

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1482

## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN.

5483L.01I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 510.265, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the awarding of punitive damages.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 510.265, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 510.265, to read as follows:

510.265. 1. No award of punitive damages against any defendant shall exceed the greater of:

(1) Five hundred thousand dollars; or

(2) Five times the net amount of the [judgment] **compensatory damages** awarded to the plaintiff against the defendant.

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Such limitations shall not apply if the state of Missouri is the plaintiff requesting the award of punitive damages, or the defendant pleads guilty to or is convicted of a felony arising out of the acts or omissions pled by the plaintiff.

2. The provisions of this section shall not apply to civil actions brought under section 213.111 that allege a violation of section 213.040, 213.045, 213.050, or 213.070, to the extent that the alleged violation of section 213.070 relates to or involves a violation of section 213.040, 213.045, or 213.050, or subdivision (3) of section 213.070 as it relates to housing.

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.