

December 12, 2022

Good morning.

Prefiling for the 2023 legislative session started on December 1 with a flurry of bills being filed in the first two days. As of this morning, a total of 796 bills have been filed: 413 in the House and 383 in the Senate. This is an extremely low number of bills at this point. Speaker gossip is Dean Plocher has requested bills are not filed simply to make points. This could be cutting down on some of the ruffraff.

High priority policy areas likely up for debate next year will include expansion of gaming and sports wagering, the elimination of the personal property tax, property tax assessments, critical race theory, election and initiative petition reform, elimination of the certificate of need laws and education reform.

Your custom URL to track bills filed that relate to your industry or areas of interest is <https://www.govwatch.net/report/27296>.

Our government affairs team is contacting you separately about high priority bills separately and immediately. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns when you have time. The 2023 regular legislative session starts on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

Thanks and have a great week!

### **Tidbits...**

- Last week, Governor Parson announced the availability of \$10 million in grant funding through the Department of Public Safety. This funding can be used for maintenance and improvements for county jails throughout the state. The grant requires a local match of 50 percent. Local American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds may be utilized for the local match. In-kind matches (soft match) must be directly related to the project and may be retroactive to March 2020. No supplanting is permitted. Eligible grant expenditures include equipment, supplies, and contractual expenses to support county jail maintenance and improvements. Grant recipients will be notified of their awards in March 2023. Grant funds must be expended by June 30, 2026.
- Senator Roy Blunt delivered his farewell address in Washington on the Senate floor last week. Senator Blunt is retiring following the end of his current term, which ends in January. He was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 2010. Before that, he served seven terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, even achieving a leadership position as the House's Majority Whip. A video of his full speech may be found [here](#).
- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently released new maps showing what areas of the state have, and do not have, access to broadband. Individual addresses can be searched in the map. If citizens believe the map is not correct, they have until Friday, January 13, 2023, to file a challenge by calling the Office of Broadband Development. The map may be viewed [here](#). There will also be a full webinar to walk through the challenge process on Friday December 16<sup>th</sup> and you can register for it [here](#).
- Chick-fil-A Supply, LLC, a subsidiary and distribution service provider of Chick-fil-A, Inc., announced it will open a new distribution center in Maryland Heights, investing \$16 million and creating more than 60 new jobs. The 100,000-square-foot facility will be used to serve more than 40 Chick-fil-A restaurants across the St. Louis area. The new Maryland Heights

facility, located in Riverport Trade Center, will be Chick-fil-A Supply's fourth location in the country.

**Budget Update:**

Governor Mike Parson and legislative budget leaders have announced the state's consensus revenue estimate (CRE) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. The annual CRE is a figure established by state budget experts and is one of the basic assumptions used by the Governor and legislative leaders to build and balance Missouri's budget. Projected general revenue collections is the key figure in determining the CRE. The FY 2024 projected general revenue collection is expected to be \$13.2 billion. This represents a 0.7 percent net general revenue growth over the estimated revenue for FY 2023. Many have speculated the conservative CRE number is indicative of an economic slowdown in FY 2024.

The state is also sitting on a massive surplus thanks, in part, to federal COVID policies and the rapid growth in state revenues. The balance in the general revenue fund grew to \$4.9 billion at the end of November, up about \$150 million from the October balance, with another \$1.5 billion in funds that have few restrictions. Several lawmakers are already beginning to talk about ways to use the surplus funding. Governor Parson will detail his proposed FY 2024 budget during his annual State of the State address delivered to the General Assembly in mid-January.

**Upcoming Hearings:**

Nothing posted to date.

**Key Upcoming Dates:**

- January 4, 2023 – First day of MO Legislative Session
- March 1, 2023 - End of Bill Filing
- March 10 -19, 2023 – Legislative Spring Break
- May 5, 2023 – Appropriations bills must be truly agreed & finally passed by 6 pm
- May 12, 2023 – 2023 Legislative Session ends at 6pm

--

Brittany Robbins  
Strategic Capitol Consulting (SCC)  
Government Affairs, Communications, Operations  
314-712-8646

[brittany@strategiclobby.com](mailto:brittany@strategiclobby.com)

[www.strategiclobby.com](http://www.strategiclobby.com)