



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HJR 15		DATE: 2/9/2023	
COMMITTEE: Ways and Means			
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: AMBER SMITH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-692-0413	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE: AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY MANAGER	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 104900			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65110
EMAIL: amber.smith@empowermissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2023 9:36 PM	

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

Date: February 9, 2023 To: Chairman McGill and Members, House Ways and Means Committee
 From: Amber Smith, Affordable Housing Policy Manager, Empower Missouri
 Re: Support for HJR 15 and HJR 17
 Founded in 1901, Empower Missouri is the largest anti-poverty advocacy organization in the state. As part of our work, we organize a statewide Affordable Housing Coalition. This coalition is made up of individuals and organizations who are working to ensure every Missourian has access to safe, affordable, stable housing. On behalf of our staff, board, and coalition members, I support both HJR 15 and HJR 17. Among older adults, poverty is linked to an increased risk of disability, physical and cognitive decline and homelessness. Lower socioeconomic status is proven to be a determinant of many of the health problems that emerge at older ages. A do-pass vote on these bills would provide much needed relief to those that need it most. Many of Missouri's seniors are living on fixed incomes, and are not in a position to manage higher property tax bills. Seniors are less likely to be able to supplement their income through extra work to cover the increased cost of living, especially given the economic trends and uncertainties we've seen since 2020. HJR 17's protection from rising assessments offer peace of mind that seniors will not be pushed out of their homes because of an increase in valuation. HJR 15's tax exemption would provide much needed relief for our low-income senior households. Hundreds of thousands of people will be positively impacted by these changes. There are over 1 million seniors (65+) living in Missouri, close to 18% of our state's total population. 9 out of 10 live below the poverty level (1). We appreciate Representatives Kalberloh and Representative Seitz's leadership in introducing these bills and urge you to support their approval. (1) - <https://mcdc.missouri.edu/applications/acs/profiles/report.php?period=1&g=04000US29>



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2023 11:44 PM
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I am in favor of this Bill and the Vote of the People!



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAY HARDENBROOK		PHONE NUMBER: 816-810-2066	
REPRESENTING: AARP		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 4031 PARKER AVENUE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63316
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2023 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL WESTEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: MichaelWesten.3up@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2023 12:42 PM
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I fully support this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVE HOBBS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-473-4601
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 1648 EAST ELM		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2023 12:00 AM
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