

2025 CAPITOL REPORT



STATE SENATOR SANDY CRAWFORD

PROUDLY SERVING THE CITIZENS OF THE 28TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



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Photo by Tim Bommel



Thank you for your interest in state government. The 2025 legislative session was a very successful one. The Senate worked together to pass a lot of good legislation. I am happy to report I was able to get many of my priorities across the legislative finish line this year, my own bills and as the Senate handler of numerous House bills.



House Bill 419 contains language allowing Missouri State University to offer some Doctor of Philosophy degrees and Bachelor of Science degrees in Veterinary Technology. The bill also contains another bill I filed, **Senate Bill 566**. Current law requires any veteran who receives a small business loan through the state treasurer's MO Bucks loan program to complete the Boots to Business course. This act makes participation optional, cutting red tape and leveling the playing field.

STRENGTHENING RURAL COMMUNITIES

Senate Bill 79 makes it so a health care benefit plan provided by an organization will not always be considered as insurance. This is mainly to allow organizations like the Missouri Farm Bureau to offer an alternative to the Affordable Care Act (ACA). I believe this will help those who would not qualify for the ACA or who would end up going uninsured. I carried legislation like this over the past couple of years. This time, the task went to another senator, who I believe did a great job. As chair of the Missouri Senate Insurance and Banking Committee, I made it a priority for SB 79 to be our first bill to be heard and voted out of committee this year. This will be a great help to our farmers and ranchers.

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Senate Bill 1 helps several county officials, including public administrators, auditors and coroners. These specific provisions were part of a much larger bill passed in 2022. The Missouri Supreme Court later declared it unconstitutional by violating the single-subject requirement, and not on the merits of what was in the bill. In my opinion, getting SB 1 across the legislative finish line is a win for local governments and the citizens they serve.

Senate Bill 2 pertains to financial statements of certain local governments. It also reduces fines for certain political subdivisions.



Senate Bill 3 makes several changes to the Missouri Department of Revenue regarding contract license offices throughout the state. In order to keep our smaller, more rural offices open, the state needs to consider how much the cost of running a business has increased.

SUPPORTED BILLS

Bills Sen. Crawford supported that passed this legislative session include:

House Bill 199 contains various bills I filed. They include pay raises for our circuit clerks, allowing the City of Nevada to vote on a public safety tax and capping the amount vehicles valued at under \$50,000 are assessed. This legislation includes pieces of **Senate Bill 183**, **Senate Bill 492**, **Senate Bill 530** and **Senate Bill 749**.

House Bills 974, 57, 1032 & 1141 protect consumers by ensuring that all parties have adequate insurance coverage when leasing their vehicles to others. This includes language from my **Senate Bill 181**.



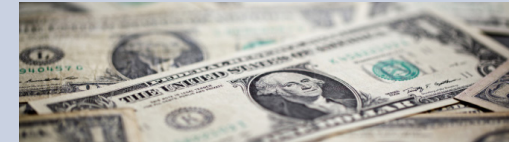
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PROTECTING CONSUMERS FROM FINANCIAL FRAUD

Senate Bill 98 and **House Bill 754** both contain multiple banking solutions, including language that helps protect consumers from financial fraud. This includes updates to the following: articles of agreement between banks, board meetings, publication of financial reports, trusted contacts, single bank pool collateral and dormant accounts.

According to the FBI, fraud losses reported by Missourians increased by 111% from 2021 to 2023. In 2023, Missourians reportedly lost



\$123.4 million. The national total was \$12.5 billion. **Senate Bill 98** creates a new provision within the criminal code that can be used by prosecuting attorneys to charge suspected criminals for financial institution accounts fraud not currently in statute.

Banks work diligently to educate their patrons on how to spot and prevent potential scams. My intention

with this legislation is to protect these customers by allowing them to designate a "trusted contact." An account holder can designate a "trusted contact" whom the financial institution could contact to alert them of unusual activity or suspected fraud. This person could serve as a voice of reason for the customer.

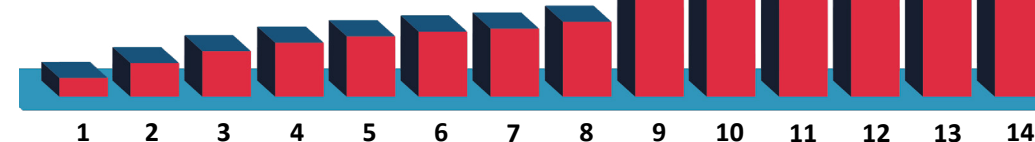
These also include elements of **Senate Bill 97**, **Senate Bill 99**, **Senate Bill 488**, **Senate Bill 657** and **Senate Bill 658**, all of which I sponsored this year.

PASSING A BUDGET THAT SERVES EVERYONE

Each legislative session, the Missouri General Assembly is constitutionally mandated to pass a balanced state operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which runs July 1 through June 30. The budget for FY 2026 addresses many Missourians top concerns and reflects several of our state's priorities.

\$49.8 BILLION

1	Judiciary & Public Defender - \$399,918,781
2	Office of Administration - \$767,270,370
3	Corrections - \$1,043,613,331
4	Public Safety - \$1,232,815,948
5	Higher Education & Workforce Development - \$1,419,907,258
6	All Other Agencies (Includes Revenue, National Guard, Elected Officials, General Assembly and Statewide Real Estate) - \$1,487,487,462
7	Agriculture, Conservation & Natural Resources - \$1,544,126,849
8	Employee Benefits - \$1,708,572,983
9	Health & Senior Services - \$2,337,806,425
10	Economic Development, Labor & Insurance - \$2,664,508,332
11	Transportation - \$3,564,927,863
12	Mental Health - \$4,376,271,419
13	Elementary & Secondary Education - \$8,630,865,463
14	Social Services - \$16,994,175,469



I have the honor of serving on the Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee. Each year, we spend countless hours going through thousands of line items to craft what I believe is a fiscally sound blueprint aimed at getting maximum benefit out of each dollar that comes into our state.

The committee's job is to help those in our population who need assistance the most, be it children, the elderly or those with special needs. My job is to look at the rural portions of our state, which includes the 28th Senatorial District, and ensure everybody is getting the help they need, not just the big cities.



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GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTEES: SERVING MISSOURI



Cliff Callis, Sedalia - Missouri Propane Safety Commission – Jan. 22, 2025



Brian Hammons, Stockton - Coordinating Board for Higher Education – Jan. 29, 2025



Kent Oberkrom, Clinton - Board of Probation and Parole – March 12, 2025

SHARING A FEW CAPITOL VISITORS



It's always an honor to welcome visitors to the Missouri State Capitol!



CONTACT SENATOR CRAWFORD

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Follow Sen. Crawford's legislation: senate.mo.gov/Crawford