

# JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

First Regular Session, 103rd General Assembly

THIRTEENTH DAY, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2025

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Speaker Patterson in the Chair.

Prayer by Representative Brian Seitz.

Father, once again we come to You confessing our utter inability to advocate for those who have placed their trust in us without Your Divine Grace.

We seek Your guidance. We ask for Your favor. We long for a sense of Your presence, as we make decisions that affect the people of this great state.

We thank You for that Grace, as in You we live, breathe and have our very being. We thank You, Father, in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

The Journal of the twelfth day was approved as printed by the following vote:

AYES: 140

Allen	Amato	Anderson	Appelbaum	Aune
Baker	Banderman	Barnes	Billington	Black
Bosley	Boykin	Boyko	Bromley	Brown 149
Brown 16	Burton	Bush	Busick	Butz
Byrnes	Casteel	Caton	Chappell	Christ
Christensen	Clemens	Coleman	Cook	Costlow
Crossley	Davidson	Davis	Dean	Deaton
Dolan	Douglas	Durnell	Elliott	Falkner
Farnan	Fogle	Fowler	Fuchs	Gallick
Gragg	Griffith	Haden	Hales	Haley
Harbison	Hein	Hewkin	Hinman	Hruza
Hurlbert	Ingle	Irwin	Jacobs	Jamison
Jobe	Johnson	Jones 12	Jones 88	Jordan
Justus	Kalberloh	Keathley	Kelley	Kimble
Knight	Laubinger	Lewis	Loy	Lucas
Mackey	Mansur	Martin	Matthiesen	Mayhew
McGill	Meirath	Miller	Murphy	Murray
Nolte	Oehlerking	Overcast	Owen	Parker
Perkins	Peters	Phelps	Plank	Pouche
Price	Proudie	Reed	Reedy	Reuter
Riggs	Riley	Roberts	Rush	Sassmann
Schmidt	Schulte	Seitz	Self	Sharpe 4
Smith 46	Smith 68	Sparks	Steinhoff	Steinmetz

Steinmeyer	Stinnett	Strickler	Taylor 48	Taylor 84
Titus	Van Schoiack	Veit	Verneti	Violet
Voss	Waller	Walsh Moore	Warwick	Wellenkamp
West	Whaley	Williams	Wilson	Wolfen
Woods	Wright	Young	Zimmermann	Mr. Speaker

NOES: 001

Collins

PRESENT: 002

Fountain Henderson      Mosley

ABSENT WITH LEAVE: 019

Boggs	Cupps	Diehl	Doll	Ealy
Hardwick	Hausman	Hovis	McGaugh	Myers
Pollitt	Sharp 37	Shields	Simmons	Smith 74
Terry	Thomas	Thompson	Weber	

VACANCIES: 001

Speaker Pro Tem Perkins assumed the Chair.

### **HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

Representative Veit offered House Resolution No. 153.

Representative Jones (88) offered House Resolution No. 154.

### **INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

The following House Joint Resolutions were read the first time and copies ordered printed:

**HJR 76**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to state revenue.

**HJR 77**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to constitutional amendments.

**HJR 78**, introduced by Representative Simmons, relating to ballot measures submitted to voters.

### **INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE BILLS**

The following House Bills were read the first time and copies ordered printed:

**HB 1103**, introduced by Representative Mayhew, relating to adoption, with a penalty provision.

**HB 1104**, introduced by Representative Mayhew, relating to county hospitals.

**HB 1105**, introduced by Representative Mayhew, relating to requirements for certain political subdivisions.

**HB 1106**, introduced by Representative Sassmann, relating to the designation of a memorial highway.

**HB 1107**, introduced by Representative Christ, relating to the sales and use tax imposed on certain products.

**HB 1108**, introduced by Representative Waller, relating to the official state cheese.

**HB 1109**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to home school protections.

**HB 1110**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to adult high schools.

**HB 1111**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to STEM career awareness.

**HB 1112**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to income tax.

**HB 1113**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to earned wage access services, with penalty provisions.

**HB 1114**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to driver's license requirements.

**HB 1115**, introduced by Representative Cupps, relating to proceedings resulting from criminal conduct.

**HB 1116**, introduced by Representative Haden, relating to fences and enclosures.

**HB 1117**, introduced by Representative Dean, relating to railroad safety, with penalty provisions.

**HB 1118**, introduced by Representative Brown (16), relating to abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug products.

**HB 1119**, introduced by Representative Jones (88), relating to abortion, with penalty provisions.

**HB 1120**, introduced by Representative Jones (88), relating to pyramid sales schemes.

**HB 1121**, introduced by Representative Lucas, relating to the procurement of driving data by automobile insurers.

**HB 1122**, introduced by Representative Voss, relating to coroners.

**HB 1123**, introduced by Representative Kelley, relating to the statewide assessment system, with a contingent effective date for certain sections.

**HB 1124**, introduced by Representative Van Schoiack, relating to wind energy conversion systems.

**HB 1125**, introduced by Representative Nolte, relating to documents presented for recording.

**HB 1126**, introduced by Representative Hruza, relating to insurance coverage of anesthesia services.

**HB 1127**, introduced by Representative Johnson, relating to credit for time served.

**HB 1128**, introduced by Representative Simmons, relating to political party primary elections, with penalty provisions and a delayed effective date.

**HB 1129**, introduced by Representative Billington, relating to law enforcement agency reporting requirements.

### **SECOND READING OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

The following House Concurrent Resolution was read the second time:

**HCR 16**, relating to the Seal of Civic Recognition award.

### **SECOND READING OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

The following House Joint Resolutions were read the second time:

**HJR 73**, relating to reproductive health care.

**HJR 74**, relating to property tax exemptions for certain disabled veterans.

**HJR 75**, relating to property tax exemptions for certain senior citizens.

### **SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS**

The following House Bills were read the second time:

**HB 1075**, relating to a freestanding claim of actual innocence.

**HB 1076**, relating to a committee on school safety.

**HB 1077**, relating to law enforcement custodial interviews.

**HB 1078**, relating to the recording of land surveys.

**HB 1079**, relating to licensed child care facilities.

**HB 1080**, relating to insurance coverage of genetic screenings for cancer risk.

**HB 1081**, relating to gender transition procedures.

- HB 1082**, relating to school background checks.
- HB 1083**, relating to the joint committee on government efficiency.
- HB 1084**, relating to electric utilities.
- HB 1085**, relating to social transition in schools, with a penalty provision.
- HB 1086**, relating to classification of certain residential real property.
- HB 1087**, relating to the liability of employers for negligent hiring.
- HB 1088**, relating to the designation of a memorial bridge.
- HB 1089**, relating to construction contracts.
- HB 1090**, relating to pregnant offenders.
- HB 1091**, relating to conversion therapy for minors.
- HB 1092**, relating to civil actions to protect public expression.
- HB 1093**, relating to a tax credit for the property tax liabilities of certain vulnerable persons.
- HB 1094**, relating to unlawful discriminatory practices.
- HB 1095**, relating to maternal health care services.
- HB 1096**, relating to a missing and murdered African American women and girls task force.
- HB 1097**, relating to the designation of a memorial highway.
- HB 1098**, relating to circuit judges in the nineteenth judicial circuit.
- HB 1099**, relating to tax abatements in certain counties.
- HB 1100**, relating to the Missouri state surplus property clearing fund.
- HB 1101**, relating to the offense of unlawful use of unmanned aircraft over a crime scene, critical incident, law enforcement tactical operation, or hazardous material site, with a penalty provision.
- HB 1102**, relating to compensation for services rendered in veterans benefits matters.

## REFERRAL OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following House Joint Resolution was referred to the Committee indicated:

**HJR 54** - Children and Families

## REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILLS

The following House Bills were referred to the Committee indicated:

**HB 1016** - Emerging Issues

**HB 1038** - Emerging Issues

**HB 1081** - Emerging Issues

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Committee on Children and Families**, Chairman Jones (88) reporting:

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Children and Families, to which was referred **HB 737** and **HB 486**, begs leave to report it has examined the same and recommends that it **Do Pass with House Committee Substitute** by the following vote:

Ayes (14): Costlow, Dolan, Gragg, Hausman, Jamison, Jones (88), Kelley, Loy, Peters, Proudie, Schmidt, Steinmetz, Terry and Violet

Noes (0)

Absent (0)

**Committee on Commerce**, Chairman Casteel reporting:

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Commerce, to which was referred **HB 594** and **HB 508**, begs leave to report it has examined the same and recommends that it **Do Pass with House Committee Substitute** by the following vote:

Ayes (6): Casteel, Gragg, Miller, Peters, Seitz and Wilson

Noes (3): Butz, Kimble and Mansur

Absent (1): Mayhew

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Commerce, to which was referred **HB 595** and **HB 343**, begs leave to report it has examined the same and recommends that it **Do Pass with House Committee Substitute** by the following vote:

Ayes (6): Casteel, Gragg, Miller, Peters, Seitz and Wilson

Noes (3): Butz, Kimble and Mansur

Absent (1): Mayhew

**Special Committee on Tax Reform**, Chairman Coleman reporting:

Mr. Speaker: Your Special Committee on Tax Reform, to which was referred **HB 425**, begs leave to report it has examined the same and recommends that it **Do Pass with House Committee Substitute** by the following vote:

Ayes (7): Christ, Coleman, Costlow, Keathley, Pouche, Simmons and Warwick

Noes (3): Butz, Jobe and Strickler

Absent (0)

**Committee on Ethics**, Chairman Roberts reporting:

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Ethics, to which was referred **HR 141**, begs leave to report it has examined the same and recommends that it **Do Pass with House Committee Substitute** by the following vote:

Ayes (7): Anderson, Byrnes, Gragg, Griffith, Jobe, Roberts and Smith (74)

Noes (0)

Absent (3): Casteel, Terry and Young

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 141

ETHICS COMMITTEE  
RULES OF PROCEDURE  
103rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RULE 1. Scope and Authority

These Rules of Procedure govern the conduct of the investigation of complaints of ethical misconduct by a member of the House and are adopted pursuant to House Rule 37.

RULE 2. Definitions

As used in these rules, unless the context requires otherwise, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings, and the use of masculine gender shall include the feminine.

(1) Letter of reproof - A sanction which expresses disapproval of conduct based on the appropriateness of such conduct by a member, regardless of whether the conduct constitutes a legal or moral wrong.

(2) Reprimand - A sanction which recognizes the member's conduct constituted a legal or moral wrong and which may include punishment in the form of denying privileges of office is issued by the Speaker and the recommendation for reprimand is made a public record.

(3) Censure - A sanction which recognizes the member's conduct constituted a legal or moral wrong, and which shall include punishment in the form of denying privileges of office and requires the presence of the member in the chamber during consideration and vote by the entire House on such resolution.

(4) Expulsion - A sanction which recognizes the member's conduct constituted a legal or moral wrong and which may include punishment in the form of removal from office as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Missouri Constitution.

(5) Ethical misconduct -

(a) A crime;

(b) Willful neglect of duty;

- (c) Corruption in office;
  - (d) Any conduct constituting a legal or moral wrong which materially impairs the member's ability to perform the duties of his or her office or substantially impairs public confidence in the General Assembly;
  - (e) Any conduct constituting a conflict of interest under Chapter 105, RSMo;
  - (f) The intentional filing of a false complaint or the filing of a complaint in reckless disregard of the truth;
- or
- (g) Any breach of confidentiality provided for under these rules.
- (6) Member – Any Missouri State Representative or Missouri State Representative-Elect.

No allegation of ethical misconduct may be based on actions that occurred more than six years prior to the date the respondent assumed the office of Representative, unless the actions, whether charged or uncharged, would constitute a ~~[Class A]~~ felony offense under the laws of this state, or would constitute an offense of a sexual nature under the laws of this state.

**RULE 3. Quorum**

A quorum exists when a majority of the members of the Committee are present. A quorum of appointed members shall be necessary to hold a hearing of any type.

**RULE 4. Form of Complaints**

A. All complaints filed against a member shall be made under the authority of Rule 37 of the House Rules of Procedure. The complaints shall be confidential and shall be referred to the Committee on Ethics within fourteen (14) calendar days. The Speaker's referral of a complaint shall include a letter delivered to the Chief Clerk noting the date and time of receipt of the complaint, and the date and time of delivery to the Committee on Ethics; **except that, if the Speaker is the subject of the complaint, the referral shall be made by the Speaker Pro Tempore.** Each complaint shall be in writing and under oath from the member, or in the case of alleged sexual harassment or a violation of the amorous relationship policy, the investigative report shall be sufficient to be considered a proper complaint.

**B. In the case of a complaint of sexual harassment or a violation of the amorous relationship policy made either by or against a member, the Chief Clerk of the House shall contract with outside legal counsel for the purpose of investigating the complaint. The Chief Clerk shall ensure the complaint and any results of an investigation shall be referred within fourteen calendar days of receipt of the complaint to the chair and vice chair of the Committee on Ethics; except that, the fourteen-day referral requirement may be extended for good cause for a period no longer than thirty days.**

C. All complaints shall contain:

- (1) The name and address of the member or members or other individual or individuals acting as complainant;
- (2) The name of the member alleged to have engaged in conduct constituting ethical misconduct (**the respondent**);
- (3) The nature of the alleged act constituting ethical misconduct, including when applicable, the specific law, rule, regulation, or ethical standard violated;
- (4) The facts alleged to have given rise to the act constituting ethical misconduct; and
- (5) Where the facts are alleged upon the information and belief of the complainant, the complaint shall so state and set forth the basis for such information and belief.

~~[B-]~~ **D.** All records in the possession of the complainant that are relevant to and in support of the allegations shall be appended to the complaint.

~~[C-]~~ **E.** In the case that the Chief Clerk retains outside counsel to investigate an alleged violation of the sexual harassment or amorous relationship policies, the Chief Clerk shall notify the respondent in writing that a complaint has been filed, but shall not disclose details of the complaint **or complainant** to the respondent without permission from the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.

**RULE 5. Jurisdictional ~~[Hearing of the Complaint by the Committee]~~ Hearings**

A. Within ~~[thirty (30)]~~ **twenty-one (21)** calendar days of the assignment of the complaint, the Committee shall determine if it is in compliance with Rule 4 of these Rules, and whether on the face of the complaint, the allegations contained therein are within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No person named in the complaint shall act as a member of the Committee for purposes of such complaint. ~~[The]~~ **A** jurisdictional hearing to examine the complaint and report or other evidence provided to the Committee, and the determination under Rule 5. C. shall be conducted in a closed hearing.

B. Complaints determined not to be in compliance with Rule 4 of these Rules shall be returned to the complainant with a statement that it is not in compliance with the Rules of Procedure. The complaint may be resubmitted in the proper form.

C. Once a determination has been made that the complaint complies with Rule 4 of these Rules, a majority of the Committee appointed shall vote by roll call to:

- (1) Proceed to a primary hearing;
- (2) Defer action pending completion of any other administrative, disciplinary, commission, or judicial proceeding; or
- (3) Dismiss the complaint. When a motion to proceed to a primary hearing fails on a recorded vote, the complaint shall be immediately dismissed. The Committee may, in its discretion, issue a report in conjunction with the dismissal of the complaint.

D. In determining whether or not to proceed to a primary hearing, the Committee shall consider the following:

- (1) The credible evidence of ethical misconduct contained in the complaint, any report, or other evidence appended thereto;
- (2) Other administrative or disciplinary action by other interested bodies;
- (3) Criminal investigation, Missouri Ethics Commission proceeding, or judicial proceedings, either civil or criminal; and
- (4) Other relevant circumstances that would justify expediting, declining, or deferring action by the Committee.

~~E. [Complaints determined to be in compliance with Rule 4 of these Rules and accepted for a primary hearing shall be transmitted to the respondent with a copy of the Rules of Procedure and notice in writing that the respondent has twenty one (21) calendar days to respond to the complaint either by way of answer or motion pursuant to Rule 7 of these Rules. The complainant and alleged victim shall also be notified, in writing, of the action of the Committee.]~~

~~—F.]~~ Any party may make an objection to the participation of any member of the Committee in an examination of the complaint on the grounds that the member cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision in the case. The majority of the members present shall rule on the objection to the participation of any member of the Committee. A temporary replacement shall be made to serve on the Committee on Ethics for all actions concerning a particular complaint for any member of the Committee who is prevented from acting on a complaint under these rules. Any temporary replacement made shall be of the same party as the replaced member and shall be chosen by the Speaker for the replacement of a member of the majority party or chosen by the Minority Floor Leader for the replacement of a member of the minority party; except that, if the Speaker is the respondent, the complainant, or the victim, the temporary replacement shall be chosen by the Chair of the Committee or, if the Minority Floor Leader is the respondent, the complainant, or the victim, the temporary replacement shall be chosen by the Vice Chair of the Committee. **If a member of the Committee is unable to fulfill his or her duties for any other reason, a temporary replacement shall be appointed under the procedure described in this paragraph.**

#### RULE 6. Confidentiality

A. Counsel for the Committee on Ethics, with the consent of the Chair and Vice Chair, may redact any of the names and identifying information of the parties mentioned in any report, or provide a summary of the report.

B. No member or staff of the Committee on Ethics shall, **during or after the investigation of the complaint**, disclose, to any person or entity outside the Committee, any information received in the course of service with the Committee, except as authorized by the Committee or in accordance with its rules.

C. No person, other than House staff or employees properly part of the complaint process by rule or policy, who reviews or receives the results of any investigation or report shall disclose any information contained in the report, except to his or her counsel or in accordance with these rules.

~~D. [If the complaint proceeds to a primary hearing, an unredacted report shall be provided to the complainant, respondent, and alleged victim.]~~ Any document provided by the Committee shall contain a watermark indicating that the document is confidential and shall list the name of the recipient.

E. All confidential Committee records, including reports received by the Committee, shall remain closed records unless otherwise ordered by the Committee or these rules.

F. No audio or visual recording shall be made of any closed hearing of the Committee on Ethics without the prior, express permission of the Chair. A violation of this paragraph may be treated as contempt or disorderly conduct as authorized under Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of the state of Missouri.

#### RULE 7. Answers and Motions

A. If the Committee determines that the complaint merits proceeding to a primary hearing, the respondent shall have twenty-one (21) calendar days in which to respond to the complaint by way of answer or motion, unless this time period is waived by the respondent. Any answer or motion shall be in writing, signed by the respondent and his or her counsel, if he or she has one, and shall be limited to the following:

(1) An admission or denial under oath, of the allegations set forth in the complaint, including negative and affirmative defenses, and any other relevant information, including supporting evidence which the respondent may desire to submit. Failure to file an answer within the time prescribed shall be considered by the Committee as a denial of each allegation; or

(2) An objection to the jurisdiction of the Committee to investigate the complaint.

B. Any motion submitted pursuant to this rule is not in lieu of an answer and shall be accompanied by a memorandum of points and authorities. Answers or motions not submitted ~~[within the twenty-one (21) calendar day period]~~ **prior to the deadline described in paragraph A of this Rule** shall not be considered by the Committee.

C. The Chair of the Committee shall pass upon such motions as soon as practicable and notice of the decision shall be furnished to the respondent and the complainant. A motion to quash a subpoena shall be decided by the Chair of the Committee.

D. Time limitations imposed by this Rule may be extended when, in the discretion of the Chair, such extension would facilitate a fair and complete inquiry and may be shortened when the Chair determines that there are special circumstances compelling expedition, and upon twenty-four (24) hours notice of said action to the respondent and the claimant.

E. **The Chair may elect to retain special counsel for the Committee.** In the event that ~~[a]~~ special counsel is retained by the Committee, the attorney-client privilege is applicable to the Committee and not to the House.

#### RULE 8. Primary Hearings

A. **Complaints determined to be in compliance with Rule 4 of these Rules and accepted for a primary hearing shall be transmitted to the respondent before the conclusion of the primary hearing with a copy of the Rules of Procedure and notice in writing that the respondent may respond to the complaint either by way of answer or motion pursuant to Rule 7 of these Rules; a redacted complaint or a summary of the complaint may be provided in lieu thereof upon approval of the Committee. The complainant and alleged victim shall also be notified, in writing, of the action of the Committee.**

B. A primary hearing may be held to hear arguments based on the evidence submitted in the case. The primary hearing may be closed at the discretion of the Committee. The Committee shall provide the complainant and the respondent or counsel for the complainant and respondent an opportunity to present, orally or in writing, a statement, which shall be under oath or affirmation, regarding the allegations and any other relevant questions arising out of the complaint or other evidence provided to the committee. Opening statements made during a primary hearing shall be limited to fifteen minutes for the complainant and fifteen minutes for the respondent; however, such time limitations may be increased at the discretion of the Chair of the Committee.

~~[B-]~~ C. The Committee shall require that testimony be given under oath or affirmation. The form of the oath or affirmation shall be: "Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this Committee in the matter now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help you God)?" The oath or affirmation shall be administered by the Chair or Committee member designated by the Chair to administer oaths. The Committee may take testimony from the complainant, alleged victim, respondent, and any other witness at the discretion of the Chair. The complainant, alleged victim, and respondent may submit a list of proposed witnesses to the Chair for consideration at least twenty-four hours in advance of the hearing. Only the Committee members, or special counsel for the Committee, may question a witness at the primary hearing.

~~[C-]~~ D. **The Committee may receive witness testimony and evidence upon which to base findings, conclusions, and recommendations. The Committee may require, by subpoena or by subpoena duces tecum, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers, electronic communications, and documents as it deems necessary. The Committee may issue and enforce subpoenas as allowed by law.**

**E. If in the course of investigating the complaint, the Committee discovers information that may indicate ethical misconduct by the respondent other than that outlined in the complaint, the Committee may, by a majority vote of the Committee, expand the scope of the investigation to include broader or additional allegations of ethical misconduct.**

F. At the conclusion of the primary hearing, a majority of the Committee shall vote by roll call to:

- (1) Dismiss the complaint, which may be accompanied by a report issued by the Committee;
- (2) Proceed by undertaking a formal hearing; or
- (3) Offer a recommended sanction to the member which may include one of the following:
  - (a) Letter of reproof;
  - (b) Reprimand;
  - (c) Censure; or
  - (d) Expulsion.

The member shall be given notice of his or her right to object to the Committee's recommended sanction by the time set forth by the Committee, which shall be no less than seventy-two hours. If the respondent fails to object in writing to the Committee's recommendation, ~~he or she~~ **the respondent** shall be deemed to waive any and all rights to further proceedings before the Committee on Ethics and the Committee report **issued by the committee pursuant to this paragraph** shall be filed by the Committee in the form of a House Resolution with the Clerk of the House. The recommendation shall also be published in the House Journal and automatically placed on the House Resolutions Calendar without further referral. If the respondent objects in writing to the recommendation within the time set forth by the Committee, the Committee shall proceed to a formal hearing, which shall take place no later than ninety days after the receipt of such objection or as scheduled or extended by a majority vote of the Committee.

#### RULE 9. Formal Hearings

A. **If the respondent objects in writing to the Committee's recommendation pursuant to Rule 8**, a formal hearing shall be held on the record to receive evidence upon which to base findings, conclusions, and recommendations, if any, to the House; except that, such hearing may be closed at the discretion of the Committee. The Committee may require, by subpoena or otherwise, or by subpoena duces tecum, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers, electronic communications, and documents as it deems necessary. The Committee may issue and enforce subpoenas as allowed by law.

B. Prior to setting a hearing date and issuing subpoenas for witnesses, the Committee shall resolve the scope and purpose of the hearings. A copy of this statement of scope and purpose shall be furnished to all witnesses. During the course of the hearings the Committee may expand or contract the scope in light of evidence received.

C. The order of the formal hearing shall be as follows:

(1) The Chair shall open the hearing by stating the Committee's authority to conduct the investigation, the purpose of the investigation and its scope.

(2) The complainant and the respondent or counsel for the complainant and respondent shall be permitted to make opening statements. Such opening statements shall not exceed fifteen minutes each.

(3) Testimony from witnesses and other evidence pertinent to the matter under investigation shall be received in the following order:

- (a) Witnesses and other evidence offered by the complainant;
- (b) Witnesses and other evidence offered by the respondent;
- (c) Witnesses and other evidence offered by the Committee; and
- (d) Rebuttal witnesses.

(4) ~~[The Chair, or his or her designee, and the Committee members may question any witness.]~~ **Only the Committee members, or special counsel for the Committee, may question a witness at the formal hearing.**

D. Testimony of all witnesses shall be taken under oath. The form of the oath shall be: "Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this Committee in the matter now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help you God)?" The oath shall be administered by the Chair or Committee member designated by the Chair to administer oaths.

RULE 10. Admissibility of Evidence

A. The object of the hearings shall be to ascertain the truth. Any evidence that is relevant and probative shall be admissible, unless privileged or unless the Constitution otherwise requires its exclusion. Objections going only to the weight that should be given to evidence will not justify its exclusion.

B. The Chair or other member presiding shall rule upon any question of admissibility of testimony or evidence presented to the Committee. The Chair or other member presiding may limit the presentation of repetitious evidence. Rulings shall be final unless reversed or modified by a majority vote of the Committee members present.

C. At a formal hearing, the burden of proof is on the complainant with respect to each count to establish the facts alleged therein clearly and convincingly by the evidence that he or she introduces.

RULE 11. Witnesses

A. A subpoena to a witness shall be served sufficiently in advance of his or her scheduled appearance to allow the witness a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Committee, to prepare for the hearing and to employ counsel should he or she so desire.

B. Except as otherwise specifically authorized by the Chair, no member of the Committee or staff shall make public the name of any witness subpoenaed by the Committee before his or her scheduled appearance.

C. Witnesses at formal hearings may be accompanied by their counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights and to raise objections to procedures or to the admissibility of testimony and evidence.

D. **The** Chair may limit such testimony when, in his or her discretion, he or she finds the testimony is repetitious, cumulative, or irrelevant.

E. Each witness subpoenaed by the Committee shall be reimbursed for those reasonable expenses approved by the Committee.

F. Each witness shall be furnished a printed copy of the Rules of Procedure and the pertinent provisions of the Rules of the House applicable to the rights of witnesses.

G. Within ten calendar days before the scheduled formal hearing, each party shall notify the Committee and all other parties to the complaint, in writing, of the witnesses that are to appear at the formal hearing. Within five calendar days before the scheduled formal hearing, each party shall notify the Committee and all other parties to the complaint, in writing, of any proposed rebuttal witnesses that are to appear on his or her behalf. The Chair may exercise discretion in allowing any party's good faith request for additional witnesses that are proposed after the expiration of these time limits, or in denying any witness request made by a party if such request is not made in good faith.

RULE 12. Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations

A. At the completion of the primary hearing or formal hearings, the Committee, by a majority vote of its members, shall, within forty-five (45) days, adopt a report stating its findings and conclusions on the complaint. The report shall be filed with the Chief Clerk of the House, with a copy delivered to the office of the Speaker, office of the Majority Floor Leader, and office of the Minority Floor Leader, and shall be printed in the House Journal. In the event the Committee finds that the complaint is not well-founded, the report shall so state, and shall include a copy of a Letter of Reprimand if the Committee authorized such sanction. In the event the Committee finds that the complaint is well-founded, the report shall state the Committee's recommendation in a resolution appended thereto.

B. The resolution shall state the Committee's findings and conclusions on each allegation in the complaint with the recommendation that the House take one of the following actions:

- (1) Letter of reprimand;
- (2) Reprimand;
- (3) Censure; or
- (4) Expulsion.

C. The chair or counsel for the Committee shall redact from its findings, conclusions, and recommendations, the name or names and any identifying information of any person or persons alleged to be a victim of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct by a member. An alleged victim may consent to the release of his or her name or other identifying information by providing a written request to the chair of the Committee.

D. The Committee's recommendation may also require payment of restitution and costs incurred in the investigation, or impose any other sanction that the Committee deems just and proper under the circumstances, but the amount of restitution and costs shall not exceed the costs incurred by the House related to the complaint. Any assessment of fines or restitution and costs shall be paid in full by the member no later than thirty days after the

adoption of a recommendation by the House of Representatives. If the member fails to pay in full by the expiration of the thirty-day time period, then the Chief Clerk may deduct from the member's salary an appropriate monthly sum to repay the full amount due by the conclusion of the member's current term of office.

**RULE 13. Matters Not Covered in These Rules of Procedure**

The Rules of Procedure of the United States House of Representatives Committee on Ethics [~~of the 118th Congress~~] shall be taken as guidelines in deciding questions, issues, and other matters not otherwise provided for in these Rules of Procedure, except that the Rules of the Missouri House of Representatives governing the party representation on committees shall apply to this Committee.

**RULE 14. Depositions**

The Chair of the Committee, upon consultation with the Vice Chair, may order the taking of depositions, under the authority of Section 21.380, RSMo, by a member or counsel of the Committee. Witnesses may be accompanied at a deposition by counsel to advise the witnesses of their rights. Only members of the Committee, Committee staff designated by the Chair or Vice Chair, an official reporter, the witness, and the witness's counsel are permitted to attend. Depositions may be taken at any stage of the proceedings and may be used as evidence submitted by the Committee on Ethics.

**RULE 15. Limitations on Scope and Authority**

Nothing contained in these rules shall be construed to limit the authority of the House of Representatives as enumerated under Article III, Section 18, of the Constitution of the state of Missouri.

**COMMITTEE CHANGES**

January 29, 2025

Mr. Joe Engler  
Chief Clerk  
Missouri House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 310  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Mr. Engler:

I hereby remove the following member from the Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee:

Representative Yolanda Young

I hereby appoint the following member to the Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee:

Representative Pattie Mansur

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Best Regards,

/s/ Ashley Aune  
Minority Caucus Floor Leader  
District 14

## SUBCOMMITTEE CHANGES

January 29, 2025

Mr. Joe Engler  
Chief Clerk  
Missouri House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 310  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Mr. Engler:

I hereby request the following member be removed from the Subcommittee on Appropriations - Public Safety, Corrections, Transportation, and Revenue:

Representative Raychel Proudie

I hereby appoint the following member to the Subcommittee on Appropriations - Public Safety, Corrections, Transportation, and Revenue:

Representative Yolanda Young

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Best Regards,

/s/ Ashley Aune  
Minority Caucus Floor Leader  
District 14

## WITHDRAWAL OF HOUSE BILLS

January 29, 2025

Mr. Joseph Engler  
Chief Clerk  
Missouri House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 310  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Mr. Engler,

I would like to respectfully withdraw **House Bill No. 589** relating to urban farms and food deserts. I will be making large changes to the contents of the bill and would like to refile it with a new bill number once we get the language fixed.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this request.

In service,

/s/ Emily Weber  
State Representative  
District 24

## MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following executive order was received from His Excellency, Governor Mike Kehoe.

### EXECUTIVE ORDER 25-14

WHEREAS, Article IX, section 1(a) of the Missouri Constitution states that a “general diffusion of knowledge and intelligence” is essential to the rights and liberties of the people; and

WHEREAS, Article IX, section 1(a) of the Missouri Constitution provides that the General Assembly shall establish and maintain free public schools; and

WHEREAS, access to quality education for our youth is paramount to the success of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the current funding mechanisms for public and charter schools in Missouri require reevaluation to ensure they are sustainable, equitable, and effective in supporting optimal educational outcomes; and

WHEREAS, maximizing educational outcomes through the most efficient use of funding is essential to ensuring every student in Missouri has access to quality education, thereby setting Missouri children and youth up for success both now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to modernize the K-12 education foundation formula to reflect contemporary educational needs, economic realities, and demographic shifts; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive review by a diverse group of stakeholders is necessary to achieve a sustainable, equitable, and fair funding model; and

WHEREAS, transparency and accountability in the allocation of educational funds are essential to maintain public trust and ensure tax dollars are effectively used to enhance student learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Missouri, do hereby establish the Missouri School Funding Modernization Task Force as follows:

I. Composition:

The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

- a. Two senators from the Missouri Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate;
- b. Two representatives from the Missouri House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- c. A member of the State Board of Education, appointed by the State Board of Education;
- d. A superintendent from a large urban school district in Missouri, appointed by the Governor;
- e. A superintendent from a small rural school district in Missouri, appointed by the Governor;
- f. A teacher from a school in Missouri, appointed by the Governor;
- g. A representative of charter schools in Missouri, appointed by the Governor;
- h. A representative from a non-profit organization that works on expanding school choice in Missouri, appointed by the Governor;
- i. A representative of the business community, appointed by the Governor;
- j. A representative of the agriculture industry, appointed by the Governor; and
- k. Other members as appointed by the Governor.

II. Support:

Staff from the Governor's Office and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall provide necessary support, including but not limited to, research, data analysis, and administrative

assistance. The Commissioner of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may participate on the Task Force as a non-voting member.

The Task Force may use an informal staff-level working group composed of staff from the organizations represented on the Task Force to assist in fulfilling the objectives of the Task Force.

III. Objectives:

The Task Force shall develop recommended changes to modernize the state funding structure for K-12 education.

a. Recommended changes to the funding formula shall ensure:

1. Equality of opportunity for all students, regardless of geographic location, socioeconomic status, or other factors that cause disparate opportunities;
2. Sustainability, based on realistic state and local revenue forecasts, including bounds for realistic changes in funding on an annual basis;
3. Incentives are based on performance of schools and educational outcomes; and
4. Adequate funding to sustain school operations and address reasonable educational costs.

The primary funding model recommendation developed by the Task Force should produce funding amounts for K-12 public education in the first year of implementation at a level consistent with what is provided for in the State Fiscal Year 2025 budget for distributions to the free public schools, notwithstanding any additional increases required separately by previously enacted legislation. Such recommendation should also minimize, as much as possible, significant negative impacts to individual school districts.

IV. Reporting:

The Task Force shall submit a final report to the Governor by December 1, 2026, detailing recommendations for potential state funding models for K-12 public and charter schools. The report should include up to three alternative recommendations or components of the recommended model, as well as a summary of feedback garnered through the work of the Task Force from stakeholders.

V. Compensation:

Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, subject to availability of funds.

VI. Duration:

The Task Force shall dissolve upon submission of its final report unless extended by subsequent executive action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, on this 28th day of January, 2025.

/s/ Mike Kehoe  
Governor

ATTEST:

/s/ Denny Hoskins  
Secretary of State

The following members' presence was noted: Boggs, Cupps, Diehl, Doll, Ealy, Hardwick, Hausman, Hovis, McGaugh, Myers, Pollitt, Shields, Simmons, Smith (74), Terry, Thomas, Thompson, and Weber.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Representative Riley, the House adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 30, 2025.

## **COMMITTEE HEARINGS**

### **BUDGET**

Thursday, January 30, 2025, 8:15 AM, House Hearing Room 3.

Budget presentations from the Department of Public Safety (HB 8) and the Department of Corrections (HB 9). No public testimony will be taken.

### **ETHICS**

Thursday, January 30, 2025, 8:00 AM, House Hearing Room 4.

Public hearing will be held: HR 141

Executive session will be held: HR 141

CANCELLED

### **JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

Thursday, January 30, 2025, 8:30 AM, Joint Hearing Room (117).

Executive session may be held on any matter referred to the committee.

Agenda:

Election of Chair (Senate) and Vice-Chair (House)

Director's report

Approve minutes from July 9, 2024

Directors report

Budget report

Periodic review of Rules

Ratify authorities

A vote may be taken to hold a closed meeting pursuant to Section 610.021 (1), (3) and (13).

Executive session may follow.

### **LEGISLATIVE REVIEW**

Thursday, January 30, 2025, 8:00 AM, House Hearing Room 5.

Public hearing will be held: HB 59, HB 145, HB 233, HB 1063

Added HB 1063.

AMENDED

### **PENSIONS**

Thursday, January 30, 2025, 8:00 AM, House Hearing Room 1.

Public hearing will be held: HB 657, HB 147, HB 686, HB 735

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

FOURTEENTH DAY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2025

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS FOR SECOND READING**

HJR 76 through HJR 78

**HOUSE BILLS FOR SECOND READING**

HB 1103 through HB 1129

**HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

HCS HR 141 - Roberts

**ACTIONS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 27**

SS SCS HCS HB 2002 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2003 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2004 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2005 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2006 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2007 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2008 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2009 - Deaton  
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SS SCS HCS HB 2017 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2018 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2019 - Deaton  
SS SCS HCS HB 2020 - Deaton