

June 17, 2022

Good morning!

I hope you're enjoying the summer months and catching a reprieve from the heatwave. Below is an update on the bills Governor Parson signed into law this week.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks and have a great weekend!

HB 2005 - Modifies provisions for eminent domain for utility purposes

Governor Mike Parson signed several bills into law this week.

The first piece of legislation was HB 2005. The bill expands protections under the law for Missouri's farm and ranch families in certain eminent domain proceedings and contains several provisions that modify state statute as it relates to the use of eminent domain by certain electrical utilities. Specifically, the bill specifies:

- Electrical corporations must have a substation or converter station in Missouri that provides an amount of energy proportional to the length of their transmission line within the state;
- Electrical corporations must secure necessary financial commitments within seven years of when an involuntary easement is obtained or the easement must be returned to the original title holder without repayment to the utility;
- The compensation rate for agricultural or horticultural land is increased to 150 percent of the fair market value, which is determined by the court; and
- In condemnation proceedings where disinterested commissioners are appointed, at least one member must be a local farmer who has operated in the county for at least 10 years.

Governor Parson also signed six additional bills into law this week during bill signing ceremonies at the Capitol.

SB 718 - Designates Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Week and modifies provision regarding higher education:

Designates the third week of September as HBCU week to raise awareness of HBCUs in Missouri. This legislation also allows the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development to assist students with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act application process, promoting career and technical education in Missouri.

Additionally, SB 718 makes several other modifications to state statute:

- Creates a \$3,000 maximum tax credit for physicians who provide preceptorship training to medical students;
- Establishes the "Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment Scholarship Act" and provides qualifying students a scholarship equal to the tuition and fees paid for dual enrollment courses;
- Requires Missouri high schools to offer a minimum of one computer science course to students;

- Allows postsecondary institutions and associated employees to assist with opportunities for student-athletes to earn compensation for their name, image, and likeness;
- Creates the Workforce Diploma Program to help adults obtain a high school diploma;
- Requires Missouri K-12 and public higher education institutions to post the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline number on student ID cards;
- Requires Missouri public higher education institutions to grant course credit to any student who scores a three or higher on an advanced placement examination; and
- Provides bankruptcy protections for Missouri 529 college savings plans.

SB 799 - Modifies the offense of escaping from custody:

- Adds to the offense of escaping from custody individuals who are held for parole or probation violations.

HB 2162 - Opioid addiction treatment:

- Allows the Department of Health and Senior Services Director to issue a standing order for Naltrexone; and
- Allows the Department of Corrections and Judiciary to use the Opioid Addiction Fund if appropriated by the General Assembly.

SB 725 - Modifies provision relating to ground ambulance services:

- Prohibits a newly elected ambulance board member from running for reelection if they do not attend ambulance board member training; and
- Modifies the Ground Ambulance Reimbursement Allowance to allow ambulance districts to maintain up to \$10 million in provider tax funding coming into the state.

HB 1472 - Modifies provisions relating to the offense of money laundering:

Changes state money laundering statute to account for new technologies, including cryptocurrencies. This will also give prosecutors more tools to combat human trafficking in the state.

SB 655 - Modifies provisions relating to Missouri Local Government Employees' Retirement System:

Allows political subdivisions to elect to cover emergency telecommunications, jailors, and Emergency Management Services employees under the LAGERS retirement system.

Governor Mike Parson will continue analyzing legislation that was passed during the 2022 legislative session and determine whether to sign or veto the bills. Appropriation decisions must be rendered by June 30th and policy decisions will be made by July 14th. If signed into law, the provisions of each signed bill will become effective on August 28, 2022, unless the legislation contained an emergency clause or included a specific effective date.

Statistical Breakdown:

Total number of bills, concurrent resolutions, and joint resolutions proposed: 2,252

* Senate: 657

* House: 1,595

Total number of bills passed: 62

* Senate: 18

* House: 44 (19 of these bills are Appropriation Bills)

Total number of bills signed by the Governor to date: 14

Tidbits

- Two years before the gubernatorial election, Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe has received yet another endorsement, this time from the Missouri Asphalt Pavement Association (MAPA). On issuing the early endorsement for the 2024 election, MAPA leadership cited Kehoe's business background and career-long advocacy for critical infrastructure needs. Kehoe has recently received early 2024 endorsements from other leading advocacy organizations. Including the Associated General Contractors of Missouri, American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri, Missouri Limestone Producers Association, Missouri Cattlemen's Association, Missouri Soybean Association, Missouri Corn Growers Association, Missouri Agribusiness Association, Missouri Fraternal Order of Police, and Missouri State Council of Fire Fighters.
- Missouri's largest and most influential anti-abortion organization is backing primary challengers to several incumbent GOP state senators, citing votes against stripping funding from Planned Parenthood through state law. In letters sent last week to candidates, the Missouri Right to Life Political Action Committee informed some they were selected "as the only candidate in your race who will be an effective voice for the protection of innocent human life." Of the 17 state Senate seats up this year, six are held by Republican incumbents who face primary challengers: Sens. Mike Bernskoetter of Jefferson City, Justin Brown of Rolla, Mike Cierpiot of Lee's Summit, Sandy Crawford of Buffalo, Lincoln Hough of Springfield and Bill White of Joplin.
- This week, Governor Mike Parson announced two appointments to the Regional Convention and Sports Complex Authority and filled one county office vacancy. **Cheston Easter**, of Princeton, was appointed as the **Mercer County First District Commissioner**. **Leah Reynolds Harris**, of St. Louis, was appointed to the **Regional Convention and Sports Complex Authority**. **Phillip Torrisi**, of St. Louis was appointed to the **Regional Convention and Sports Complex Authority**.
- Representative Doug Richey (R- Excelsior Springs) announced this week he will run to be 2025-2026 Speaker of the House. Richey has represented House District (HD) 38 for two terms. He's running unopposed for his third term in HD 39 after redistricting.

Upcoming Committee Hearings:

06/22/2022 1:00 PM [Joint Committee on Agriculture Committee Hearing](#), Joint Committee Room (Room 117)

The committee will focus on the economic impact of Missouri's agriculture on the state, environmental stewardship, and policy considerations with testimony/presentations from various Missouri agricultural teams.

Key Upcoming Dates:

- July 1, 2022 - First day of Fiscal Year 2023
- July 14, 2022 - Last day for the Governor to Sign or Veto Bills
- August 28, 2022 - Date Most Legislation Takes Effect (unless another date is specified)

- September 14, 2022 – Veto Session

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