



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 389</b>		DATE: <b>2/6/2023</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DALE YOUNGS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-881-3606</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>16TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT</b>		TITLE: <b>CIRCUIT JUDGE</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>415 E. 12TH ST.</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64106</b>
EMAIL: <b>dale.youngs@courts.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2023 9:29 AM</b>	

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

Good afternoon. I'm Dale Youngs, a Circuit Judge in the 16th Judicial Circuit, in Jackson County. Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of HB 389 – a measure that takes positive and needed steps to keep confidential the personal information of Missouri judges and commissioners: Information that – as we have seen – when made readily accessible, puts us and our families at risk. I recently ended my two year term as our Circuit's presiding judge. I took that assignment in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, when difficult decisions had to be made about modifying court procedures – or not – as the law required. One of the issues we faced involved whether to impose a moratorium on landlord-tenant actions filed in our court. While we enacted a number of measures designed to protect the rights of tenants facing these cases, we ultimately determined we did not have the legal authority to impose a moratorium like the one tenants' rights organizations were pressuring us to enact. In addition to conducting protests at our courthouses in Jackson County, these tenants' rights organizations located my predecessor's home address, and groups of them went there demanding action from him. These same protesters located my home address and appeared on my doorstep on Christmas Day in 2020, knocking on our door, and passing flyers around my neighborhood with my address on them, urging people to also come to our home and confront me about our court's policies. Ultimately, on a Friday evening during the first week of my term as presiding judge, a group of between 75 and 100 protesters marched to our home, chanting at me through a bullhorn, trespassing onto and vandalizing our property, and pounding on our front door demanding that I come outside and engage them. Thanks to the assistance of our Sheriff's Office and the Kansas City Police Department, my family and I were never in danger; however, this group's willingness to cross the line separating my public and my private life was unnerving, as was the idea that my home address was so easily accessible to them. The group located the home addresses of two other judges on our court and protested at their homes, as well, in addition to later coming to my home for a third time and putting a large sign in my yard. Again, my family and I remained safe with the help of law enforcement agencies who responded to these situations; however, judicial officers do not have regular access to security outside our courthouses. In addition, while there are arguments to be made that such protests enjoy some level of First Amendment protection, we have seen in recent years how dangerous it can be when certain people with an axe to grind with a particular judge have access to that judge's personal information. Last summer, while protesters were regularly gathering outside the homes of United Supreme Court Justices, one individual apparently located the home address of Justice Brett Kavanaugh, then crossed the country to Justice Kavanaugh's home in Maryland. He got out of a taxi in front of the justice's house, and fortunately was intercepted by Deputy U.S. Marshals. He is alleged to have been carrying a pistol, tactical knife, pepper spray, zip ties, and other items which he allegedly admitted he intended to use to break into the justice's home, where he planned to kill him,

and then himself. And of course we all know of the tragic shooting in 2020 that took the life of the 20 year old son of a federal district judge in New Jersey, and seriously injured her husband. Judge Esther Salas was the target of a disgruntled lawyer who had assembled a dossier on her that included her home address. He posed as a delivery driver, intent on killing Judge Salas when she opened the door. Unfortunately, Judge Salas' son is the one who answered the door, and was killed as he tried to protect his father. As Missouri judges and commissioners, we all swear an oath to support the U.S. and Missouri Constitutions, and to "faithfully demean ourselves" to our offices, which includes the responsibility to make tough and often unpopular decisions. Many times, the people who believe they are aggrieved by our decisions have serious mental health issues. Each of us here today, and all of our brothers and sisters across the state, can give you examples of angry, harassing and sometimes threatening e-mails and letters we regularly receive from these individuals. In our courthouses, we have access to security measures and dedicated men and women of law enforcement whose job it is to keep us safe; however, it is at our homes that we – and our families – are most vulnerable. I hope you will support this bill. It alone will not keep these individuals from attempting to cross that line, but it will make it harder for them to do so, and will be a meaningful step forward in the effort to keep Missouri judges and their families safer. Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to provide this information to you today, and thank you to Representative Veit for his sponsorship of this important bill.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARGARET DONNELLY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>margaret.donnelly@courts.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2023 10:57 AM</b>
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Testimony for House Judiciary Committee, February 6, 2023, HB389Chairman Evans and Members of the Committee, I thank you for the opportunity to address you on HB389. On September 21, 2022, I checked my cell phone shortly after awakening and was horrified to find that at 12:30AM someone had sent to my personal cell phone a text with a death threat against me and my family which was graphic, hate-filled and full of obscenities. The same threat was sent again later that day. What most alarmed me was that the person had been able to locate my personal cell. Because the threat was sent via cell phone we had the assistance of the FBI almost immediately. They were able to fairly quickly trace the origin of the text and determine the individual who sent it. It is someone well known to the Court who has a history of harassment and threats. However, I was the first judicial officer he had threatened. To my dismay after further investigation, I determined that my home address, home phone and personal cell were all on whitepages.com. While I wish to be careful in being very specific with regard to potential evidence against this individual, it appears that this or some other open source on the Internet was the way in which this individual was able to obtain all my personal information. I have followed the procedures to have the information removed from the White Pages site. I've been advised, however, that the information will often be back up in a short period of time and that you have to constantly monitor. Having this legislation would be a step toward providing judges with a way to keep this personal information off the Internet permanently. While there are never guarantees that information will not creep back onto the Internet, this would, I believe, provide a much stronger deterrent to having our information freely available on various websites. One of the foundations of an independent judiciary is the ability of judicial officers to make decisions without duress or fear. I believe this legislation would enhance security for our state judges. I am grateful for Representative Veit's sponsorship of this bill and hope that it advances quickly. Thank you. Judge Margaret Donnelly, Circuit Judge, 21st Judicial Circuit, St. Louis County



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARK RHOADS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-645-0505</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>RELX, INC.</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>P.O. BOX 1162</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65102</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2023 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>PATRICIA CHURCHILL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-751-4144</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE: <b>GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COUNSEL</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>207 W. HIGH ST.</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2023 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2023 11:39 PM</b>
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**I am Opposed to this Bill. This Law can be Abused and Misused. the Penalties are harsh. Personal Information is readily available and accessible over the Internet.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KORTNIE HUDDLESTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>kortniehuddleston@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2023 9:54 AM</b>

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I urge you to oppose HB 389 or any similar bills, which modifies and establishes offenses involving the disclosure of personal information. The definitions and categories outlined in this bill are overly vague and restrictive to free speech. Why are judicial officers or elected officials enacting such unpopular and oppressive laws if they are so afraid of being held accountable by the public. The "personal information" defined in the bill is extremely vague and includes such harmless and publicly available info such as the name, address, telephone number, email address, marital status, etc. Who determines what constitutes "harassment" or "intimidation"? The bill also makes it a felony to publicly disclose the information of an elected official with the intent to influence them. Isn't that exactly the purpose of our elected officials, for us to contact them and make them aware of our stance on issues with the intent to influence their actions?! This bill would essentially make it illegal to engage in a representative democracy! Please oppose this bill.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL DREYER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>mdreyer93@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/6/2023 9:53 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN GIBSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>Onesuegibson@protonmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2023 11:48 AM</b>
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