



September 08, 2023

## Capitol Report

Hi All,

I hope you enjoyed your Labor Day week! I'm thankful to represent hard workers from a diverse group of industries.

Last week, I was invited to be a guest at a reception honoring Black Women in elected leadership at the home of Vice President Kamala Harris. I saw old friends and made new ones. I appreciate the camaraderie of Black women who band together for the good of the people. Next week, I'll be back in Jefferson City for Veto Session, where the general assembly will consider overriding legislation vetoed by the Governor.

I look forward to returning to the Capitol and reconnecting with my colleagues. As always, reach out to my office if you have any questions or concerns I can assist you with.

Sincerely,



Jamie J. Johnson

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## Topline News



**I'm honored to have been invited by Vice President Kamala Harris to a Reception celebrating Black Women in Elected Leadership last week.**



**Vice President Harris with the Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff**





**Got to catch up with State Senator Angela Walton Mosley!**

**It was great meeting the former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congresswoman Joyce Beatty.**





**Ran into another trailblazer, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre. She is the first Black person and openly gay person to hold the position.**

## **This Week in Jefferson City**

### **Little action expected in legislature's upcoming veto session**

The Missouri General Assembly will convene for its annual veto session on Sept. 13 with no serious efforts to override any of the governor's vetoes expected. Gov. Mike Parson, a Republican, rejected just a single bill lawmakers enacted during their spring legislative session while issuing 179 line-item budget vetoes. The governor's budget actions struck \$555.3 million in spending authority from the FY 2024 state budget. However, the remaining \$51 billion budget still includes record-high state spending and is roughly \$3 billion more than the \$48 billion budget originally authorized for FY 2023. Few of the budget vetoes were high-profile or controversial and many eliminated spending Parson did not request but that individual lawmakers added for the benefit of their districts. One of the more significant vetoes struck \$28 million for improvements along Interstate 44. He also eliminated millions of dollars in state funding for a variety of local infrastructure projects around the state and rejected providing State Highway Patrol and Capitol Police officers with pay increases exceeding the 8.7 percent given to all state workers. Reconsideration of the budget vetoes will begin in the House of Representatives. Although it's expected some lawmakers will bring up for debate individual items affecting their communities, any override motions that are successful in the House aren't anticipated to pass in the Senate. Since Parson became governor in 2018, the House has voted to override nine of his line-item vetoes, but all of those efforts died in the Senate. A successful override requires the support of two-thirds supermajorities in the both chambers – 109 votes in the House and 23 in the Senate. The only full bill Parson vetoed this

year, Senate Bill 189, was a 142-page omnibus crime bill. Since the bulk of its provisions are in other legislation the governor signed into law, the Senate isn't expected to consider overriding. However, several key provisions of SB 189 didn't make it into law elsewhere, including those to create a statewide conviction review unit, crackdown on celebratory gunfire, streamline expungement proceedings and expand compensation for the wrongfully convicted. It also sought to make it a felony to harm a police dog, even if acting in self-defense in response to an illegal or unjustified attack ordered by the animal's handler. Although a veto session can last up to 10 days under the Missouri Constitution, they typically are over in a few hours. Last year's veto session proved a rare exception, however, when shortly after it convened Republican legislative leaders unexpectedly recessed for eight days to continue negotiations over a special legislative session on tax cuts that was taking place around the same time. Lawmakers ultimately concluded the veto session with no override attempts.

### **Net state revenue down 2 percent two months into FY 2024**

Net state general revenue collections for the first two months of the 2024 fiscal year decreased 2 percent compared to the same period in FY 2023, going from \$1.98 billion last year to \$1.94 billion this year. Collections had been down 7.4 percent through the first month of FY 2024, but modest growth in August helped to offset the decline. Net general revenue collections in August 2023 increased 3.1 percent compared to August 2022, going from \$1.01 billion last year to \$1.04 billion this year. Although individual and corporate income tax collections were down slightly, the losses for the month were covered by a collective 19.1 percent increase in various other state taxes and a 34.8 percent drop in tax refunds compared to last August.

Feel free to contact my office with your questions or requests.

573-751-9760



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