

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 1614

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MCCREERY.

4879S.01I

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 143.121, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof ten new sections relating to leave from employment, with a referendum clause.

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

Section A. Section 143.121, RSMo, is repealed and ten new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 143.121, 285.400, 285.405, 285.410, 285.415, 285.420, 285.425, 285.430, 285.435, and 285.440, to read as follows:

143.121. 1. The Missouri adjusted gross income of a resident individual shall be the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income subject to the modifications in this section.

2. There shall be added to the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income:

(1) The amount of any federal income tax refund received for a prior year which resulted in a Missouri income tax benefit. The amount added pursuant to this subdivision shall not include any amount of a federal income tax refund attributable to a tax credit reducing a taxpayer's federal tax liability pursuant to Public Law 116-136 or 116-260, enacted by the 116th United States Congress, for the tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and ending on or before December 31, 2020, and deducted from Missouri adjusted gross income pursuant to section 143.171.

16 The amount added under this subdivision shall also not

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

17 include any amount of a federal income tax refund
18 attributable to a tax credit reducing a taxpayer's federal
19 tax liability under any other federal law that provides
20 direct economic impact payments to taxpayers to mitigate
21 financial challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and
22 deducted from Missouri adjusted gross income under section
23 143.171;

24 (2) Interest on certain governmental obligations
25 excluded from federal gross income by 26 U.S.C. Section 103
26 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. The previous
27 sentence shall not apply to interest on obligations of the
28 state of Missouri or any of its political subdivisions or
29 authorities and shall not apply to the interest described in
30 subdivision (1) of subsection 3 of this section. The amount
31 added pursuant to this subdivision shall be reduced by the
32 amounts applicable to such interest that would have been
33 deductible in computing the taxable income of the taxpayer
34 except only for the application of 26 U.S.C. Section 265 of
35 the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. The reduction shall
36 only be made if it is at least five hundred dollars;

37 (3) The amount of any deduction that is included in
38 the computation of federal taxable income pursuant to 26
39 U.S.C. Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code as amended
40 by the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002 to the
41 extent the amount deducted relates to property purchased on
42 or after July 1, 2002, but before July 1, 2003, and to the
43 extent the amount deducted exceeds the amount that would
44 have been deductible pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Section 168 of
45 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as in effect on January 1,
46 2002;

47 (4) The amount of any deduction that is included in
48 the computation of federal taxable income for net operating

49 loss allowed by 26 U.S.C. Section 172 of the Internal
50 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, other than the deduction
51 allowed by 26 U.S.C. Section [172(b)(1)(G)] **172(b)(1)(F)** and
52 26 U.S.C. Section [172(i)] **172(h)** of the Internal Revenue
53 Code of 1986, as amended, for a net operating loss the
54 taxpayer claims in the tax year in which the net operating
55 loss occurred or carries forward for a period of more than
56 twenty years and carries backward for more than two years.
57 Any amount of net operating loss taken against federal
58 taxable income but disallowed for Missouri income tax
59 purposes pursuant to this subdivision after June 18, 2002,
60 may be carried forward and taken against any income on the
61 Missouri income tax return for a period of not more than
62 twenty years from the year of the initial loss; and

63 (5) For nonresident individuals in all taxable years
64 ending on or after December 31, 2006, the amount of any
65 property taxes paid to another state or a political
66 subdivision of another state for which a deduction was
67 allowed on such nonresident's federal return in the taxable
68 year unless such state, political subdivision of a state, or
69 the District of Columbia allows a subtraction from income
70 for property taxes paid to this state for purposes of
71 calculating income for the income tax for such state,
72 political subdivision of a state, or the District of
73 Columbia;

74 (6) For all tax years beginning on or after January 1,
75 2018, any interest expense paid or accrued in a previous
76 taxable year, but allowed as a deduction under 26 U.S.C.
77 Section 163, as amended, in the current taxable year by
78 reason of the carryforward of disallowed business interest
79 provisions of 26 U.S.C. Section 163(j), as amended. For the
80 purposes of this subdivision, an interest expense is

81 considered paid or accrued only in the first taxable year
82 the deduction would have been allowable under 26 U.S.C.
83 Section 163, as amended, if the limitation under 26 U.S.C.
84 Section 163(j), as amended, did not exist.

85 3. There shall be subtracted from the taxpayer's
86 federal adjusted gross income the following amounts to the
87 extent included in federal adjusted gross income:

88 (1) Interest received on deposits held at a federal
89 reserve bank or interest or dividends on obligations of the
90 United States and its territories and possessions or of any
91 authority, commission or instrumentality of the United
92 States to the extent exempt from Missouri income taxes
93 pursuant to the laws of the United States. The amount
94 subtracted pursuant to this subdivision shall be reduced by
95 any interest on indebtedness incurred to carry the described
96 obligations or securities and by any expenses incurred in
97 the production of interest or dividend income described in
98 this subdivision. The reduction in the previous sentence
99 shall only apply to the extent that such expenses including
100 amortizable bond premiums are deducted in determining the
101 taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income or included in the
102 taxpayer's Missouri itemized deduction. The reduction shall
103 only be made if the expenses total at least five hundred
104 dollars;

105 (2) The portion of any gain, from the sale or other
106 disposition of property having a higher adjusted basis to
107 the taxpayer for Missouri income tax purposes than for
108 federal income tax purposes on December 31, 1972, that does
109 not exceed such difference in basis. If a gain is
110 considered a long-term capital gain for federal income tax
111 purposes, the modification shall be limited to one-half of
112 such portion of the gain;

113 (3) The amount necessary to prevent the taxation
114 pursuant to this chapter of any annuity or other amount of
115 income or gain which was properly included in income or gain
116 and was taxed pursuant to the laws of Missouri for a taxable
117 year prior to January 1, 1973, to the taxpayer, or to a
118 decedent by reason of whose death the taxpayer acquired the
119 right to receive the income or gain, or to a trust or estate
120 from which the taxpayer received the income or gain;

121 (4) Accumulation distributions received by a taxpayer
122 as a beneficiary of a trust to the extent that the same are
123 included in federal adjusted gross income;

124 (5) The amount of any state income tax refund for a
125 prior year which was included in the federal adjusted gross
126 income;

127 (6) The portion of capital gain specified in section
128 135.357 that would otherwise be included in federal adjusted
129 gross income;

139 (8) For all tax years beginning on or after January 1,
140 2005, the amount of any income received for military service
141 while the taxpayer serves in a combat zone which is included
142 in federal adjusted gross income and not otherwise excluded
143 therefrom. As used in this section, "combat zone" means any
144 area which the President of the United States by Executive

145 Order designates as an area in which Armed Forces of the
146 United States are or have engaged in combat. Service is
147 performed in a combat zone only if performed on or after the
148 date designated by the President by Executive Order as the
149 date of the commencing of combat activities in such zone,
150 and on or before the date designated by the President by
151 Executive Order as the date of the termination of combatant
152 activities in such zone;

153 (9) For all tax years ending on or after July 1, 2002,
154 with respect to qualified property that is sold or otherwise
155 disposed of during a taxable year by a taxpayer and for
156 which an additional modification was made under subdivision
157 (3) of subsection 2 of this section, the amount by which
158 additional modification made under subdivision (3) of
159 subsection 2 of this section on qualified property has not
160 been recovered through the additional subtractions provided
161 in subdivision (7) of this subsection;

162 (10) **The amount contributed to the Missouri earned
163 family and medical leave fund established under section
164 285.435;**

165 (11) For all tax years beginning on or after January
166 1, 2014, the amount of any income received as payment from
167 any program which provides compensation to agricultural
168 producers who have suffered a loss as the result of a
169 disaster or emergency, including the:

- 170 (a) Livestock Forage Disaster Program;
- 171 (b) Livestock Indemnity Program;
- 172 (c) Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and
173 Farm-Raised Fish;
- 174 (d) Emergency Conservation Program;
- 175 (e) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program;
- 176 (f) Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Pilot Insurance Program;

177 (g) Annual Forage Pilot Program;

178 (h) Livestock Risk Protection Insurance Plan;

179 (i) Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Plan;

180 **[(11)] (12)** For all tax years beginning on or after

181 January 1, 2018, any interest expense paid or accrued in the

182 current taxable year, but not deducted as a result of the

183 limitation imposed under 26 U.S.C. Section 163(j), as

184 amended. For the purposes of this subdivision, an interest

185 expense is considered paid or accrued only in the first

186 taxable year the deduction would have been allowable under

187 26 U.S.C. Section 163, as amended, if the limitation under

188 26 U.S.C. Section 163(j), as amended, did not exist;

189 **[(12)] (13)** One hundred percent of any retirement

190 benefits received by any taxpayer as a result of the

191 taxpayer's service in the Armed Forces of the United States,

192 including reserve components and the National Guard of this

193 state, as defined in 32 U.S.C. Sections 101(3) and 109, and

194 any other military force organized under the laws of this

195 state;

196 **[(13)] (14)** For all tax years beginning on or after

197 January 1, 2022, one hundred percent of any federal, state,

198 or local grant moneys received by the taxpayer if the grant

199 money was disbursed for the express purpose of providing or

200 expanding access to broadband internet to areas of the state

201 deemed to be lacking such access;

202 **[(14)] (15)** (a) For all tax years beginning on or

203 after January 1, 2025, one hundred percent of all income

204 reported as a capital gain for federal income tax purposes

205 by an individual subject to tax pursuant to section 143.011;

206 and

207 (b) For all tax years beginning on or after January

208 first of the tax year following the tax year in which the

209 top rate of tax imposed pursuant to section 143.011 is equal
210 to or less than four and one-half percent, one hundred
211 percent of all income reported as a capital gain for federal
212 income tax purposes by an entity subject to tax pursuant to
213 section 143.071; and

214 **[(15)] (16)** For all tax years beginning on or after
215 January 1, 2026, the portion of capital gain on the sale or
216 exchange of specie, as that term is defined in section
217 408.010, that are otherwise included in the taxpayer's
218 federal adjusted gross income.

219 4. There shall be added to or subtracted from the
220 taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income the taxpayer's
221 share of the Missouri fiduciary adjustment provided in
222 section 143.351.

223 5. There shall be added to or subtracted from the
224 taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income the modifications
225 provided in section 143.411.

226 6. In addition to the modifications to a taxpayer's
227 federal adjusted gross income in this section, to calculate
228 Missouri adjusted gross income there shall be subtracted
229 from the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income any gain
230 recognized pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Section 1033 of the
231 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, arising from
232 compulsory or involuntary conversion of property as a result
233 of condemnation or the imminence thereof.

234 7. (1) As used in this subsection, "qualified health
235 insurance premium" means the amount paid during the tax year
236 by such taxpayer for any insurance policy primarily
237 providing health care coverage for the taxpayer, the
238 taxpayer's spouse, or the taxpayer's dependents.

239 (2) In addition to the subtractions in subsection 3 of
240 this section, one hundred percent of the amount of qualified

241 health insurance premiums shall be subtracted from the
242 taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income to the extent the
243 amount paid for such premiums is included in federal taxable
244 income. The taxpayer shall provide the department of
245 revenue with proof of the amount of qualified health
246 insurance premiums paid.

247 8. (1) Beginning January 1, 2014, in addition to the
248 subtractions provided in this section, one hundred percent
249 of the cost incurred by a taxpayer for a home energy audit
250 conducted by an entity certified by the department of
251 natural resources under section 640.153 or the
252 implementation of any energy efficiency recommendations made
253 in such an audit shall be subtracted from the taxpayer's
254 federal adjusted gross income to the extent the amount paid
255 for any such activity is included in federal taxable
256 income. The taxpayer shall provide the department of
257 revenue with a summary of any recommendations made in a
258 qualified home energy audit, the name and certification
259 number of the qualified home energy auditor who conducted
260 the audit, and proof of the amount paid for any activities
261 under this subsection for which a deduction is claimed. The
262 taxpayer shall also provide a copy of the summary of any
263 recommendations made in a qualified home energy audit to the
264 department of natural resources.

265 (2) At no time shall a deduction claimed under this
266 subsection by an individual taxpayer or taxpayers filing
267 combined returns exceed one thousand dollars per year for
268 individual taxpayers or cumulatively exceed two thousand
269 dollars per year for taxpayers filing combined returns.

270 (3) Any deduction claimed under this subsection shall
271 be claimed for the tax year in which the qualified home
272 energy audit was conducted or in which the implementation of

273 the energy efficiency recommendations occurred. If
274 implementation of the energy efficiency recommendations
275 occurred during more than one year, the deduction may be
276 claimed in more than one year, subject to the limitations
277 provided under subdivision (2) of this subsection.

278 (4) A deduction shall not be claimed for any otherwise
279 eligible activity under this subsection if such activity
280 qualified for and received any rebate or other incentive
281 through a state-sponsored energy program or through an
282 electric corporation, gas corporation, electric cooperative,
283 or municipally owned utility.

284 9. The provisions of subsection 8 of this section
285 shall expire on December 31, 2020.

286 10. (1) As used in this subsection, the following
287 terms mean:

288 (a) "Beginning farmer", a taxpayer who:

289 a. Has filed at least one but not more than ten
290 Internal Revenue Service Schedule F (Form 1040) Profit or
291 Loss From Farming forms since turning eighteen years of age;
292 b. Is approved for a beginning farmer loan through the
293 USDA Farm Service Agency Beginning Farmer direct or
294 guaranteed loan program;

295 c. Has a farming operation that is determined by the
296 department of agriculture to be new production agriculture
297 but is the principal operator of a farm and has substantial
298 farming knowledge; or

299 d. Has been determined by the department of
300 agriculture to be a qualified family member;

301 (b) "Farm owner", an individual who owns farmland and
302 disposes of or relinquishes use of all or some portion of
303 such farmland as follows:

304 a. A sale to a beginning farmer;

305 b. A lease or rental agreement not exceeding ten years
306 with a beginning farmer; or

307 c. A crop-share arrangement not exceeding ten years
308 with a beginning farmer;

309 (c) "Qualified family member", an individual who is
310 related to a farm owner within the fourth degree by blood,
311 marriage, or adoption and who is purchasing or leasing or is
312 in a crop-share arrangement for land from all or a portion
313 of such farm owner's farming operation.

314 (2) (a) In addition to all other subtractions
315 authorized in this section, a taxpayer who is a farm owner
316 who sells all or a portion of such farmland to a beginning
317 farmer may subtract from such taxpayer's Missouri adjusted
318 gross income an amount to the extent included in federal
319 adjusted gross income as provided in this subdivision.

320 (b) Subject to the limitations in paragraph (c) of
321 this subdivision, the amount that may be subtracted shall be
322 equal to the portion of capital gains received from the sale
323 of such farmland that such taxpayer receives in the tax year
324 for which such taxpayer subtracts such capital gain.

325 (c) A taxpayer may subtract the following amounts and
326 percentages per tax year in total capital gains received
327 from the sale of such farmland under this subdivision:

328 a. For the first two million dollars received, one
329 hundred percent;

330 b. For the next one million dollars received, eighty
331 percent;

332 c. For the next one million dollars received, sixty
333 percent;

334 d. For the next one million dollars received, forty
335 percent; and

336 e. For the next one million dollars received, twenty
337 percent.

338 (d) The department of revenue shall prepare an annual
339 report reviewing the costs and benefits and containing
340 statistical information regarding the subtraction of capital
341 gains authorized under this subdivision for the previous tax
342 year including, but not limited to, the total amount of all
343 capital gains subtracted and the number of taxpayers
344 subtracting such capital gains. Such report shall be
345 submitted before February first of each year to the
346 committee on agriculture policy of the Missouri house of
347 representatives and the committee on agriculture, food
348 production and outdoor resources of the Missouri senate, or
349 the successor committees.

350 (3) (a) In addition to all other subtractions
351 authorized in this section, a taxpayer who is a farm owner
352 who enters a lease or rental agreement for all or a portion
353 of such farmland with a beginning farmer may subtract from
354 such taxpayer's Missouri adjusted gross income an amount to
355 the extent included in federal adjusted gross income as
356 provided in this subdivision.

357 (b) Subject to the limitation in paragraph (c) of this
358 subdivision, the amount that may be subtracted shall be
359 equal to the portion of cash rent income received from the
360 lease or rental of such farmland that such taxpayer receives
361 in the tax year for which such taxpayer subtracts such
362 income.

363 (c) No taxpayer shall subtract more than twenty-five
364 thousand dollars per tax year in total cash rent income
365 received from the lease or rental of such farmland under
366 this subdivision.

367 (4) (a) In addition to all other subtractions
368 authorized in this section, a taxpayer who is a farm owner
369 who enters a crop-share arrangement on all or a portion of
370 such farmland with a beginning farmer may subtract from such
371 taxpayer's Missouri adjusted gross income an amount to the
372 extent included in federal adjusted gross income as provided
373 in this subdivision.

374 (b) Subject to the limitation in paragraph (c) of this
375 subdivision, the amount that may be subtracted shall be
376 equal to the portion of income received from the crop-share
377 arrangement on such farmland that such taxpayer receives in
378 the tax year for which such taxpayer subtracts such income.

379 (c) No taxpayer shall subtract more than twenty-five
380 thousand dollars per tax year in total income received from
381 the lease or rental of such farmland under this subdivision.

382 (5) The department of agriculture shall, by rule,
383 establish a process to verify that a taxpayer is a beginning
384 farmer for purposes of this section and shall provide
385 verification to the beginning farmer and farm seller of such
386 farmer's and seller's certification and qualification for
387 the exemption provided in this subsection.

285.400. 1. The provisions of sections 285.400 to
2 285.440 shall be known and may be cited as the "Missouri
3 Earned Family and Medical Leave Act".

4 2. As used in sections 285.400 to 285.440, the
5 following terms shall mean:

6 (1) "Average state weekly pay", the total wages earned
7 by all employees who have contributed to the fund in the
8 past twelve months, divided by the total number of such
9 employees, the quotient of which is divided by the average
10 number of weeks worked by all employees who have contributed
11 to the fund in the last twelve months;

31 (5) "Department", the department of labor and
32 industrial relations;

43 employee. If only the results are controlled, the person
44 performing the service is an independent contractor;

45 (7) "Employer", any person acting directly or
46 indirectly in the interest of an employer in relation to an
47 employee;

48 (8) "Family member", a child, parent, grandparent,
49 grandchild, sibling, spouse, domestic or civil union
50 partner, or household member, or any ward as that term is
51 defined in section 475.010;

52 (9) "Family or medical leave", any of the following:

53 (a) Leave to bond with a minor child within the first
54 year of the child's birth or placement in connection with
55 foster care or adoption;

56 (b) Leave to care for a family member who has a
57 serious health condition;

58 (c) Leave due to an employee's own serious health
59 condition; or

60 (d) Leave to assume any familial responsibility
61 because a spouse, child, or parent of an employee is on, or
62 has been notified of an impending call to, active duty in
63 the uniformed services;

64 (10) "Fund", the Missouri earned family and medical
65 leave fund established in section 285.435;

66 (11) "Grandchild", a child of the employee's child;

67 (12) "Grandparent", a parent of the employee's parent;

68 (13) "Health care provider", any physician, hospital,
69 health maintenance organization, ambulatory surgical center,
70 long-term care facility including those licensed under
71 chapter 198, dentist, registered or licensed practical
72 nurse, optometrist, podiatrist, pharmacist, chiropractor,
73 physical therapist, psychologist, physician-in-training, and
74 any other person or entity that provides health care

75 services under the authority of a license or certificate of
76 this state or any other state or foreign country;

77 (14) "Parent", a biological, foster, or adoptive
78 parent, a parent-in-law, a stepparent, a legal guardian, or
79 other person who stood in loco parentis to the employee when
80 the employee was a child;

81 (15) "Parent-in-law", the parent of a spouse or
82 domestic or civil union partner;

83 (16) "Serious health condition", an illness, injury,
84 impairment, or physical or mental condition that involves
85 inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential health
86 care facility, or continuing medical treatment or continuing
87 supervision by a health care provider. The term shall
88 include medical attention, services, or counseling for
89 victims of stalking, domestic violence, abuse, or sexual
90 assault, as such terms are defined in section 455.010, or
91 victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual
92 exploitation as described in section 566.209;

93 (17) "Sibling", a person related to another person by
94 blood, adoption, or affinity through a common legal or
95 biological parent;

96 (18) "Spouse", a partner to a lawful marriage;

97 (19) "Uniformed services":

98 (a) Active and reserve components of the Army, Navy,
99 Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard of the United States;

100 (b) The Merchant Marine, the commissioned corps of the
101 Public Health Service, or the commissioned corps of the
102 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the
103 United States; or

104 (c) The Missouri National Guard.

285.405. 1. There is hereby established the "Missouri
2 Earned Family and Medical Leave Program" to provide up to

3 six weeks of wage replacement benefits to employees who take
4 time off work for family or medical leave. The department
5 shall administer and implement the program and the
6 provisions of sections 285.400 to 285.440, and shall pay
7 Missouri family or medical leave benefits as specified in
8 such sections.

9 2. An employee shall be eligible to receive Missouri
10 earned family or medical leave program benefits equal to one
11 hundred percent of his or her average weekly pay for each
12 full week during which he or she has taken family or medical
13 leave. An employee may take family or medical leave for a
14 partial week and shall only be eligible to receive the
15 fraction of the average weekly pay which is equal to the
16 number of days of leave taken divided by the number of days
17 for which such employee would have otherwise worked in the
18 respective week had the employee not taken family or medical
19 leave. Any leave taken shall be in full-day increments.

20 3. No more than six weeks of Missouri earned family
21 and medical leave benefits shall be paid to an employee
22 within any fifty-two-week period.

23 4. An employee shall file a claim for Missouri earned
24 family and medical leave benefits with the department not
25 later than the forty-first consecutive day following the
26 first compensable day with respect to which the claim is
27 made for benefits, which time shall be extended by the
28 department upon a showing of good cause. If a first claim
29 is not complete, the claim form shall be returned to the
30 employee for completion, and it shall be completed and
31 returned not later than the tenth consecutive day after the
32 date it was verifiably sent by the department to the
33 employee, except that such time shall be extended by the
34 department upon a showing of good cause.

35 5. No employee shall be eligible for Missouri earned
36 family and medical leave program benefits with respect to
37 any day:

38 (1) That he or she is eligible to receive unemployment
39 compensation benefits under chapter 288 or under an
40 unemployment compensation act of any other state or of the
41 federal government; or

42 (2) That he or she has received, or is entitled to
43 receive, any other benefits under chapter 287.

44 6. No employee shall be eligible for Missouri earned
45 family and medical leave benefits until such employee has
46 paid into the Missouri earned family and medical leave fund
47 for fifty-two weeks.

48 7. An employee who is entitled to leave under the
49 Missouri earned family and medical leave act and the Family
50 and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) under 29 U.S.C. Section 2601,
51 et seq., shall take family or medical leave under sections
52 285.400 to 285.440 concurrent with leave taken under the
53 FMLA.

54 8. The first payment of Missouri earned family and
55 medical leave benefits shall be made to an employee within
56 two weeks after the completed claim is received by the
57 department or the day the family or medical leave began,
58 whichever is later. Subsequent payments shall be made
59 bimonthly.

285.410. 1. (1) An employee shall establish
2 eligibility for each uninterrupted family or medical care
3 leave period by filing a first claim for benefits supported
4 by the certificate of a treating health care provider that
5 establishes the serious health condition of the family
6 member that warrants the care of the employee, or that
7 establishes the serious health condition of the employee.

8 For subsequent periods of uninterrupted leave after the
9 period covered by the initial certificate or any preceding
10 continued claim, a claimant shall file a continued claim for
11 those benefits supported by the certificate of a treating
12 health care provider.

13 (2) For employees seeking leave in order to assume a
14 familial responsibility due to a spouse, child, or parent
15 being on active duty in the uniformed services, eligibility
16 for leave shall be established by providing, in a manner
17 satisfactory to the department, proof of the family member
18 being on active duty.

19 (3) For employees seeking leave due to a serious
20 health condition related to seeking medical attention,
21 services, or counseling for victims of stalking, domestic
22 violence, abuse, or sexual assault, as such terms are
23 defined in section 455.010, or victims of trafficking for
24 purposes of sexual exploitation as described in section
25 566.209, the certificate required by subdivision (1) of this
26 subsection may be provided by any of the following:

27 (a) A health care provider;

28 (b) A court which has jurisdiction over a judicial
29 proceeding relating to the serious health condition of the
30 employee or the serious health condition of the family
31 member of the employee; or

32 (c) A law enforcement officer with knowledge of the
33 serious health condition of the employee or the serious
34 health condition of the family member of the employee.

35 2. The certificates required under subsection 1 of
36 this section shall be developed by the department. In order
37 to establish medical eligibility of the serious health
38 condition of the family member that warrants the care of the
39 employee, or to establish medical eligibility of the serious

40 health condition of the employee, the information on the
41 certificate shall be within the physician's or health care
42 provider's knowledge and shall be based on a physical
43 examination and documented medical history of the family
44 member or employee. The certificate shall contain all of
45 the following:

46 (1) A diagnosis and diagnostic code prescribed in the
47 International Classification of Diseases or, if no diagnosis
48 has yet been obtained, a detailed statement of symptoms;

49 (2) The date, if known, on which the condition
50 commenced;

51 (3) The probable duration of the condition;

52 (4) An estimate of the amount of time that the
53 physician or health care provider believes the employee
54 needs to care for the family member or himself or herself;
55 and

56 (5) If applicable, a statement that the serious health
57 condition warrants the participation of the employee to
58 provide care for his or her family member.

59 3. The department shall develop a certificate form
60 that is separate and distinct from the certificate required
61 in subsection 1 of this section for an employee taking leave
62 to bond with a minor child within the first year of the
63 child's birth or placement in connection with foster care or
64 adoption.

65 4. Any claim of an individual who obtains care and
66 treatment outside the state shall be supported by a
67 certificate of a treating health care provider duly licensed
68 or certified by the state or foreign country in which the
69 claimant is receiving care and treatment.

70 5. Nothing in this section shall be construed to
71 preclude the department from requesting additional medical

72 evidence to supplement any claim. Any cost incurred for
73 procuring additional medical evidence shall be paid by the
74 employee. The department may require that the additional
75 evidence include any or all of the following:

76 (1) Identification of diagnoses;
77 (2) Identification of symptoms;
78 (3) A statement setting forth the facts of the serious
79 health condition of the employee or such employee's family
80 member, which shall be completed by any of the following
81 individuals:

82 (a) The health care provider treating the employee or
83 family member of the employee;

84 (b) The registrar, authorized medical officer, or
85 other duly authorized official of the hospital or health
86 care facility treating the employee or family member of the
87 employee; or

88 (c) An examining physician or other representative of
89 the department;

90 (4) An affidavit from an employee averring that the
91 employee or such employee's spouse gave birth to a child or
92 has adopted or received a child in connection with foster
93 care.

285.415. Employees shall provide at least thirty days
2 advance notice to their employer before family and medical
3 leave is to begin if the need for the leave is foreseeable.
4 If thirty days notice is not practicable, notice shall be
5 given to the employer as soon as practicable.

285.420. 1. Except as provided in subsection 4 of
2 this section, an employee may file a notice of appeal from
3 any determination of eligibility for benefits made by the
4 department with the administrative hearing commission
5 pursuant to chapter 621. Such appeal shall be made by mail

6 or in person within thirty days after the date on which a
7 copy of the department's decision was received by the
8 employee.

9 2. The administrative hearing commission's proposed
10 decision and order shall be final and not subject to further
11 appeal, unless within thirty days after the decision is
12 served on the interested parties, a party files a petition
13 for judicial review as provided in chapter 536.

14 3. A determination of the amount of benefits payable
15 under sections 285.400 to 285.440 shall not serve as a basis
16 for appeal under this section. However, the determination
17 shall be subject to request by the employee on family or
18 medical leave for redetermination by the department at any
19 time within one year from the date of delivery or mailing of
20 such determination, or any redetermination thereof. A
21 redetermination shall be furnished to the individual in
22 writing.

23 4. A denial of benefits shall become final in the
24 absence of timely appeal therefrom. The department may
25 redetermine a denial of benefits at any time within one year
26 from delivery or mailing of such denial to correct an error
27 in identity, omission of fact, or misapplication of law with
28 respect to the facts.

29 5. A determination of allowance of benefits shall
30 become final in the absence of timely appeal therefrom. The
31 department may redetermine such allowance at any time within
32 two years following the application year in which such
33 allowance was made in order to recover any benefits for
34 which recovery is provided under this section.

35 6. A redetermination of benefits may be made at any
36 time for any of the following reasons:

37 (1) To conform to a final court decision applicable to
38 either an initial determination or a determination of denial
39 or allowance of benefits;

40 (2) In the event of a back pay award or settlement
41 affecting the allowance of benefits; or

42 (3) In the case of misrepresentation or willful
43 failure to report a material fact.

44 Written notice of any such redetermination shall be promptly
45 given by mail or delivered to such interested parties as
46 were notified of the initial determination of denial or
47 allowance of benefits and any new interested party or
48 parties who, under such rule as the department may adopt,
49 would be an interested party.

285.425. 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to
2 the contrary, it shall be unlawful for any person to
3 discharge or in any other manner discriminate against an
4 employee because the employee has made a claim for,
5 indicated an intent to make a claim for, or received
6 Missouri earned family and medical leave benefits.

7 2. (1) Any person who violates the provisions of
8 subsection 1 of this section shall be liable to any employee
9 of such person who is affected by the violation for such
10 equitable relief as may be appropriate including employment,
11 reinstatement, or promotion and for damages equal to the sum
12 of:

13 (a) The amount of:

14 a. Any wages, salary, employment benefits, or other
15 compensation denied or lost to such individual by reason of
16 the violation; or

17 b. In a case in which wages, salary, employment
18 benefits, or other compensation have not been denied or lost

19 to the individual, any actual monetary losses sustained by
20 the individual as a direct result of the violation, such as
21 the cost of providing care, up to a sum equal to sixty
22 calendar days of wages or salary for the individual;

23 (b) The interest on the amount described in paragraph
24 (a) of this subdivision, such interest rate being equal to
25 the market rate as determined by the director of the
26 division of finance under section 408.030; and

27 (c) An additional amount as liquidated damages equal
28 to the sum of the amount described in paragraph (a) of this
29 subdivision and the interest described in paragraph (b) of
30 this subdivision, except that if a person who has violated
31 subsection 1 of this section proves to the satisfaction of
32 the court that the act or omission was in good faith and
33 that the person had reasonable grounds for believing that
34 the act or omission was not a violation, such court may
35 reduce the amount of such liquidated damages.

36 (2) The court may additionally require reasonable
37 attorney's fees, expert witness fees, and other court costs
38 to be paid by a defendant.

39 3. An action to recover the relief prescribed in
40 subsection 2 of this section may be maintained against any
41 person in any court of competent jurisdiction by the
42 employee affected.

43 4. The department may bring an action seeking relief
44 on behalf of an employee under this section. The right to
45 bring an action provided under subsection 3 of this section
46 shall terminate upon the filing of a complaint by the
47 department. If any damages are recovered in such action,
48 such damages shall be held in a special deposit account and
49 paid directly to each employee affected.

50 5. An action may be brought under this section not
51 later than three years after the date of the alleged
52 violation for which the action is brought. An action
53 brought under this section shall be considered to be
54 commenced on the date when the complaint is filed.

285.430. 1. The department shall develop and
2 implement an outreach program to ensure that employees who
3 may be eligible to receive Missouri earned family and
4 medical leave benefits under sections 285.400 to 285.440 are
5 made aware of such benefits. Outreach information shall
6 easily explain eligibility requirements, the claims process,
7 weekly benefit amounts, maximum benefits payable, notice and
8 medical certification requirements, reinstatement and
9 nondiscrimination rights, confidentiality, and the
10 relationship between employment protection, leave from
11 employment, wage replacement benefits, and other laws,
12 collective bargaining agreements, and employer policies.

13 2. Not later than January 1, 2033, the state auditor
14 shall submit to the general assembly a report on the
15 Missouri earned family and medical leave benefits paid for
16 any month during the one-year period beginning on January 1,
17 2030. The report shall include the following:

18 (1) An identification of the total number of
19 applications for such benefits filed, and the average number
20 of days between when an application is received and when a
21 determination is made;

22 (2) An identification of the total number of requests
23 for review of an initial adverse determination of
24 eligibility for such benefits made, and the average number
25 of days between when such review is requested and when a
26 final determination of eligibility is made; and

27 (3) An identification of the total number of monthly
28 benefit claim reports for such benefits filed, and the
29 average number of days between the date such report is
30 received and the date on which the initial determination of
31 eligibility with respect to the claim report is made.

285.435. 1. (1) There is hereby created in the state
2 treasury the "Missouri Earned Family and Medical Leave
3 Fund", which shall consist of money collected under this
4 section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the
5 fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the
6 state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall
7 be a dedicated fund and money in the fund shall be used
8 solely by the department of labor and industrial relations
9 for the purpose of distributing Missouri earned family and
10 medical leave program benefits.

15 2. (1) In order to provide funding to implement the
16 provisions of sections 285.400 to 285.440, employees shall
17 contribute one quarter of one percent of their average
18 weekly pay to the Missouri earned family and medical leave
19 fund beginning January 1, 2028.

25 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 285.405
26 to the contrary, if there is not sufficient resources in the
27 fund, the department may, at its discretion, reduce the

28 benefit amount each employee is eligible to receive. If the
29 benefit amount is reduced, each employee shall receive the
30 same percent of his or her average weekly wage.

31 (4) No employee shall receive benefits from the fund
32 until January 1, 2030.

33 3. The provisions of sections 23.250 to 23.598 shall
34 not apply to sections 285.400 to 285.440.

285.440. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term
2 is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the
3 authority delegated in sections 285.400 to 285.435 shall
4 become effective only if it complies with and is subject to
5 all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
6 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are
7 nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the
8 general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay
9 the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are
10 subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
11 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after
12 November 5, 2026, shall be invalid and void.

Section B. This act is hereby submitted to the
2 qualified voters of this state for approval or rejection at
3 an election which is hereby ordered and which shall be held
4 and conducted on Tuesday next following the first Monday in
5 November, 2026, pursuant to the laws and constitutional
6 provisions of this state for the submission of referendum
7 measures by the general assembly, and this act shall become
8 effective when approved by a majority of the votes cast
9 thereon at such election and not otherwise.

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