



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: .MIKE BOLDEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mikeump52@msn.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I being an official have been attacked by parents



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ADAM MINNICK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: adamcm21@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:37 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I would hope our leaders will show support for the needed safety of sports officials in MO. As someone who works baseball, I am horrified but the continued growth verbal harassment and even physical altercations sports officials after games. It has hurt associations from growth of sports officials memberships.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANDREW SELZER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: andrewselzer@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:40 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As sports officials, harassment is something that we can often encounter when we take the fields/courts. This is something we must not allow. Protection of sports officials is crucial to ensure that sports are officiated fairly and that there will continue to be an adequate number of officials. There are numerous incidents of which I can think of where officials have been attacked by spectators, competitors, and coaches. This needs to end if we are to ensure a safe environment for everyone involved in sporting activity in the State of Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANTHONY GARDNER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: t.gardner2011@comcast.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 4:16 PM
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This should have been done long before now



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 2:53 PM	
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I am in Support of this Bill. However an Amendment needs to be made by providing a clear and much more defined firm definition of "Harassmenr of a Sports Official."



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BARRY BOGNAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: barry.bognar@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:12 AM
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As a sports official I am in support of House Bill HB78.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BEN ROLD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: onerightcall69@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:45 AM
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I am a sports official myself and it would be nice to have the added layer of support and protection... without officials there would be no sports!!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BENNIE LEWIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BILL HULSE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bhulsefbref@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:34 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Assaults and threats of assaults on sports officials is a leading cause for officials to quit. More protection for officials is needed or soon there will not be enough officials to cover games. Without officials, there are no high school or youth sports



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BOB STUBBLEFIELD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: stubb_24@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:08 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been a MSHSAA official for 40 years and I have seen an increase in harassment of officials by spectators, players, and coaches over the last 20 years...The respect for ALL authority(OFFICIALS) has gone away...



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRAD HINSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bphq53@mail.umsl.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:07 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have witnessed people say the only reason to go to a game is to berate the official. I have had people follow me after games trying to intimidate me, I have had them wait for us as we left the field to ambush us about something small. It is getting close to the point where you almost have to take a firearm to protect yourself, but you are on school grounds so you can't do that, but unless there is sweeping change, most I know will throw caution to the wind and protect themselves regardless of a politicians ability to act or fail to act.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRETT BOGNAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: brett.bognar@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:39 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN HECKER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bhecker74@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 7:00 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I've worked as licensed basketball official for 20 years - as well as a previous baseball and softball umpire. We are expected to be professional in our interactions with players, coaches and fans- yet fans of the game can treat us with disrespect, threaten and even harm us - without much repercussion. I believe it is time that this behavior is met with consequences and be known that if a person chooses to threaten or harm a sports official- they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent possible. I sincerely appreciate your consideration.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRYAN WOOLWORTH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bwoolworth@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2021 12:13 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Unfortunately, this bill is a necessity at this time. I've been a football official for over 35 years and have witnessed a change in our society with a lot more aggression against sports officials. We need this protection!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CARLOS BOYD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: carlosboyd@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:50 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

As a lifelong Missouri resident and a multisport official for youth, high school, and college athletics I fully support this bill. During my 15 year career as an official I have been involved in numerous compromising situations with parents and coaches. Even this year with less fans due to Covid, I have had games where parents have entered the court during an athletic contest to confront me and coaches who have followed me to my vehicle after games. As an official, I can not respond or engage in these conflicts or risk termination, these parents and coaches are aware of it. In any other profession I would be within my rights to defend myself, something needs to be done to protect and discourage attacks against sports officials.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CEDRIC TOWNSEND SR.		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Townsend_cedric@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:18 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Any attacks or harassment of officials should be dealt with, with extreme prejudice. We are there providing a valuable service and sporting events could not happen without officials.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS HINKLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: chinkle4@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:41 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a High School umpire, I fully support HB 78. These parents and coach's need to understand that verbal and physical abuse over sporting event is completely ridiculous and punishments need to be stiffened. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTOPHER MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Chris@idonotes.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 1:41 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As an official in the State of Missouri and across the nation, this has become an increasing problem at both recreational, club level and high school games. Spectators have begun to feel it is expected they challenge, attempt to start arguments, and physically threaten officials. I often find myself reminding them I am not allowed to come to their job and yell at them for an hour straight without being asked to leave, or more. Spectators have taken to blocking officials as they exist, following them to their transportation and even colleagues who have had been assaulted.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTOPHER O'DELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ctopher.odell@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:33 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a sports official we really are on an island. Players, coaches and fans see the game thru their rose colored glasses. Most of the time their perceived "bad call" was actually the correct call that happened to not favor their team. We are the arbitrary game facilities who are there to fairly officiate the game. We have no skin in the game except to do our very best. That being said, sometimes that alone isn't enough fir some players, coaches or fans and they escalate a confrontation either verbally or unfortunately more and more often it's becoming physical. Because of this we have many amongst our ranks that are hanging up their whistles out of fear for their own safety.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CLEVELON DONALD HARRIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: fb5575@outlook.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:46 AM
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As someone who has been officiating high school sports in Missouri since 1998, I think that officials need to be protected from fans, coaches and players who assault them. There is already a shortage of officials, but if officials are not protected from abusive behavior then there will not be any officials in the future and athletic contests will have to be cancelled.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DARON JACOBS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: daron.jacobs1964@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2021 7:50 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Hey say official I have witness fans threaten an assault officials, I feel the fans need to be held accountable for their actions. If you assault a official you need to be put in jail in due time not just a slap on the wrist, I do not want to I have to look over my back and be worried about a fan coming out of the stands to assault me I get up in my face



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID A. THOMPSON		PHONE NUMBER: 816-405-3930	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: GREATER KANSAS CITY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: VOLLEYBALL ASSIGNER	
ADDRESS: 3141 SOUTH SPECK AVENUE COURT			
CITY: INDEPENDENCE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64057
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVID E. BOYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: david.e.boyer@ardaghgroup.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:32 AM
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As an official I think it is important to protect all officials from the parents and/or coaches.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DENNIS VACHA		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: dennis.vacha@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:01 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The personal threats are what upset me. I umpired a game 4/15 the team was winning 8-0 in the 3rd inning. The team winning was threatening me. A man sat behind me said, " I'm gonna call the state on you!" I'd like to walk up to a person and ask them where they work, and if they would appreciate coming to their job and start yelling at them? It's all this anti police agenda.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEWAIN STRICKLAND		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: dewain_s@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:19 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Weekly officiating basketball from kindergarten to adult leagues, all levels I have been threaten physical harm by fans and parents. Two weeks ago, a team from Chicago came down for a jv tournament 75 fans deep and I had to call the game due to constant vulgar language from the coach, asst coach, and parents. After game, I was followed to my seat and surrounded by parents how I was a bitch and they didn't need me officiating. Also in adults leagues I was told by a player he would clear out the gym with his gun if I don't give him a foul call. I have officiated for 5 yrs in Missouri and these are just two instances.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DICARLOS CRAYTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dlos1987@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2021 12:10 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This is something that needs to be talked about and Laws enforced to protect officials. As we can all see around the United States, this Country is in absolute chaos and I've seen a lot of anger spill over into lower level sports and these officials are not protected from anger players, coaches, and yes PARENTS. Parents who think they know the game and if giving a 5 Question Test, Wouldn't get 2 of 5 correct. Something needs to be done about the tolerance of allowing disruptive Parents to remain in the stands, harass and wait for officials to leave. Let's do something about it now, before officials start arming themselves and we have bigger problems in the future. I am an official and I ve thought about arming myself a few times because we have no protection when entering, during, and leaving the playing surface of these schools. And there are no laws to protect us from harm if one of these Parents become physical with an Official.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DONALD BICKHAM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: donbickham1262@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:18 PM
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I have fulfilled about every role in the sports arena! That includes participant, parent, spectator, coach, administrator, and finally....OFFICIAL! The ONLY role that has placed me in a position of being subjected to harassment or the potential for bodily injury, has been my role as an official. We are very much on an island as we walk into gyms around this state. Very few schools made the effort to provide security to and from the locker room during intermission, or after the game. This has forced a heightened sense of alertness on the part of myself and my partner(s), as well as the trickle down effect of officials leaving their respective sports. I am in full support of this bill that would enhance the necessary protections needed by my fellow sports officials.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DONALD IRELAND JR.		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ddskireland@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:51 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This is long over due. The lack of respect of authority has gotten out of control. There needs to be stiffer penalties like this when officials are assaulted. If something isn't done there will soon be a time that there are no high school sports because there are no officials. This would be a great start to help with that issue.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DONALD MEYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: crew1ref@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 8:13 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Being a sports official is much like being a Police Officer, which I was at one time (retired SLPD). It is something I did because I care. There is a shortage of both. To help lessen the shortage, a special class of protection must include sports officials.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DOUG SWORD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dougsword@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:03 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As an official for over 30 years I have seen too many incidents where players, coaches, and/or parents have gotten out of hand and physically assaulted an official. I myself was assaulted by a player in an adult co-ed slow pitch softball game.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DUSTIN SAWYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dsawyer761@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 3:30 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a sports official Please pass this bill. We need / should be protected



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERICA EDITH RAMIREZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: referee.ERICA@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:19 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

To whom will vote on this bill.I am 30, and when I was 13 years old I began my first career as a soccer official. The earlier years were easy, that isn't what we're addressing today.In the last 5 years of my referee career (25yo to now) i have experienced the worst harassment in my entire life on the soccer field. I have been followed off the field by grown men following me to my car.I have been assaulted by a mother of a 6 year old boy playing in his first soccer game of his life. I have been sexualized on the field and had to report the situation to a college institution resulting in the suspension of said persons.Now, imagine these things happening to your 13 year old child. Imagine your dad coming home with a black eye from the tournament he volunteered to officiate. Imagine your husband or wife losing their life because one team didn't like the way you applied the Laws of The Game.This must stop.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: FRANK MERZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: fjmerz@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:56 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I fully urge the House to pass bill HR78. There are way too many incidents where officials are harassed verbally and threatened at youth and High School games. Something needs to be done and this will be a first step.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: FRED KININSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pkrdlr53@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:44 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Verbal confrontations seem to be as much a part of the game, as calling balls and strikes. This has to stop. Ban parents I say.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GARY ALFRED MITCHELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: heygmitchell@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:39 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a sports official of over 40 years. In that time I have been victim of or witness to numerous incidents of verbal, and physical harassment from players, coaches and fans. I've been pushed, bumped, spit on, yelled at and cursed at too many times to count ...all by people with no clue how difficult our job is or why we do it. I do it because I love baseball, and I take pride being an official. I shouldn't have to worry about being followed back to my car by an angry parent (which I have) and had to call for police assistance in fear that it may escalate to physical violence. I urge you to pass this bill for the protection of all of us present and future who do this for the love of the game.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GARY LANGHORST		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gpudge13@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:50 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GARY THOMPSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: gthomr@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:36 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

We need this to support all sports officials. I have been a sports official for 25 years and the violence against sports officials is getting out of control and strongly believe we need this to pass and help out all sports officials.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GARY THOMPSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gthomr@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:32 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I have been a football official for 25 years and violence forwards officials is worse than ever before. It has been hard recruiting officials and having a bill like this to support sports officials would help in this area.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GAYLON ORF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gorf@shs.k12.mo.us	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:17 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I support expanding the definition of special victim to include sports officials at a sporting event. Some verbal abuse may warrant this designation in rare cases. Physical assaults upon sports officials do not happen often, but they are uncalled for. As an official for softball, volleyball, and basketball, it is something I think about when I decide where to park at an event. It is a good practice for my partner(s) and I to leave a facility together, especially if the intensity of feelings expressed during a contest or contests run high. Creating such a designation would further discourage such harassment from occurring.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GEORGE RICHARDSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: geogerichardsonii@msn.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:05 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been a sports official since 1975, I have worked football, volleyball and swimming. For a short time while I was in college I officiated basketball and baseball. When you think you have seen it all then you see or hear of something else with an coach or spectator. The biggest problem is parents of Players there are times when they are totally out of control. In my early years mainly at youth sports police had to be called to remove parents and escort officials off the field. Youth sports is the larger issue. It still happens in HS sports, however in a HS event most administers deal well with problems. Coaches can and have lost their jobs due to inappropriate behavior. Thus in HS coaches are much more balanced.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GERRY D. POLLARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gman564@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:44 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Being a retired Police Officer of 23 yrs and an Active Men's Basketball Official at the D1 level and an inductee to the 2020 Missouri Sports Hall of Fame as a Basketball Official I would hope that we would be able to pass this bill to protect our officials. I have seen far to many incidents that occur where Sports Officials are being verbally abused and physically assaulted. What worries me most is that today's Sports climate supports berating officials. Today's climate is making it hard to recruit new officials and what I am most concerned about is in 5-10 years Youth Sports will not be available because we will not have enough officials. This will lead to young people finding different ways to entertain themselves which could lead to higher crime rates and more problems across the board. I asked that you pass this bill, make it have some "teeth" and also make it easier to monitor, enforce and prosecute. Thank you for your time.Gerry Pollard



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GREG KYTE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: gkyte@jaspercountymo.gov	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:00 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I was a MSHSAA Football Official for 18 years and know I Observe Football Officials for MSHSAA. On numerous occasions I was around, or witness Sports Officials being Harassed. On one occasions a fan in his truck tried to run over one of the Officials on our crew. This happened as the crew was walking back to the locker room after the game.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HOLLY MESSER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hollywood_1981@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:09 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been officiating sports for over 13 years now, and I am still trying to figure out why it is acceptable for officials to be treated terribly! I am tired of getting harassed during and after games! I certainly do not deserve that unwarranted treatment, and I certainly do not want any part of the parents and coaches teaching the kids that it is OK to treat a human being in that manner! I have decided that I will no longer referee public middle school games. This past season was absolutely horrible with the uneducated parents yelling, screaming and threatening us! I feel that there definitely needs to be a major punishment for this kind of behavior! Then maybe people will come to their senses and appreciate that if it wasn't for us their children would not be able to play.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES FETSCH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-429-2369	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: GREATER ST. LOUIS ASSOCIATION OF UMPIRES		TITLE: GSLAU PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 10227 BURDEAU			
CITY: OVERLAND		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63114
EMAIL: jimfetsch@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:55 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As President of the Greater St. Louis Association of Umpires, I along with the 250 Members of the Association strongly support HB78. Last year one of our Members was physically attacked after a High School Baseball game. Recently, just last week, another Member was spit on, which led to another physical confrontation. Though the confrontations always have potential, hopefully HB78 will be a deterrent. James Fetsch GSLAU President 314-429-2369 Greater St. Louis Association of Umpires "Calling Strikes since 1939"



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAMES FRANK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ajamesfrank49@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 4:32 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a basketball official and a school administrator, I think that steps to prevent and discourage harassment of officials are a necessary step in the unfortunate reality of our current culture of sports.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES MCKEITHEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rachnjr@charter.net		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 1:33 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

If something doesn't change. This will be last year.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAREDD R KING		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jkingconco@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 3:06 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I would like to give a brief description of an incident that took place a few years ago while I was officiating a baseball game. At the conclusion of the evening, my partner and I had a verbal encounter with a spectator in the parking lot. We had just concluded the junior varsity contest early due to lightning in the area. Both coaches agreed and we left the field without incident. Without a separate area to dress, and threatening weather moving in, my partner and I were changing at my vehicle in the parking lot. We were backed in behind the visiting schools bus, and had some privacy from other vehicles except on the passenger side. As a spectator was walking to his car parked nearby, he looked at my partner and said "Have a nice evening, dumbass." My partner responded with "Have a good evening." The gentlemen then decided to come to the passenger side of his vehicle and further engage us with more verbal banter. He mentioned that we better have a good nights sleep and possibly something about seeing us later. He also took photos with his smartphone of the front of my personal vehicle, including my license plate. I advised the gentlemen that we were staying at our vehicle and that he needed to get into his vehicle and leave the park. He did eventually get into his vehicle and waited a few minutes before leaving. We finished putting our gear into my vehicle and left the park without further incident. The spectator was approximately 5'10", middle aged, dark hair and mustache. He drove a dark navy blue Chrysler SUV. His wife and daughter got into the vehicle without incident. This is just one example of an incident that should not ever happen. Although I have been officiating for many years, my partner was a young man, just getting started in the business. This incident could have very easily turned him away from a worthy profession. Thankfully no physical harm resulted from this incident, and calling law enforcement was not necessary, but the situation could have turned very easily. I would very much like to see this legislation enacted. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JASON JUSTICE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: just42fan@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:19 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Jason Justice. I am a football and baseball official in the state. I support this bill wholeheartedly! We are losing officials at an alarming rate! It is hard to recruit new officials when there is no protection from harassment and abuse from other people. Often I have asked someone to officiate and their response is "No way! I don't wanna get yelled at and possibly hurt from the crazy parents and coaches" Please pass this bill and help protect the people that take time away from their families for your kids and grandkids. Thank You



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JASON SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jsmithref55@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:47 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We as officials are very vulnerable to the general public as some think high school sports is life or death



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEFFREY ALAN BLOHM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jblohm1993@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2021 6:28 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a current Basketball Official I have witnessed this firsthand. Parents, fans and even players are showing no respect for how the game is called. I myself have been threatened with assault at weekend Basketball tournaments. That is one of the reasons I do not officiate weekend tournaments anymore. Until there is legislation that protects officials from the verbal and physical assaults because they spectators don't like the way the game is called I will not officiate weekend tournament basketball. Regarding MSHSAA Basketball, I have seen an increase of leers behavior the past 8 years. One of the reasons is that spectators know that nothing will happen to them. Sure an Official can stop the game and have a spectator removed by school administration. That does not stop the individual from waiting in the parking lot for the Official. An Official was assaulted just this past Basketball season with the spectator being removed from the premises. Something must be done now before it is too late. It should not take for an Official to be severely hurt in order for Missouri to take action on a bill to protect Officials in the performance of their duties.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JENNA ROBINSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jennarobinson1285@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 4:22 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

To whom it may concern, Hello my name is Jenna Robinson and I have had the honor of being MSHAA football official for 5 years. I have been verbally harassed several times by coaches, players and spectators, in this time frame. A lot of it I have expected as I am a female football official. All times it was surprising and unnerving. I have been escorted by law enforcement off the field, to my car, and out of towns. Usually during high stakes games that the home town team was not the victor. That in itself should bring the awareness to our lawmakers, that there is a need for a harsher tone. No one should feel unsafe to do their job. I take every precaution after a game that there has been harassment. For fear I will be followed home, or attacked stopping for gas. I will not stop to eat or get gas till I am out of that town. This is the struggle we officials feel. As our lawmakers we ask that you protect us the way any worker is protected in their job.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JERRY DEMENT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-382-6373	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SOUTHEAST BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION, ASSIGNED, REFEREE, RETIRED COACH/TEACHER		TITLE: SEMO BASKETBALL ASSIGNER(125 OFFICIALS) 42 YR. REF	
ADDRESS: 3821 VALLEYVIEW			
CITY: CAPE GIRARDEAU		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63701
EMAIL: jdement@live.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 1:20 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JERRY MICHEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: wsmore1@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:09 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a member of the MSHSAA as a soccer official. A big reason we cannot attach and retain new (younger) officials is because of the harassment officials receive from coaches, parents and spectators. I believe this Bill would dramatically aid in the attraction and retention of all sports officials.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JIM THOMSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jimkathythomson@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 4:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The violent acts and unsportsmanlike conduct you see in professional sports has been copied at little league and high school athletic competition. This is being done by players, coaches spectators and parents. Officials are being verbally harassed and threatened with physical harm. It has gone beyond that when we see officials being attacked. The State Legislature has the ability to make laws punishing those who verbally and physically attack officials.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JIM THOMSON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-313-8167	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS		TITLE: MAYOR	
ADDRESS: 1330 BIG BEND BLVD.			
CITY: RICHMOND HEIGHTS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63117
EMAIL: jthomson@richmondheights.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 4:17 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a former high school coach and still officiating high school sports I support this legislation. I have witnessed verbal harassment and threats to officials but not any physical harm. But I know it happens as it makes all the web sites. As the mayor of Richmond Heights I support this legislation that would hold people accountable for their poor actions. This being threatening or actual harm to officials.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOE GILDLEHAUS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JONATHAN PUND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jonpund54@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:40 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As sports officials, we work diligently to become great at managing the games we officiate, including athlete, coach, and spectator management. Despite the many many hours that we, and by proxy, our families, dedicate to give back to the games we love, we are met so often with hostility from athletes, coaches, and spectators. We are often escorted by school administration or law enforcement away from the facility because violence against sports officials is prominent. Parents and fans find us to be less-than-human, and accuse us of grave wrongdoing. Their passion for their student-athlete's on-field or on-court success blinds them from seeing us as human, and they feel that physical harm will resolve their tension. Something has to change. Finding teens or young adults willing to give back to their favorite sport by becoming an official is becoming more and more rare, often because they are not willing to be threatened with physical harm if they make a mistake. I support this bill because it will create a safer environment for officials to make mistakes and have to worry less about whether they will be able to make it out of the parking lot without being harmed. I support this bill because our sports rely on young people to take on the responsibility of becoming dedicated officials and the threat of harm thwarts that endeavor for many youth. I support this bill because my family deserves to see me again, even if some fans believe I have made a mistake that cost their team a win.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JOSEPH RIGG		PHONE NUMBER: 314-803-8984	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BCR MACHINE AND FAB.		TITLE: OWNER	
ADDRESS: 6 KRISTA LANE			
CITY: WASHINGTON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63090
EMAIL: bcrmachine@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 2:17 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. This absolutely needs to be passed!			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JULIE TERSTRIEP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: terstriep@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:19 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As an official who works in Illinois and in Missouri, I strongly support this bill. I'm covered with protection in the state of Illinois, but when I cross the river, I'm not in Missouri. With a shortage of officials and fewer and fewer people agreeing to begin officiating, I can see a day when we will be challenged to cover all the youth sporting events we'd like to. Offering this protection to officials is one encouragement for people to take on this profession as a way to give back to their youth sports in their community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JUSTIN M BROWN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: brown.justin.mitchell@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:29 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Thank you for voting to protect our sporting officials, coaches, volunteers, etc. Sports drive high emotions and low emotions and teach youth how to deal with such emotions. There are many in attendance who do not understand how to deal with their emotions in an appropriate way and enjoy abusing officials, coaches, etc. This bill will protect important staff from being subject to ongoing abuse as they serve our youth.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KEITH TOWNSEND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: keith.townsend@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:04 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Keith Townsend and I am an official for sports - from Rec level to college. I used to do adult sports as well, but after some tense situations, I started to fear what may happen to me or my vehicle. After doing a high school softball game in Versailles one afternoon, a person in the stands that disagreed with a call(s) of my partner who was behind the plate, went to our parking area and smashed in multiple windows of his car. According to research by the National Association of Sports Officials, there is a growing shortage of sports officials - in all sports and age levels - and a primary cause is the abuse (verbal and otherwise) from fans. The shortage has caused the cancellation of entire leagues and sports seasons. Your help in addressing protections for officials would be much appreciated - for our health/welfare and to help prevent further property damage or the loss of opportunities to participate in athletic activity by our youth. Thank you for your time and efforts. Keith Townsend



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KEITH W LOUIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: klouis1828@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:49 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have had a parent confront me after a game in the parking because he didn't agree with the strike zone



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KELVIN ABERNATHY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kelvin9811@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:01 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KEVIN JONES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: theofficial20@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:45 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We are losing more and more officials each year due to attrition and even more so fan behavior. I officiate high school football, basketball, and lacrosse in Kansas City, Missouri and I support the bill Mr. Barnes created. Sports officials need to be protected from harassment from fans because kids deserve to have a safe environment to play their sport, thanks.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KUM KANG LEE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kumkang.lee.89@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:36 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KYLE R SAMBORSKI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: samborski639@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:48 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been a sports official for over 10 years and have experienced harassment to the point where I have been physically threatened and followed to the parking lot. I have also been followed home from a sporting event by attendees of the sporting event. Young officials tell me that this is one of the main reasons why other prospective young officials choose not to enter the field of sport officials because they are afraid of the harassment. I feel that this law would deter someone from harassing/threatening a sports official if they knew that there were repercussions of their actions.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LANA LABRUYERE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: lana@mineralarea.edu		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:49 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LARRIE WIGGAND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lgwiggand@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:56 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LEE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lee.gonterman@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 1:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been a sports official for over 40 years and have been threatened many times. The more support an official can have to try and deter an irate fan is appreciated.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LESTER EGGEMEYER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: les.eggemeyer@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2021 7:51 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

While officials don't always get it exactly right they need to be respected and supported.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LIMBO PARKS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: limbo.parks@lsr7.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2021 7:38 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I'm a High School Football coach and I work with Basketball Officials in the Winter. Each year I have to remove Spectators from the gym for verbally abusing officials.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARC EDISON HILL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hilmrc@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:18 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

In my 25+ years career as a high school sports official there are four incidents that stand out in my mind where I considered that I was harassed. Two of the four, involved a parent/fan. During one incident, the individual made a "slahing" gesture across his throat directed at me as I exited the basketball floor at half-time. Local security personnel escorted the offender from the facility and took me to my vehicle following the game. The school which he was following took action to bar him from attending future games. The other fan incident occurred when a fan/parent who disagreed with a call began to enter the court but had second thoughts. He was removed from the premises by school administrators. The other two incidents occurred when coaches entered the officiating crew dressing facility after their team lost to complain about the officiating. While these interactions were not harassment per se, they were inappropriate given the circumstances. In one instance the coach came to the dressing room with his father. In the other the coach was accompanied by a school administrator. I recall that both instances were reported to the individual who made official's game assignments. I do not recall being told what, if any actions were handed out to the offending coaches. At the time, I felt these interactions were part of being an official. With incidents between officials and parents, fans coaches etc. escalating, I wanted to share my experiences in order to give the legislature a clearer picture of what is going on in the state regarding these interactions.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARK CUNNINGHAM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: umpmcun@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:17 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Legal protection against harassment, especially physical, is important in order to keep officials in the games they officiate. Most school administrators, coaches and parents believe high school sports are very beneficial to those who participate. Providing these protections to officials will tend to help keep officials in their sports longer and with better attitudes toward the game and its participants. Thank you, Mark Cunningham MSHSAA football official #128823



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARVIN J SCOTT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mjscottsr@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:05 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW HARSHMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 816-262-5085	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MSHSAA		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 4612 CORINTH DR.			
CITY: ST. JOSEPH		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64506
EMAIL: matthew@harshmanmachine.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:25 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
Parents and fans are becoming more hostile every season. It's getting out of control



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL JIM EDWARD HORN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hornbaseballblue@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 1:05 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a sports official, I support the passage of this Bill. There is a massive shortage officials in all high school sports, primarily due to how some have been treated by spectators.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MIKE WOOD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mike@mwoodassoc.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:32 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill would help support sports officials. It is getting harder and harder to find enough qualified people to be a sports official and one of the reasons is the treatment that officials receive while working a contest. Any thing that can be done to help would be appreciated.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NOAH POSTOL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: postolnoah@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:54 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am first year official. Me being welcomed into the sports officiating world has been a harsh one by fans and coaches as they target young officials very easily and go after them much harder then veterans. The reason the sports officials world is dying out is because of the fact that not many young people would like to sign up to be yelled at, cussed out by fans, treated like less of a person and being harassed and laughed at by fans for your hard work that goes unappreciated.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PAMELA C BOWEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: pambowen@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:01 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I have been a soccer referee for almost two decades. The harassment that I experience has continued to increase in both frequency and intensity. I am one of only a hand full of female officials in my area who work boy's high school games. I have been belittled for my gender by athletes, coaches and spectators. I have been threatened with physical abuse and I have been followed in my car when leaving venues. And I am considered an excellent referee. I am consistently ranked in the top quartile of officials by the coaches. The number of referees in soccer has plummeted in recent years. Young referees cannot hold up against the amount of negativity they experience when trying to learn and veteran officials like myself, just continue to get older and older. Harassment of sports officials **MUST** stop before there is no one left to do the job!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RACHEL KIRK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rachel.kirkxvbc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:41 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am a volleyball official. I support this bill. I have not been harassed, but have known officials who have been hit, harassed, screamed at, and followed by parents after a sporting event. This would be a step to protecting officials from unruly fans. We (officials) sign up to referee because we love the sport and the kids. It is also additional income. We hate it when we make errors and hate when there is controversy in a game. We want everyone to enjoy the game and for the teams to determine the outcome of the match with their play. At no point is it acceptable for fans to follow officials to yell, demean, threaten or assault them. There are not as many officials for sports. We are constantly looking for more officials. Many people will not officiate or quit officiating because of a fear of unruly fans and being yelled at. We need to send a message that this behavior is unacceptable and illegal.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RICH WALDEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rwalden000@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:05 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I have been a basketball & softball official for 26 years & have noticed an increase in rude, unruly fans/parents that have no sportsmanship towards officials. It used to be, you could request an administrator at the game to handle the unruly fan/parent & they would. Not now, the administrators who try to engage with the fans, now find themselves also under harassment or threatened and I have been told by some administrators that they have their jobs threatened by their school board for trying to keep an unruly fan under control. "That fan is a big money contributor to this community & school" The schools need to take this seriously or we're not going to be able to recruit young officials to replace the aging population of officials we have now. Soon enough, there won't be enough officials to call the games, and that will be a sad day whenever schools won't be able to have contest because there are not enough officials. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RICK SWENSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rfsvenson@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:56 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been a High School Sports Official for 24 years. We have had an extremely difficult time getting new officials, and a big part of the reason is that younger people will not tolerate the abuse they receive from fans, Why should officials not be entitled to the same protection as coaches, administrators and players. If we don't receive the protection we deserve from regulatory bodies there will be nobody to officiate. Your support for this bill is most important, and most appreciated.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROB PURDY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: robtheref1@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:42 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

This legislation needs to be passed and signed into law as soon as possible. It's a disgrace that officials continue to be verbally and physically abused by parents, coaches, and players with no recourse to deter their disgusting behavior.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT DUMLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Robertdumler@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:42 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been a sports official for 35 years. The yelling, rude statements, and volgernes towards officials has gotten a lot worse over the years. When you have parents, coaches and players yelling that they will meet you in the parking lot or find out where you live to come to your house that goes way to far. I completely understand that each side is going to be happy with your officiating 50% of the time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT LEE BROWN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kdpurple83@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:01 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I have officiated High School sports for nearly 30 years. The harassment level increases each year. It has become more and more personal and offensive. It has also expanded into the social media platforms. Which makes it an affront to all officials and their families as well. Officiating in a fair and judicious manner is a difficult task that is necessary for EVERY sporting event to occur. Spectators and all to often coaches, and unfortunately even players are making the officials the blunt of their unsportsmanlike like attitudes and comments.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT STEVEN FRISCHMANN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bfrischmann@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:46 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a high school level baseball/softball umpire in the St. Louis area. I have been physically assaulted once, and threatened with physical violence many times. We are especially vulnerable after the game, going to the parking lot which can be in isolated areas. I have experienced little support from the teams/host site when assault or threats of violence occur. We need your help badly!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROGER W WENDEL JR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rwende@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

34 years, 6 State Championships as a MO high school Official. 26 years on the KCFD stationed in the Kansas City Urban Core. Please pass this bill to protect our fellow officials....the environment at high school sporting events has gotten out of control and way to hostile. I believe the value and benefit to detour violence towards us is in Rep. Barnes' Bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RONALD L. DEMEYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rdemeyer@swbell.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:24 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a Missouri High School basketball official for 31 years, I have never been more afraid, at anytime then the current state of youth sports, then I am each time I walk into a gym. We have all seen and heard the horror stories of what these "fans" have done to officials and it is unbelievable this is what we have to worry about when doing a high school sporting event. This needs to STOP and we need to be protected.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RUSSELL E SULLENS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rustysullens@ymail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:20 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I have been a sports official in some capacity for more than 20 years, 9 of those registered as a MSHSAA Official in the sports of Baseball, Basketball, and Football. I have personally been involved in angry parents and fans following me to my vehicle and giving me verbal threats. Fortunately I have never been involved in any physical altercations. I greatly feel HB 78 - Barnes- Harassment of a Sports Official, is going in the right direction to give all sports officials the protection that we so greatly deserve.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: SANDY MCCANN		PHONE NUMBER: 816-591-8956	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: GKCOA		TITLE: GAME OFFICIAL	
ADDRESS: 1424 DEXTER			
CITY: LIBERTY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64068
EMAIL: sndymccann@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:21 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Reasonable protection of Sports Officials from Harassment by Emotional and Physical Threats when administrating their responsibilities inclusive of High School Sporting events.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STACY CLARK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: sclark296@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:23 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I have been officiating High School basketball for 36 years. Seems that spectators at the games have gotten worse. They yell derogatory words and their sportsmanship has all but disappeared. I have never been physically approached but there have been times when I was aware of my surroundings. The State has a shortage of officials and I do feel that part of that is because of the fans attitude. People must be held accountable for their actions and that should include fans who let their emotions get the best of them.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEPHEN MARK BOONSHAFT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: boonshaftsteve@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:42 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

If we don't nip this problem right now, we will not have sports officials in the next 10-15 years, I have been a basketball referee for over 35 years. The treatment of officials by parents in the middle school leagues is disgusting. Many new officials quit because of this treatment. High Schools do a pretty good job to handle unruly spectators. However, CYC and middle school leagues do not take enough action against these parents.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sprudo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:00 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a MSHSA official and hope this bill passes.Thank you..



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVE J BERARDINO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: steveberardino@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 1:36 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVEN SCOTT WILK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: stwilk65@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:57 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been harassed several times during games, between games, and after games by coaches and spectators. The verbal abuse referees face every time they officiate is unacceptable. We are neutral parties who apply the laws of the games to players, coaches, and spectators who don't know the laws of the game. The perfect definition of a soccer official... Imagine running 5-6 miles, alternating between a jog and 40 yard full out wind sprints. While you are doing that, people will randomly show you a flash card with a math problem on it. They will only show it to you for a single second, and you have to solve it while continuing to run. There is no getting to see it again. If someone ran in front of you while they were showing that flash card, you have to try to move quickly enough to get a clear view of it. Oh yeah, don't forget you have to get the answer 100% right, every single time. Soccer is a beautiful sport, as a referee I am like the conduct of an orchestra where keep the pace and flow going by applying the laws of the games, but don't impact the outcome of the game. Please take ref abuse serious epidemic as I have two young teens who have begun following in my officiating footsteps and their safety is always a concern every time they step on the pitch. Thank you. Steve Wilk USSF and MHSSA Referee.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS M CORRENTI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tyguy@swbell.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 3:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am an umpire and I have noticed that Parents (fans) have been louder when voicing their displeasure to the point of threatening even through the parking lot.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS W COONEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: thomaswcooney@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:59 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been chased back to my car after a game and physically threatened 3 times during my 39 seasons in officiating high school sports. In my opinion, three times too many. Enacting this bill may reduce that to zero. Which is where it needs to be.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS W SWOBODA JR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tswoboda7@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 10:49 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Youth sports has become increasingly competitive. As an official of 4 sports for 27 years, I have been assaulted, spit on, followed home, and been threatened other numerous ways. Sports officials are in great need of additional protections.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TOM HAAKE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Haaket123@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 11:58 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Thomas Haake a Missouri State High School Official. I am in support of this bill because day to day we deal with harassment from coaches, parents, and athletes. When ever we eject them from games they still will not listen to us and continue to harass us. They even threatened us. Enough is enough. Accountability needs to take place. I am in favor of this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VERN J DETERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: deters53@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:59 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Sad that this even has to be brought up, but we see/hear more & more of officials being verbally & physically abused. Often this comes from parents & spectators. Being an official for 30+ years, I've seen the abuse grow & it is a reason why many young people don't get into the profession, leaving a massive shortfall of game officials & a huge burden on us old & I mean old (almost 70) guys still doing it.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WAYNE DREIER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: wdreier@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 2:26 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a member of the Greater St. Louis Umpire Association. Just as in every day living, there are disagreements. The same is true in sports. In both circumstances, there are procedures in place to resolve the issue(s). In no situation is it acceptable to physically or verbally abuse an official. To help prevent this from occurring, school officials must be required to inform their spectators the sportsmanship expectations and the penalties should they not be met. Penalties must be severe enough that they are a deterrent. Most importantly, regardless of who violates the rule, it is enforced. The court and field are an extension of classroom. Before each game the coaches and players are reminded that good sportsmanship is expected. By high school rules should poor sportsmanship occur, there are penalties that are applied for the situation. For contests in which the stakes are high or a strong rivalry, police should be on site.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM FRANZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: billfranz@sentineles.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 9:41 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a high school and college sports official for the past 45 years, I FULLY SUPPORT the passage of HB78. Although I have never been physically abused or assaulted, on occasions TOO NUMEROUS to mention I have been verbally assaulted and harassed to the point of being concerned for my personal safety. Although I wish the penalties were stronger and more severe, I STRONGLY REQUEST PASSAGE of HB 78.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 78		DATE: 4/19/2021	
COMMITTEE: General Laws			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KENNY SEIFERT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-875-4880	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION		TITLE: ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1 NORTH KEENE STREET			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65239
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2021 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			