



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2111</b>		DATE: <b>1/17/2024</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Government Efficiency and Downsizing</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>APRIL CEDERBURG</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/17/2024 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</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>1/17/2024 11:59 PM</b>

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**I am full Support of this bill and its intension. Let's sniff out and investigate ALL Fraud and ALL Theft!  
Give the State Auditors and Investigators ALL Investigative Tools and Authority working hand-in-hand  
with County Prosecutors, Circuit Attorney's, the Office of Missouri Attorney General and the United  
States Attorney's Office in Springfield, Jefferson City, Saint Louis and Kansas City.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DARVIN</b>	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:	TITLE:	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>darwin1940@outlook.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/14/2024 6:31 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

My name is Darvin Schildknecht and live in a small community named Cleveland, MO. I am 84 years old and one of three founders of a small all volunteer fire district from back in 1983. I have served as a board chair, director and even served as a volunteer fire fighter over the years. I also helped service the fire trucks and take care of maintenance on the buildings. and my late wife even took calls for the fire district before there was even 911. I've have lived in my community for more than 50 years. I am writing to you about the importance of passing HB2111. Our fire district has struggled for many many years to find qualified volunteers and even people willing to serve on the board of directors. We often have people who have served on the board that have no experience serving on boards or even with running a fire district. Our budget is small, and most people have no understanding of the laws of how to run a taxpayer funded entity. This means the board is often left with limited or no funds to hire staff to help understand the laws or end up having to do much of the administrative work to run the fire district. The law is supposed to require board members to have to take board training within the first year of being elected but nobody enforces this law and so this has led to many people choosing to not take the training because there are no repercussions. Even with this training, it only begins to provide minimal guidance on the numerous duties that the board members need to understand to fulfill their oath to the MO Constitution. This problem only becomes more complicated when they are responsible for overseeing the way a fire district is run and being responsible for providing public safety to its citizens and managing the taxpayer money. I have seen firsthand people approving budgets that have no idea how to even read basic financial or bank statements. And board members approving tax levies on bonds that result in overtaxing the citizens and the money has gone missing. Over the years some people who come on the board who do want to try and do the right things, but I have also seen others who realize there is no outside agencies monitoring fire districts and take advantage of this, knowing there is nobody watching that they follow the laws. This had led to problems with board members doing things that benefit them and/ or their family personally and financially. Since fire districts with budgets under \$1M are not required to have audits, and if the majority of the board members do not want anyone from the outside to see their books, we have gone for years or even a decade with any sort of audit. This leaves minority board members who want oversight to have no way to report this when they have direct firsthand knowledge of misuse of taxpayer money. The citizens in our community rarely ever come to meetings and even when they do, they have little knowledge of how a fire district is supposed to be run. They simply just expect the people responsible for providing Fire & EMS service and overseeing our tax dollars to carry out their duties in a lawful way. Sadley, this is not always the case and why passing this HB2111 is so important. This has put me and some others in a very difficult position because when we choose to serve on the board, we take an oath to honor the MO Constitution. I have felt helpless over the years when I have reached out to other government organizations like the MO Attorney General, State Auditor's office, and county officials when they tell

me they have no authority to take any action. Right now, we have serious financial mismanagement of our own fire district, the same one I helped create back in 1983 and it saddens me greatly to see something I helped build become used for the personal financial gain of a few individuals. This has hurt the citizens in our community because it takes the limited funding, we have away from providing public safety to the very people we are entrusted to serve. We greatly need to have a way for the citizens in our community to be able to hold fire districts and other government entities accountable. I am thankful to see this bill and how it can provide this opportunity. I hope this bill is passed into law and greatly appreciate your hard work and dedication to serving the citizens of Missouri. Darwin Schildknecht



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>GERALDINE DIANE CROSS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>gerrycross11@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/14/2024 7:19 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**SUBJECT: LETTER OF REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF HB 2111**

January

13, 2024

The Honorable Representative Christofanelli and members of the House Government Efficiency and Downsizing Committee, Representatives Jim Murphy (Chair), Dean Van Schoiack (Vice-Chair), Gretchen Bangert (Ranking Minority Member, Ben Baker, Mitch Boggs, Michael Burton, Darin Chappell, Doug Clemens, Michael Davis, Chantelle Nickson-Clark, Louis Biggs, Jim Shulte, Adam Schwadron:

Having read the Act to repeal sections 29.005, 29.235, 374.250 and 610.021, RSMo, and enact five new sections in lieu thereof , TO BE KNOWN AS SECTIONS 29.005, 29.225, 29.235, 374.250, AND 610.021, related to powers of the state auditor, I, Geraldine Cross, residing at 25122 Lone Pine Drive, Cleveland, Missouri 64734, and a citizen of Western Cass Fire Protection District, hereby state that I approve of and support legislation proposed here and further request your attention to the process of enactment by the 102nd General Assembly of the State of Missouri. Thank you for your consideration of my request. Conversation concerning my hopes for improvement of government efficiency by enacting HB 2111 is welcome. I may be reached at cell phone number (208) 570-7303, emailed at gerrycross11@gmail.com., or via USPS mailed to address below. With sincere appreciation for your participation in our government, Geraldine Cross 25122 Lone Pine Drive Cleveland, Missouri 64734



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KERRI VANMEVEREN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/17/2024 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>MichaelWesten.3up@protonmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/17/2024 9:26 AM</b>
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**I support HB 2111.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SCOTT FITZPATRICK</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-536-2612</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI STATE AUDITOR's OFFICE</b>		TITLE: <b>STATE AUDITOR</b>
ADDRESS: <b>201 W. CAPITOL AVENUE, ROOM 229</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CIT</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/17/2024 12:00 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>1/12/2024 7:34 PM</b>

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**Because this bill adds records relating to reports of allegations of improper governmental activities to the list of records exempt from public disclosure, I ask you to oppose it.**