care professionals to give patients advice, counseling or evaluations related to food, diet or nutrition within their scope of practice, as long as they do not claim to be a licensed dietician. Some of these professionals, such as chemists, biologists and nurses, are not allowed to give nutrition advice because they do not hold a dietician license, despite being otherwise qualified to do so. I believe this is keeping health care professionals from giving patients the best possible care, and it has the potential to improve the level of care and overall health of their patients.

FY 2022 State Budget

Fiscal Year 2022 State Operating Budget
All Funds: \$34.963 Billion



Comparing Property Tax Rates in Southwest Missouri

	<u>Median</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>% Home</u>	<u>Median</u>	<u>Tax as %</u>
<u>20th District</u>	<u>Property Tax</u>	<u>Home Value</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Income</u>
Christian	\$1,178	\$146,800	0.80%	\$59,290	1.99%
Greene	\$969	\$125,500	0.77%	\$54,521	1.78%
<u>Neighboring Counties</u>					
Douglas	\$495	\$87,800	0.56%	\$31,977	1.55%
Lawrence	\$645	\$94,700	0.68%	\$44,893	1.44%
Stone	\$684	\$139,900	0.49%	\$45,210	1.51%
Taney	\$684	\$132,100	0.52%	\$46,044	1.49%
Webster	\$628	\$120,500	0.52%	\$45,982	1.37%

Source: propertytax101.org

In the past few years, property tax rates have been a topic of conversation in the Legislature, so I wanted to provide you with a chart of property tax rates in our community and neighboring counties. Since property tax assessments happen each year, I think it is important to be informed about where your tax dollars are being spent and stay updated on local property tax rates.

State Senator Eric Burlison

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- District Property Tax Comparison Chart

End of Session Report

