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DISTRICT 14 **ASHLEY AUNE**
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CAPITOL REPORT

August 4, 2023



I joined a legislative panel at the annual conference for the Missouri Council of Career and Technical Administrators (MCCTA) in Springfield last week to discuss how we can invest in and expand educational opportunities.

Hello K.D.,

I hope this email finds you well! It's been a busy few weeks! **Kansas Citians just welcomed in a brand new city council, Chiefs training camp is in full swing, and the heat and humidity has some of us wondering if we'll ever have a good hair day again...**

I've also spent a lot of time talking with folks around the state about **how we can solve one of our biggest economic challenges: the labor shortage**. From a panel on career and technical education in Springfield, to a Missouri Chamber of Commerce event on the absolutely critical child care tax credits the legislature failed to pass this year—it's clear we've got a lot of work to do to better support Missouri businesses and workers.

Don't forget, **this weekend is Missouri's sales tax holiday for back-to-school**

shopping. Read more below.

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

Legislative Update

LAWSUIT SET TO CHALLENGE RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSGENDER CARE

Legal groups representing transgender youth, their families and medical providers are poised to file a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a **new Missouri law making it illegal to provide gender-affirming health care to minors.** Since the law is set to take effect Aug. 28, a hearing prior to that date is expected once the case is filed.

[Senate Bill 49](#) bans gender-affirming surgery for minors, which currently only happens in rare situations. It also imposes a four-year ban on the use of puberty-blocking drugs and hormone therapy for transitioning minors, although those who started transitioning before the bill takes effect can continue treatment.

The Republican-controlled General Assembly enacted SB 49, along with a separate legislation restricting participation in school sports by transgender athletes at any level, in May. Gov. **Mike Parson quietly signed both measures into in early June.** The legislation was part of **national effort by GOP-controlled states to restrict the rights of transgender residents.** The case challenging SB 49 is *Emily Noe, et al., v. Michael L. Parson, et al.*

STATE OFFICIALS FINALLY ALLOW ABORTION RIGHTS PETITION TO PROCEED

State officials on July 26 finally signed off an initiative effort that seeks to put a proposed constitutional amendment protecting abortion rights on next year's statewide ballot. The final certification of the petitions came nearly two months after the May 1 statutory deadline by which the job was supposed to have been completed due to **procedural obstruction by Republican officeholders,** with further delays still looming.

The Missouri Supreme Court eliminated one obstacle on July 20 when it ruled Attorney General Andrew Bailey had no legal authority to try to force State Treasurer Scott Fitzpatrick to drastically inflate the estimated cost to taxpayers of enshrining abortion rights in the state constitution.

However, the delays continue as the petition sponsors challenge slanted ballot language by Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft prepared for measures claiming they would "allow for dangerous, unregulated and unrestricted abortions" and "nullify longstanding Missouri law protecting the right to life." **State law requires ballot language to be a "true and impartial statement** of the purposes of the proposed measure" and not

SITTING JUDGES DOMINATE APPLICANT POOL FOR HIGH COURT SPOT

Twenty-two people – including 15 sitting judges – have applied for the vacancy on the Missouri Supreme Court being created by the Aug. 1 retirement of Judge George Draper III. Nearly all of the judges in the candidate pool – nine of whom sit on the Missouri Court of Appeals – were appointed to their current positions by Republican Gov. Mike Parson.

The commission consists of Chief Justice Mary Rhodes Russell, three attorneys elected by The Missouri Bar and three non-lawyers appointed by the governor. The commission will submit the names of three finalists from the applicant pool to the governor, who must appoint one of them within 60 days. If he fails to do so, the selection is forfeited to the commission.

include argumentative or prejudicial language.

Sales Tax Holiday



WHAT ELECTRONICS QUALIFY FOR SALES TAX HOLIDAY?

- computers
- laptops
- disk drives
- display monitors
- microphones
- modems
- mouse
- multimedia speakers
- scanners
- storage drives
- tablets
- video cards



WHAT SCHOOL SUPPLIES QUALIFY FOR SALES TAX HOLIDAY?

- art supplies
- backpacks
- book bags
- dry erase markers
- globes
- glue
- handheld calculators
- inkjet refills
- lunch boxes
- paper
- scissor
- USB flash drives



Missouri Tax-Free weekend is August 4–6! Certain back-to-school purchases, such as clothing, school supplies, computers, and other items are exempt from sales tax for this time period.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Kansas City Residents

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARINGS

FIRST DISTRICT



Thursday, Aug. 24
6 - 8 p.m.

KCPD North Patrol
11000 NW Prairie View Rd

Monday, Sept. 11
6 - 8 p.m.

Shoal Creek Golf Course
8905 Shoal Creek Pkwy

[KCMO.GOV/PIAC](https://kcmo.gov/piac)



PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PIAC) MEETINGS

Join newly-elected First District* Council Members Kevin O'Neill and Nathan Willett for public hearings to share community improvement suggestions.

Eligible Requests:

- stormwater drainage/flooding
- bridges
- public property improvements
- street/roadway improvements
- municipal building improvements
- community centers
- street lighting and traffic lights
- sidewalks, curbs, and gutters
- park facility improvements
- monuments and fountains
- ball fields and swimming pools

If you are unsure about the eligibility of your request, feel free to reach out to the PIAC Office to inquire:

piac@kcmo.org
(816) 513-1062

LEARN MORE

*To find out which council district you're in, [click here](#) and scroll down to the map that takes effect Aug. 1, 2023.

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Ready to broaden your horizons? AFS is still looking for families to host with us this fall!

[Click here to get started!](#)

Health and Wellness

FREE VACCINE TRANSPORTATION

FOR CLAY AND PLATTE COUNTY RESIDENTS

Transportation is provided for residents 60 years and older who live in an independent residence.

Rides must be scheduled by 2 p.m. the business day prior to your appointment. A 50-mile limit will apply

To Schedule

Clay County: 913.262.8600

Platte County: 816.270.2800



PLATTE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Free vaccine transportation for Clay and Platte County residents. Transportation is provided for residents 60 years and older who live in an independent residence. Rides must be scheduled by 2 p.m. the business day prior to your appointment. A 50-mile limit will apply. To schedule for Clay County, call 913.262.8600 and for Platte County, call 816.270.2800.



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