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June 9, 2023



Hello K.D.,

I hope this email finds you well! **Happy Pride Month to all who celebrate!** I can't tell you what an absolute joy it is to represent such a welcoming, inclusive community that makes space for all sorts of amazing folks to live authentically.



While I'm unfortunately unable to attend any of the events this weekend, I really encourage you to [check](#)



out KC Pride for more information on the Pride Parade Saturday and/or PrideFest going on today through Sunday!

As always, thanks for checking in. Please don't hesitate to reach out if there's anything I can do for you.

Take Care,

**Representative Ashley Aune**  
District 14 | (573) 751-3618

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## Legislative Update

### PARSON SIGNS PAIR OF BILLS TARGETING TRANSGENDER CHILDREN

Gov. Mike Parson on June 7 privately signed into law one bill prohibiting gender-affirming care for transgender minors, as well as a second bill barring transgender athletes from competing on sports teams that don't correspond with their birth gender. Parson, a Republican, signed the bills during the first full week of LGBTQ Pride Month.

During a subsequent news conference, Parson told reporters **he didn't talk to any transgender individuals or their families about how the legislation will affect them prior to signing it into law**, according to the [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#). Parson also said he avoided the public signing ceremony typical of high-profile legislation because of the controversial nature of the issue.

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### PARSON ELEVATES ACTING AGENCY DIRECTORS TO PERMANENT STATUS

Gov. Mike Parson on June 1 formally appointed Robert Knodell as director of the Missouri Department of Social Services and Paula Nickerson as director of the Missouri Department of

### JUDGE RULES AG LACKED AUTHORITY TO STOP ANTI-COVID EFFORTS

In a scathing 18-page opinion, a Jackson County judge on May 26 ruled former Missouri Attorney General Eric **Schmitt acted without any legal authority** in late 2021 when he ordered public school districts throughout the state to end measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. To the contrary, the judge said **school districts acted in full accordance with the powers granted them under state law**, while Schmitt improperly attempted to interfere with their authority.

During the height of the pandemic, Schmitt made challenging local COVID-19 mitigation efforts the centerpiece of his U.S. Senate campaign. He subsequently won election to the Senate in November 2022 and resigned as attorney general in January.

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### GOVERNOR PICKS TOP AIDE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Gov. Mike Parson appointed Dr. Kayla Hahn, a senior member of his staff, to the Missouri Public Service

Health and Senior Services. Both Knodell and Nickerson have been running their respective agencies for well over a year as acting department directors.

Giving Knodell and Nickerson the **“acting” director tags allowed them to circumvent Senate confirmation.** With that designation now removed, the confirmation process will go forward when the Senate reconvenes in January.

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Commission on June 1. Hahn can immediately begin serving on the commission, which is the independent regulatory authority for investor-owned utilities in the state, but faces Senate confirmation when the 2024 legislative session gets underway in January.

Hahn, who holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia, had served as Parson’s policy director since August 2018. Prior to joining the Governor’s Office, she had worked as assistant director and an analyst in the state Senate’s Division of Research.

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## Missouri Mobile ID



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Mobile ID keeps user data secure and protects personal information by only storing info with the Missouri Department of Revenue and on the user's device.

Mobile ID offers the convenience of contactless transactions when verifying your identity. Mobile ID allows you to have up-to-date versions of your license, like after an address change or license renewal, while you wait for your printed card to arrive in the mail.

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## Health and Wellness

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SPORTS  
PHYSICALS**

- Must live in Platte County.
- Uninsured or Medicaid.
- If a new patient, must present proof of income and residency.
- Must complete MSHAA form: <https://tinyurl.com/mr4abjp9>.
- Available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Call 816.858.2412 to make an appointment.

**FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS**

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