

SENATE COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL NO: SB 979

SPONSOR: Schroer

HEARING DATE: 3/3/2026

COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues and Professional Registration	
CHAIRMAN: Brown (16)	
DATE REFERRED: 1/8/2026	DATE HEARING REQUESTED:

STAFF:

Ashley Bax
Katie O'Brien

WITNESSES GIVING INFORMATION:

WITNESSES FOR:

James Wallis
Arnie AC Dienoff
William Marrs - Mercy Health Systems
Mark Fiegenbaum - MO Farm Bureau
Jessica Petrie - Kids Win Missouri
Marcy Markes
Jaimie Cavanaugh - Pacific Legal Foundation
Dawn Pfeffer Wright
Matthew Dowd - IAFF Local No 42 Firefighter Kansas City
William Bates
Jay Hardenbrook - AARP
Jamey Murphy - MO Hospital Association
Suzanne Opperman - Suzanne's Mental Health Wellness, LLC
Deborah Blinzler - Deborah Blinzler Advanced Practice Nurse Provider Rural Missouri and MO APRNFPA
John Armbruster - John Armbruster
Karen White - Missouri Highlands Health Care
Sheila Armbruster
Samuel Lee - Campaign Life Missouri
Laurie Sparr
Garrett Webb
Heidi Lucas - MO Rural Health Association
Margaret Benz
Karin Riepe
Marsha Burriss - MO Nurse Practitioners
Carla Moore Beckerle
Derek Leffert - Association of MO Nurse Practitioners
Doug Mann

CHAIRMAN

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Kyna Iman

Jeanne Wiggins

WITNESSES AGAINST:

George Hubbell

Emily George

Keith Ratcliff - MO Academy of Family Physicians

Elizabeth Stover Lucore - MO Osteopathic Assoc of Physicians and Surgeons

Brian Biggans

Jay Devineni - MSMA

Samantha DeLuca - MO Association of Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons

Rachel Kylo

CHAIRMAN