#### FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## [PERFECTED]

### SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR

#### SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

# SENATE BILL NO. 35

#### 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ROBERTS.

0483S.05P

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

# **AN ACT**

To amend chapter 99, RSMo, by adding thereto six new sections relating to tax credits for downtown revitalization.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 99, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto

- 2 six new sections, to be known as sections 99.720, 99.722,
- 3 99.724, 99.726, 99.728, and 99.730, to read as follows:
  - 99.720. 1. Sections 99.720 to 99.730 shall be known
- and may be cited as the "Revitalizing Missouri Downtowns and
- 3 Main Streets Act".
- 4 2. As used in sections 99.720 to 99.730, the following
- 5 terms mean, unless the context requires otherwise:
- 6 (1) "Department", the Missouri department of economic
- 7 development;
- 8 (2) "Qualified conversion expenditures", any amount
- 9 properly chargeable to a capital account. The term
- 10 "qualified conversion expenditures" shall not include:
- 11 (a) The cost of acquisition;
- 12 (b) Any expenditure attributable to the enlargement of
- 13 an existing building; or
- 14 (c) Tax-exempt properties;

- 15 (3) "Qualified converted building", any building and 16 its structural components if:
- 17 (a) Prior to conversion, such building was
- nonresidential real property, as defined in 26 U.S.C.
- 19 Section 168(e)(2)(B), as amended, which was leased, or
- 20 available for lease, to office tenants, or utilized for
- 21 office purposes by the owner-occupant;
- 22 (b) Such building has been substantially converted
- 23 from an office use to a predominantly residential use,
- 24 defined as more than fifty percent of the gross square
- 25 footage of the building, and may also include retail, or
- other commercial use, and may also include accessory on-site
- 27 parking; and
- (c) Such building was initially placed in service at
- 29 least twenty-five years before the beginning of the
- 30 conversion;
- 31 (4) "Qualified Missouri main street district", an
- 32 accredited, associated, or affiliated main street district
- 33 of the Missouri main street program created pursuant to
- 34 sections 251.470 to 251.485;
- 35 (5) "Substantially converted", qualified conversion
- 36 expenditures incurred during the twenty-four-month period
- 37 preceding final approval of tax credits that in total are
- 38 greater than:
- 39 (a) The adjusted basis of such building and its
- 40 structural components, as determined as of the beginning of
- 41 the first day of such twenty-four-month period, or of the
- 42 holding period of the building, whichever is later; or
- 43 (b) Fifteen thousand dollars if the property is
- 44 located in a qualified Missouri main street district, or
- 45 five hundred thousand dollars if the property is not located
- 46 in a qualified Missouri main street district.

- 47 In the case of any conversion which may reasonably be
- 48 expected to be completed in phases set forth in
- 49 architectural plans and specifications completed before the
- 50 conversion begins, qualified conversion expenditures shall
- 51 be totaled for the sixty-month period preceding final
- 52 approval of tax credits rather than the twenty-four-month
- 53 period preceding such final approval;
- 54 (6) "Upper floor housing", any housing that is
- 55 attached to or contained in the same building as commercial
- 56 property, whether located on the ground floor behind the
- 57 traditional storefront or on other floors of the property.
  - 99.722. 1. For all tax years beginning on or after
- 2 January 1, 2026, the department shall issue a taxpayer a
- 3 credit against the taxpayer's state tax liability equal to
- 4 twenty-five percent of qualified conversion expenditures
- 5 with respect to a qualified converted building. If the
- 6 amount of such tax credit exceeds the taxpayer's state tax
- 7 liability for the year in which tax credits are issued, the
- 8 amount that exceeds the state tax liability may be carried
- 9 back to any of the three preceding tax years or carried
- 10 forward for credit against state tax liability for the
- 11 succeeding ten tax years, or until the full credit is used,
- 12 whichever occurs first.
- 13 2. Tax credits authorized pursuant to this section may
- 14 be transferred, sold, or assigned, and shall retain the same
- 15 attributes as in the hands of the assignor. Tax credits may
- 16 be transferred multiple times. In order to transfer a tax
- 17 credit authorized pursuant to this section, the assignor and
- 18 assignee shall complete and submit a tax credit transfer
- 19 form provided by the department of revenue. Such transfers
- 20 may be facilitated through an intermediary entity as

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- 21 permitted by law without affecting the nature or attributes 22 of the tax credit.
- 3. Tax credits authorized for a partnership, a limited liability company taxed as a partnership, or multiple owners of property shall be passed through to the partners, members, or owners respectively pro rata, or pursuant to an
- 27 executed agreement among the partners, members, or owners
- 28 documenting an alternate distribution method.

required by the department.

occurs first.

- 4. The assignee of a tax credit may use the acquired tax credits to offset up to one hundred percent of the taxpayer's state tax liability. The assignor shall perfect such transfer by notifying the department in writing within thirty calendar days following the effective date of the transfer and shall provide any information as may be
- 99.724. 1. For all tax years beginning on or after 2 January 1, 2026, the department shall issue a taxpayer a 3 credit against the taxpayer's state tax liability equal to thirty percent of qualified conversion expenditures with 4 5 respect to upper floor housing located in a qualified Missouri main street district. If the amount of such tax 6 7 credit exceeds the taxpayer's state tax liability for the 8 year in which tax credits are issued, the amount that 9 exceeds the state tax liability may be carried back to any 10 of the three preceding tax years or carried forward for credit against state tax liability for the succeeding ten 11 tax years, or until the full credit is used, whichever 12
- 2. Tax credits authorized pursuant to this section may be transferred, sold, or assigned, and shall retain the same attributes as in the hands of the assignor. Tax credits may be transferred multiple times. In order to transfer a tax

- 18 credit authorized pursuant to this section, the assignor and
- 19 assignee shall complete and submit a tax credit transfer
- 20 form provided by the department of revenue. Such transfers
- 21 may be facilitated through an intermediary entity as
- 22 permitted by law without affecting the nature or attributes
- 23 of the tax credit.
- 3. Tax credits authorized for a partnership, a limited
- 25 liability company taxed as a partnership, or multiple owners
- of property shall be passed through to the partners,
- 27 members, or owners respectively pro rata, or pursuant to an
- 28 executed agreement among the partners, members, or owners
- 29 documenting an alternate distribution method.
- 30 4. The assignee of a tax credit may use the acquired
- 31 tax credits to offset up to one hundred percent of the
- 32 taxpayer's state tax liability. The assignor shall perfect
- 33 such transfer by notifying the department in writing within
- 34 thirty calendar days following the effective date of the
- 35 transfer and shall provide any information as may be
- 36 required by the department.
  - 99.726. 1. The total amount of tax credits authorized
- 2 pursuant to sections 99.720 to 99.730 shall not exceed fifty
- 3 million dollars in any fiscal year.
- 4 2. Fifty percent of the maximum amount of tax credits
- 5 available to be authorized to taxpayers in a fiscal year
- 6 pursuant to this section shall be authorized solely for
- 7 structures of more than seven hundred fifty thousand gross
- 8 square feet. If the total amount of such reserved tax
- 9 credits have been authorized, structures of more than seven
- 10 hundred fifty thousand gross square feet may receive tax
- 11 credits from the remaining unreserved amount of tax
- 12 credits. If the total amount of reserved tax credits have
- 13 not been authorized by the department, structures of less

- 14 than seven hundred fifty thousand gross square feet may be
- 15 authorized tax credits from such reserved amount. The total
- 16 amount of tax credits for a structure of more than seven
- 17 hundred fifty thousand gross square feet may be allocated to
- 18 the annual limits provided in this section over a period of
- 19 up to ten years, if:
- 20 (1) The project otherwise meets all the requirements
- 21 of sections 99.720 to 99.730; and
- 22 (2) The project meets the ten percent incurred costs
- 23 test under subsection 6 of section 99.728 within thirty-six
- 24 months after an award is authorized.
- 3. Twenty-five percent of the maximum amount of tax
- 26 credits available to be authorized to taxpayers in a fiscal
- 27 year pursuant to this section shall be authorized solely for
- 28 upper floor housing projects located in a qualified Missouri
- 29 main street district. If the total amount of such reserved
- 30 tax credits have been authorized, upper floor housing
- 31 projects located in a qualified Missouri main street
- 32 district may receive tax credits from the remaining
- 33 unreserved amount of tax credits. If the total amount of
- 34 reserved tax credits have not been authorized by the
- 35 department, projects not located in a qualified Missouri
- 36 main street district may be authorized tax credits from such
- 37 reserved amount.
- 38 4. If the maximum amount of tax credits allowed in any
- 39 fiscal year, as provided pursuant to this section, is
- 40 authorized, the maximum amount of tax credits allowed
- 41 pursuant to subsection 1 of this section shall be adjusted
- 42 by the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for
- 43 All Urban Consumers, or its successor index, as such index
- 44 is defined and officially reported by the United States
- 45 Department of Labor, or its successor agency. Only one such

- adjustment shall be made for each instance in which the provisions of this subsection apply. The department shall publish such adjusted amount.
- 49 In the event the department authorizes tax credits 50 equal to the total amount available pursuant to this section, or sufficient that when totaled with all other 51 52 approvals, the amount available pursuant to this section is 53 exhausted, all taxpayers with applications then awaiting 54 approval or thereafter submitted for approval shall be 55 notified by the department that no additional approvals shall be granted during the fiscal year and shall be 56 57 notified of the priority given to such taxpayer's 58 application then awaiting approval. Such applications shall 59 be kept on file by the department and shall be considered 60 for approval for tax credits in the order established in this section in the event that additional tax credits become 61 62 available due to the rescission of approvals, or when a new fiscal year's allocation of tax credits becomes available 63 64 for approval.
- To obtain approval for tax credits 1. 2 pursuant to sections 99.720 to 99.730, a taxpayer shall 3 submit an application for tax credit authorization to the 4 department. The department shall have sixty days to review 5 the application and shall notify the applicant in writing 6 within thirty days of the decision of whether the application has been authorized for tax credits. Each 7 application for approval, including any applications 8 9 received for supplemental allocations of tax credits as provided pursuant to subsection 2 of section 99.730, shall, 10 if approved, be authorized for tax credits in the order of 11 12 submission.

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- 2. Each application shall be reviewed by the
  department for approval. In order to receive approval, an
  application shall include:
  - (1) Proof of ownership or site control. Proof of ownership shall include evidence that the taxpayer is the fee simple owner of the eligible property, such as a warranty deed or a closing statement. Proof of site control may be evidenced by a leasehold interest or an option to acquire such an interest. If the taxpayer is in the process of acquiring fee simple ownership, proof of site control shall include an executed sales contract or an executed option to purchase the eligible property;
  - (2) Floor plans of the existing structure, architectural plans, and, where applicable, plans of the proposed conversion of the structure, as well as proposed additions;
- 29 (3) The estimated cost of conversion, the anticipated 30 total costs of the project, the actual basis of the 31 property, as shown by proof of actual acquisition costs, the 32 anticipated total labor costs, the estimated project start 33 date, and the estimated project completion date;
  - (4) Proof that the property is an eligible property;
  - (5) A copy of all land use and building approvals reasonably necessary for the commencement of the project; and
- 37 (6) Any other information which the department may 38 reasonably require to review the project for approval.
- Only the property for which a property address is provided in the application shall be reviewed for approval. Once selected for review, a taxpayer shall not be permitted to request the review of another property for approval in the place of the property contained in such application. Any

- 44 disapproved application shall be removed from the review
- 45 process. If an application is removed from the review
- 46 process, the department shall notify the taxpayer in writing
- 47 of the decision to remove such application. The taxpayer
- 48 may subsequently submit a revised application. For the
- 49 purposes of determining the order of submission and
- 50 authorization of credits, the revised application shall be
- 51 considered a new application.
- 3. If the department determines that the application
- 53 meets the requirements of sections 99.720 to 99.730 to
- 54 receive an authorization of tax credits, the taxpayer shall
- 55 be notified in writing of the approval for an amount of tax
- 56 credits equal to the amounts provided in sections 99.722 and
- 57 99.724, less any amount of tax credits previously approved
- 58 pursuant to this section. Tax credits approved pursuant to
- 59 this section shall be approved and administered
- 60 independently and shall not be evaluated in conjunction with
- 61 any other state tax credit program. Such approvals shall be
- 62 granted to applications in the order of priority established
- 63 under this section and shall require full compliance
- 64 thereafter with all other requirements of law as a condition
- 65 to any claim for such tax credits.
- 66 4. Following approval of an application, the identity
- of the taxpayer contained in such application shall not be
- 68 modified except:
- 69 (1) The taxpayer may add partners, members, or
- 70 shareholders as part of the ownership structure, so long as
- 71 the principal remains the same; provided, however, that
- 72 subsequent to the commencement of renovation and the
- 73 expenditure of at least ten percent of the proposed
- 74 rehabilitation budget, removal of the principal for failure

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- to perform duties and the appointment of a new principal thereafter shall not constitute a change of the principal; or
- 77 (2) Where the ownership of the project is changed due 78 to a foreclosure, deed in lieu of a foreclosure or voluntary 79 conveyance, or a transfer in bankruptcy.
  - 5. All taxpayers with applications receiving approval shall submit within one hundred twenty days following the award of credits evidence of the capacity of the applicant to finance the costs and expenses for the conversion of the eligible property in the form of a line of credit or letter of commitment subject to the lender's termination for a material adverse change impacting the extension of credit. If the department determines that a taxpayer has failed to comply with the requirements of this subsection, then the department shall notify the applicant of such failure and the applicant shall have a thirty-day period from the date of such notice to submit additional evidence to remedy the failure.
  - All taxpayers with applications receiving approval, excluding projects described in subsection 2 of section 99.726, shall commence conversion within twelve months of the date of issuance of the letter from the department granting the approval for tax credits. For the purposes of this subsection, "commence conversion" shall mean that, as of the date in which actual physical work, contemplated by the architectural plans submitted with the application, has begun, the taxpayer has incurred no less than ten percent of the estimated costs of rehabilitation provided in the Taxpayers with approval of a project shall application. submit evidence of compliance with the provisions of this If the department determines that a taxpayer subsection. has failed to comply with the requirements of this

- 107 subsection, the approval for the amount of tax credits for
- 108 such taxpayer shall be rescinded and such amount of tax
- 109 credits shall then be included in the total amount of tax
- 110 credits from which approvals may be granted. Any taxpayer
- 111 whose approval shall be subject to rescission shall be
- 112 notified of such from the department and, upon receipt of
- 113 such notice, may submit a new application for the project.
  - 99.730. 1. To claim a tax credit authorized pursuant
  - to sections 99.720 to 99.730, a taxpayer with approval
  - 3 shall, except with respect to a tax credit authorized
  - 4 pursuant to subsection 2 of section 99.726, apply for final
  - 5 approval and issuance of tax credits from the department,
  - 6 which shall determine the final amount of qualified
  - 7 conversion expenditures and whether the completed
  - 8 rehabilitation meets the requirements of this section. A
  - 9 taxpayer shall submit to the department a final application
- 10 demonstrating:
- 11 (1) That the taxpayer has substantially converted a
- 12 qualified converted building or upper floor housing;
- 13 (2) Satisfactory evidence of any qualified conversion
- 14 expenditures for the structure, as determined by the
- 15 department; and
- 16 (3) Any other information reasonably requested by the
- 17 department relating to verifying qualified conversion
- 18 expenditures or compliance with the requirements of sections
- 19 **99.720** to **99.730**.
- 20 For financial institutions, tax credits authorized pursuant
- 21 to sections 99.720 to 99.730 shall be deemed to be
- 22 redevelopment tax credits for the purposes of sections
- 23 135.800 to 135.830. The approval of all applications and
- 24 the issuing of certificates of eligible tax credits to

- 25 taxpayers shall be performed by the department. The
- department shall inform a taxpayer of final approval by
- 27 letter and shall issue, to the taxpayer, tax credit
- 28 certificates. The taxpayer shall attach the certificate to
- 29 all Missouri income tax returns on which the credit is
- 30 claimed.
- 31 2. (1) The department shall issue seventy-five
- 32 percent of the approved tax credits within sixty days of
- 33 receiving all required final application materials. Within
- 34 sixty days, the department shall make a final determination
- 35 of costs and issue the remaining twenty-five percent of
- 36 approved tax credits, or request repayment from the
- 37 applicant if the final determination results in an over-
- 38 issuance of tax credits. In the event the amount of
- 39 qualified conversion expenditures incurred by a taxpayer
- 40 would result in the issuance of an amount of tax credits in
- 41 excess of the amount authorized pursuant to subsection 3 of
- 42 section 99.728, such taxpayer may apply to the department
- 43 for issuance of tax credits in an amount equal to such
- 44 excess. Applications for issuance of tax credits in excess
- 45 of the amount provided under a taxpayer's application shall
- 46 be made on a form prescribed by the department. Such
- 47 applications shall be subject to all provisions regarding
- 48 priority provided under subsection 1 of section 99.728.
- 49 (2) For tax credits authorized pursuant to subsection
- 2 of section 99.726, the applicant may submit to the
- 51 department an application for the issuance of tax credits
- 52 annually prior to final completion of the project. Upon
- 53 approval of the annual application for issuance, the
- 54 department shall issue eighty percent of the amount of tax
- 55 credits that would result from the qualified expenditures,
- 56 provided the total amount of credits issued to date does not

- 57 exceed the total amount of credits authorized for the
- 58 project to date. Any remaining authorized tax credits shall
- 59 be issued upon the final approval of the project. The
- 60 department shall issue eighty percent of the approved
- 61 credits within sixty days of receiving all required
- 62 application materials. Within sixty days, the department
- 63 shall make a final determination of costs and issue any
- 64 remaining authorized tax credits upon the final completion
- of the phased project, or request repayment if an over-
- 66 issuance of credits is determined.
- 67 3. The department shall determine, on an annual basis,
- 68 the overall economic impact to the state from the
- 69 rehabilitation of eligible property pursuant to sections
- 70 **99.720** to **99.730**.
- 71 4. No taxpayer shall be issued tax credits for
- 72 qualified conversion expenditures on a qualified converted
- 73 building within twenty-seven years of a previous issuance of
- 74 tax credits pursuant to sections 99.720 to 99.730 on such
- 75 qualified converted building.
- 76 5. The department may promulgate any rules and
- 77 regulations necessary to administer the provisions of
- 78 sections 99.720 to 99.730. Any rule or portion of a rule,
- 79 as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created
- 80 under the authority delegated in this section shall become
- 81 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of
- 82 the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section
- 83 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and
- 84 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
- 85 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
- 86 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
- 87 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking

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- authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.
- 90 6. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 23.253 of 91 the Missouri sunset act to the contrary:
- 92 (1) The program authorized pursuant to sections 99.720 93 to 99.730 shall automatically sunset on December 31, 2033, 94 unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and
  - (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized pursuant to sections 99.720 to 99.730 shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization;
  - (3) Sections 99.720 to 99.730 shall terminate on September first of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the program authorized pursuant to sections 99.720 to 99.730 is sunset; and
- 103 (4) The provisions of this subsection shall not be 104 construed to limit or in any way impair:
- 105 (a) A taxpayer's ability to complete a project and
  106 receive authorization for tax credits pursuant to sections
  107 99.720 to 99.730 for any project for which the taxpayer has
  108 submitted an initial application on or before the date the
  109 program authorized pursuant to sections 99.720 to 99.730
  110 expires; or
- 111 (b) The department of revenue's ability to redeem tax 112 credits authorized on or before the date the program 113 authorized pursuant to sections 99.720 to 99.730 expires, or 114 a taxpayer's ability to redeem such tax credits.