



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1242</b>		DATE: <b>3/3/2021</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALEX KALEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>adkalen91@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/2/2021 11:23 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I believe this bill will have real and immediate impact on young people as they prepare to age out of our foster system. I have had numerous relatives involve themselves with foster care, and I believe the additional year under the state's care that this bill provides will help former foster children be far more successful when they do leave the system.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>		ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 6:12 AM</b>

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**I am in Support of this Bill.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AUX EATON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>202-624-7769</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>JUSTICE ACTION NETWORK</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>444 N CAPITOL STREET, SUITE 200</b>			
CITY: <b>WASHINGTON</b>		STATE: <b>DC</b>	ZIP: <b>20001</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CRAIG STEVENSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-397-1274</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>KIDS WIN MISSOURI</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF POLICY &amp; ADVOCACY</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1 CAMPBELL PLAZA STE 101</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63139</b>
EMAIL: <b>cstevenson@kidswinmissouri.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 8:48 PM</b>
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We support HB 1242 from Rep. Evans and thank him for bringing forward this legislation. Kids Win Missouri was active in the conversation and passage of Raise the Age during the 2018 legislative session. We understand, believe, and agree with juvenile justice advocates that by and large, minors should be treated like children and not placed in the adult criminal system. The outcomes and model used by the Division of Youth Services is one that can change the trajectory of juveniles. We appreciate Rep. Evans' work to ensure that there is clarity around the implementation funds, how juveniles currently would be treated, and for his work and conversations with the House Budget committee to ensure there is some funding available. We look forward to working with Rep. Evans and Rep. Smith to address this very important issue to ensure that our juveniles are treated equally and as they should--- children---in our justice system. We thank Rep. Evans for putting this legislation forward and I'm happy to answer any questions from the committee.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LINDA MEYER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>linda.meyer@courts.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 12:24 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I currently serve as Juvenile Officer for the Fifth Circuit. Prior to accepting the Juvenile Officer position, I was legal counsel for the Juvenile Office. I have personally witnessed the confusion and inconsistency amongst practice due to the ambiguous language in the current version of our statute pertaining to raising the age for juvenile court jurisdiction. I am grateful to Representative Evans for filing this legislation. I support the legislation, but would ask that a couple of changes be considered. Please consider further clarifying the language in 211.012 so the effective date is absolutely clear and there is no question regarding the retroactive application of the statute. In addition, the proposed language contained in 211.435.3 references the juvenile department of the circuit court having discretion for expenditures. I think this would be clearer if "juvenile department for the circuit court" was replaced with "juvenile officer" as many circuits do not have a "juvenile department." Lastly, I would ask you to consider deleting 211.435.6 As a circuit who has a community based residential program, I need the opportunity to provide services to these youth within our community. Evidence certainly supports that when a youth can remain in his/her own community, long-term outcomes are better. The current proposed language in 211.435.6 seems to limit the administration of new treatment services for seventeen year old youth to the Division of Youth Services and Children's Division. It is unfathomable to think that all seventeen year olds will be referred to the deepest end of services; therefore, I would respectfully ask that 211.435.6 be removed. In conclusion, I would like to address funding. It is not enough to simply delete the 211.438 language and think that the Juvenile Justice Preservation Fund will be sufficient to fund services for the seventeen year old population. Please consider the child welfare policy of Missouri and act in the best interests of these children - they deserve to have adequately funded, evidence based, and rehabilitative services that cannot be sustained with only the funds from the Juvenile Justice Preservation Fund. Thank you for your consideration.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LOCKE THOMPSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-301-0614</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY's</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>311 EAST HIGH STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LORI STIPP</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-435-4886</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>JACKSON COUNTY FAMILY COURT</b>		TITLE: <b>JUVENILE OFFICER, JACKSON COUNTY FAMILY COURT</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>625 EAST 26TH STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64108</b>
EMAIL: <b>lstipp@courts.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 3:50 PM</b>
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As the Juvenile Officer in Jackson County, Missouri we have encountered several of these cases under the new statute. I am supporting the bill with the changes proposed. Currently the way that statute 211.061 is written is problematic and leads to many different interpretations. This proposed change in the language to provide a clear, effective date is needed to provide certainty and time frames to the application of the law. Currently there are criminal cases on file with the adult prosecutor in which the juvenile is now over 20 years old but was seventeen at the time of the offense. These criminal cases are being legally challenged utilizing the argument surround the definition of a child, or person 17 or under, as provided in Chapter 211 and specifically 211.061. That statute could be interpreted to allow these persons, well beyond 18 years old, to be prosecuted by the Juvenile Court instead of adult court because that person was 17 in the year 2018 at the time the offense actually happened but long before the new statute even went into effect. The literal reading of the statute and the current definition of a child, without, an enactment date, can now be interpreted to allow that application of the law retroactively, which never appeared to be the intent of the legislature. This legal application has already led to a large wave of motions to dismiss in pending adult criminal cases, requesting those criminal cases now be dismissed or transferred to the juvenile court. The Juvenile Officer has no means to treat them due to their advanced age either being 18 years or over or turning age 18 within weeks. This has led to much time consuming litigation. In addition we need financial support to fund this new class of juvenile cases age 17 years. Some of the cost in handling these cases is hidden in that you also need more Juvenile Officer attorney time to analyze the case to review it and legally present it, in addition you need additional time and docket space from the judiciary to hear the cases, currently we have 3 commissioners and one Judge who are hearing all of these cases along with abuse and neglect cases and their dockets are packed and they do not have the capacity and time in the day to add more complex cases to their dockets. Another cost is comprised of the additional cost of housing any of those who are detained until their case is fully adjudicated. While we applaud the intent to define this age bracket as a juvenile, without added financial backing, it will be difficult to provide appropriate services, especially for the urban areas which are seeing many juveniles in this specific category. I can only support this bill if these needed changes are made.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARCIA HAZELHORST</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>680-6463</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>1431 SOUTHWEST BOULEVARD, SUITE 7</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65201</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>	

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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARY CHANT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI COALITION OF CHILDREN's AGENCIES</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>213 E. CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 101</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TAMMY WALDEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TRACY KING</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-353-9576</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>COLE COUNTY</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMANDA M. SODOMKA</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>636-797-6060</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>JUVENILE OFFICE OF THE 23RD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>P.O. BOX 100</b>			
CITY: <b>HILLSBORO</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63050</b>
EMAIL: <b>Amanda.Sodomka@courts.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/3/2021 2:05 PM</b>	
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I am in support of HB1242 in relation to Raise the Age legislation for juvenile cases, however only would support HB 1242 with changes to the language to clarify the RTA implementation issues and to include appropriate funding to Juvenile Offices to address the needs of the juveniles under court jurisdiction. Proposed Changes: "211.012. For purposes of this chapter, section 221.044 and original jurisdiction of the juvenile court, a person is considered a child and subject to the jurisdiction of section 211.031.1(2) or (3) if the person is alleged to have committed a violation of state law, municipal ordinance or section 211.031.1(2) on or after (date)(-which would be the effective date of the statute being changed, emergency clause adopted." I am concerned that without an effective date, the issue of whether Raise the Age implementation is retroactive and will cause unnecessary litigation and delay in the juvenile court process. "211.435-paragraph 3, line 29, change "at the discretion of the juvenile department" to "at the discretion of the juvenile officer"." Missouri statutes title juvenile authorities as "juvenile officers" rather than "juvenile department". 211.435-paragraph 6, delete. It is my information that the JJPF is a county fund for use within the circuits. There would be no new treatment services for DYS or CD as the majority of juvenile delinquency cases must use diversionary services prior to referring to DYS or CD services. The bulk of treatment and preventative services would be provided by the Juvenile Offices. The juvenile court is still responsible for providing programs and treatment up until jurisdiction is terminated or the juveniles are committed to DYS.