
DISTRICT 14 **ASHLEY AUNE**
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CAPITOL REPORT

April 2, 2024



Hello All,

IF YOU HAVEN'T VOTED YET, THERE'S STILL TIME! Polls are open until 7PM tonight!

In Platte County, we've got two open Park Hill School Board seats to vote on as well as two Platte Co. Board of Health Trustees. Confirm your voter registration and find your polling location [HERE](#).

I hope this email finds you well. Due to the Easter holiday, it's a short week in the legislature. **Today, we're perfecting the budget in the House. As a reminder, our only constitutional obligation as a legislative body each session is to pass a budget before 6PM on May 17th.**

We are (once again) behind schedule despite the Speaker calling the Budget Committee members down for committee to "work ahead" in December—a strategy which could only be thought up by a speaker who has never served on the committee. My guess is we will third read these bills on Thursday and send them to the Senate.

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

Take Care,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ashley Aune".

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

Legislative Updates

LAWMAKERS SEEK TO FIX PROPERTY TAX CREDIT PASSED LAST YEAR

Some recently enacted county ordinances providing a property tax credit to eligible senior citizens could be invalidated under legislation the Missouri House of Representatives approved March 28 that would modify a new law enacted last year authorizing such ordinances. The House sent the measure to the Senate on a vote of 141-2, with six members voting present.

[House Bill 2432](#) clarifies that all homeowners age 62 or older are entitled to the credit. It also bars counties from imposing a means tests on eligibility or protecting schools and other local governments from losing revenue. Because existing ordinances that do so would conflict with HB 2432 if it became law, a court could strike them down if challenged.

A county whose ordinance was invalidated could enact another one that complied with the changes. However, since providing the credit is optional on the part of counties, they wouldn't be required to do so. In some counties, the restrictions were intended to overcome opposition, and the ordinances might not have passed otherwise.

HOUSE COMMITTEE PASSES \$50 BILLION STATE OPERATING BUDGET

With limited discussion on the contents, the [House Budget Committee](#) on March 25 approved its version of a roughly \$50 billion state operating budget for the 2025 fiscal year – a plan that slashes about \$1.9 billion in spending authority from the proposed budget. Republican Gov. Mike Parson presented lawmakers in January.

HOUSE APPROVES BILLS TARGETING STL CITY POLICE AND EARNINGS TAX

The Republican-controlled Missouri House of Representatives has approved two bills targeting Democratic-run St. Louis city – one to strip the city of control over its police department and another to prohibit it from imposing its local earnings tax on people who work remotely from outside the city for city-based companies.

[House Bill 1481](#) seeks to undo a 2012 statewide vote in which 63.9 percent of Missouri voters approved ending state control of the St. Louis police department, which was put in place in 1861 as part of the pro-secession state government's attempt to suppress the strongly Union city and its black population. The bill would put the department back under the control of a five-person board consisting of four members appointed by the governor plus the city's mayor.

House Bill 1516 would prevent the city from levying its 1 percent local earnings tax on remote workers who live outside the city, a practice that is currently being litigated. Both bills, which now advance to the Senate, are sponsored by Republican lawmakers who don't live in the city.

HOUSE ADVANCES MISSOURI CROWN ACT TO THE SENATE

Without opposition, the Missouri House of Representatives approved legislation to prohibit hairstyle-based discrimination by educational institutions that receive state funding. The bill advanced to the Senate by a final tally of 144-0, with one member voting present.

Historically, the process of vetting budget bills in committee usually took several days, although in recent years pushing the bills through in a single 10- to 12-hour stretch has become more common. This year, however, House Budget Committee Chairman Cody Smith, allowed only about three hours of discussion. As a result, lawmakers had little time to ask questions about the numerous changes Smith made to the governor's proposal or offer amendments. Minority Democrats on the committee said allowing so little time to examine the plan's details amounted to bad government and poor oversight of taxpayers' money.

Among Smith changes were to cut appropriations for the state's Medicaid program by about \$575 million and allow a much smaller increase for public colleges and universities than recommended by the governor. Smith did add \$727.5 million not requested by the governor for rebuilding Interstate 44, along with a number of pet projects pushed by Republican lawmakers.

Once the budget bills clear the House, the process will move to the Senate, which is expected to undo many of Smith's spending cuts. Lawmakers face a May 10 constitutional deadline for sending a completed budget to the governor. The new fiscal year begins July 1.

Dubbed the Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair Act, or CROWN Act, [House Bill 1900](#) is aimed at preventing discrimination based on hairstyles common to certain races cultures or ethnicities. It is sponsored by state Rep. Raychel Proudie, D-Ferguson.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE WOULD CAP ASSESSMENT HIKES

The assessed value of owner-occupied residential property could increase by no more than 2 percent during a reassessment cycle under a proposed constitutional amendment the Missouri House of Representatives approved March 28 on a vote of 104-19, with 23 lawmakers voting present. If the Senate also approves it, the measure automatically would go on the Nov. 5 statewide ballot for voter approval.

[House Joint Resolution 78](#) is intended to limit sharp increases in property taxes caused by rising property values. The 2-percent cap could be exceeded to account for new construction or improvements to a particular property.

Missourians For Constitutional Freedom



MISSOURI COALITION LAUNCHES PETITION TO RESTORE REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Missourians for Constitutional Freedom is a statewide coalition working to restore the right to reproductive health care in the state. In order to do so, the coalition needs to collect 172,000 valid signatures by May 5, 2024. To help donate, volunteer and sign the petition, [click here](#).

Since the 2022 trigger ban, **Missouri does not allow for abortions, including in cases of rape and incest.** As a consequence, women with pregnancy complications are being turned away or having their care delayed because physicians fear legal prosecution. Republicans have vowed to make it harder for Missourians to amend the constitution through the initiative petition process. In recent elections, Missouri voters have used the process to pass minimum wage increase, Medicaid expansion, and marijuana legalization, which all have been opposed by the Republican Party.

Legislative Survey Results

The MISSOURI HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

2023 LEGISLATIVE SURVEY REPRESENTATIVE ASHLEY AUNE

Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to fill out a legislative survey. Your responses help me represent your interests in Jefferson City.

[Click here to view survey results](#)

If you have any questions or would like to speak in-depth about the survey results, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office.

Phone: (573) 751-3618

E-Mail: Ashley.Aune@house.mo.gov

Community Events



For a FREE program designed to:

Teach parents about Missouri's Graduated Driver License (GDL) law.

Provide the tools parents need to monitor, coach, and support their new driver.

Date	Time	Location	Scan to Register
April 19th	6:00 - 7:30 pm	KCPD East Patrol - Community Room 2640 Prospect Avenue Kansas City, MO 64127	
April 20th	9:30 - 11:00 am	KCPD South Patrol - Annex Room 9701 Marion Park Drive Kansas City, MO 64137	
April 20th	1:30 - 3:00 pm	KCPD Regional Police Academy 6885 NE Pleasant Valley Road Kansas City, MO 64119	


For more information, contact: 314-302-4542 or gawcft@umsystem.edu
www.medicine.missouri.edu/offices-programs/first-impact

If you have a new teenage driver or a teen on the verge of becoming one, we're offering you help to keep them safe on the roads.

First Impact is a 90-minute safety program aimed at reducing new driver crashes.

[Registration](#) is free but required.


Health And Wellness



National Poison Prevention Week | March 17-23, 2024

**BE PREPARED,
SAVE THE POISON
HELP LINE
1-800-222-1222**

Poison Help is Here for You.

POISON HELP 
1-800-222-1222

#NPPW24

Take less than a minute and save the Poison Help line, 1-800-222-1222, in your phone. You never know when you'll need it. Remember:

- The Poison Help line is staffed by experts
- The service is free
- It's available 24/7, 365 days a year

Resources

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

- [Apply for Medicaid](#)
- [Unclaimed Property](#)
- [IRS Free File: Do your Taxes for Free](#)
- [Missouri Housing Resources](#)
- [Report a Road Concern](#)

HEALTH SERVICES

- [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#)
- [Trans Lifeline](#)
- [The Eldercare Locator](#)
- [Opioid Treatment Program Directory](#)
- [Place Your Order for Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests](#)

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

- [Northland Assistance Center](#)
- [St. James Lutheran Church](#)
- [Platte County Health Department](#)

WEATHER SHELTERS

- [Cooling Centers](#)
- [Crisis Cold Weather Shelters](#)

PLATTE COUNTY LIBRARIES

- [Green Hills Library Center](#)
- [Parkville](#)
- [Riverside](#)