Lawmakers Discuss Economic Development Legislation

Intro: Legislative leaders from both sides of the aisle state that bringing more jobs to the Show-Me state will continue to be a priority in two thousand sixteen. Jonathan Lorenz reports from the state capitol on how lawmakers hope to achieve the goal of making Missouri more competitive in the job market.

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((NATS))

With legislative action returning to the State Capitol, one of the agenda items on the to-do lists of many lawmakers is economic development and job creation.

While Missouri’s unemployment rate ranks below the national average, lawmakers continue to strive to do whatever they can to attract new jobs to Missouri.

The top lawmaker in the Missouri Senate aims to make Missouri more attractive in the eyes of job creators through targeted tax relief.

Super: Sen. Ron Richard

(R) Joplin

*“The Senate is willing to look at additional tax relief… businesses need some help, this hasn’t been the greatest economy in the last four, five, six years.*

*We think incentivizing the businesses to hire people as part of tax relief, I think that will be part of our discussion too.”*

However the top Democrat in the Missouri Senate aims to take a different approach to bringing jobs to the Show-Me state, he believes it is done through improving social services.

Super: Sen. Joseph Keaveny

(D) St. Louis

*“Missouri needs to invest in expanding healthcare and funding education so that businesses will relocate to a healthy, well-educated state.”*

Legislative proposals begin moving through the Senate as committees hear its first round of bills and proposals this week… reporting from the State Capitol, I’m Jonathan Lorenz.