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Mike Kehoe

GOVERNOR
STATE OF MISSOURI

June 30, 2025

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI
103rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Herewith I return to you Conference Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 12 entitled:

AN ACT

To appropriate money for expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the Chief Executive's Office and Mansion, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Missouri Office of Prosecution Services, Missouri Prosecuting Attorneys and Circuit Attorneys Retirement Systems, the Judiciary and the Office of the State Public Defender, and the several divisions and programs thereof, and for the payment of salaries and mileage of members of the State Senate and the House of Representatives and contingent expenses of the General Assembly, including salaries and expenses of elective and appointive officers and necessary capital improvements expenditures; for salaries and expenses of members and employees and other necessary operating expenses of the Committee on Legislative Research, various joint committees, for the expenses of the interim committees established by the General Assembly, and for the Missouri State Capitol Commission, and to transfer money among certain funds, to be expended only as provided in Article IV, Section 28 of the Constitution of Missouri, for the period beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.

In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally

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CHIEF CLERK

required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While these may be worthwhile projects, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify the following expenditures at this time.

This budget includes historic funding for public education, totaling over \$4 billion, including half a billion dollars in new funding over the prior fiscal year and a nearly \$377 million increase over the next largest annual increase for this iteration of the formula.

Section 12.025

I hereby veto \$500,000 general revenue for the Truman Presidential Library and Museum. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

For a library and museum in Independence.

From \$2,500,000 to \$2,000,000 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$3,362,044 to \$2,862,044 in total for the section.

Section 12.030

I hereby veto \$500,000 Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund for the Kansas City Lyric Opera. The Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund is funded by a transfer from general revenue.

In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

This will still provide \$500,000 in additional funding.

For a non-profit organization located in Kansas City that has a demonstrated record of putting on operatic performances.

From \$1,000,000 to \$500,000 from Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund.

I hereby veto \$750,000 Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund for the Negro League Museum. The Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund is funded by a transfer from general revenue.

In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

This will still provide \$750,000 in additional funding.

For a museum that commemorates the contributions of African Americans to the sport of baseball.

From \$2,000,000 to \$1,250,000 from Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund.

I hereby veto \$250,000 Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund for the Buck O'Neil Center. The Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund is funded by a transfer from general revenue.

In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

This budget already includes \$100,000 for this entity.

For a Historical Education Center associated with a museum that commemorates the contributions of African-Americans to the sport of baseball.

From \$350,000 to \$100,000 from Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund.

I hereby veto \$2,000,000 general revenue for the St. Louis Symphony's orchestra. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

For an orchestra with a commitment to educational and community outreach efforts.
From \$2,000,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

I hereby veto \$2,250,000 Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund for grants to non-profit repertory theatres. The Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund is funded by a transfer from general revenue.

In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

For grants to non-profit repertory theatres.
From \$2,250,000 to \$0 from Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund.

I hereby veto \$750,000 general revenue for capital improvement projects at the Churchill Museum. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

For capital improvement projects at a museum that commemorates the life and distinguished career of Sir Winston Churchill.
From \$750,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

I hereby veto \$250,000 Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund for the Kansas City Arts Asylum. The Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund is funded by a transfer from general revenue.

In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

For a not-for-profit organization located in Kansas City which provides space and assistance to artists of all varieties.

From \$250,000 to \$0 from Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund.

From \$25,227,664 to \$18,477,664 in total for the section.

Section 12.040

I hereby veto \$4,000,000 general revenue to be transferred out of the State Treasury to the Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

From \$9,051,667 to \$5,051,667 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$9,051,667 to \$5,051,667 in total for the section.

Section 12.335

I hereby veto \$20,826 general revenue to create a Chief Deputy Clerk position in the Western District Court of Appeals. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

This is a personnel issue that can be handled within the Judiciary's core operating budget.

Personal Service by \$20,826 from \$8,571,609 to \$8,550,783 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$9,843,517 to \$9,822,691 in total for the section.

Section 12.345

I hereby veto \$2,978 general revenue for expenses for an additional treatment court commissioner for the 25th Circuit and \$2,978 general revenue for expenses for an additional treatment court commissioner for the 26th Circuit. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level

spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

For funding the Circuit Courts.

Expense and Equipment by \$5,956 from \$5,195,634 to \$5,189,678 from General Revenue Fund. From \$130,299,015 to \$125,109,337 in total from General Revenue Fund.

I hereby veto \$550,000 general revenue for renovations or improvements to the Greene County courthouse. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

This will still provide \$550,000 in additional funding.

For renovations or improvements at a courthouse located in Springfield.

From \$1,100,000 to \$550,000 from General Revenue Fund.

I hereby veto \$3,500,000 general revenue for technology improvements and upgrades for a courthouse in St. Louis City. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

For technology improvements and upgrades for a courthouse located in St. Louis City.

From \$3,500,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$165,234,785 to \$161,178,829 in total for the section.

Section 12.350

I hereby veto \$166,178 general revenue for expenses for an additional treatment court commissioner for the 25th Circuit and \$166,178 general revenue for expenses for an additional treatment court commissioner for the 26th Circuit. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in

new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

Personal Service by \$332,356 from \$64,814,612 to \$64,482,256 from General Revenue Fund.
From \$65,846,090 to \$65,513,734 in total for the section.

Section 12.355

I hereby veto \$1,500,000 general revenue for capital improvement projects or capacity-building grants for the statewide court-appointed special advocacy programs. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

This will still provide \$1,500,000 in additional funding.

For capital improvement projects or capacity-building grants.
From \$3,000,000 to \$1,500,000 from General Revenue Fund.

I hereby veto \$500,000 general revenue for a not-for-profit for a one-time capital funding project that recruits, trains, and supports community volunteers who provide advocacy for children. In the FY 2026 budget approved by the General Assembly, nearly \$775 million, including \$297 million for the foundation formula, in new general revenue spending was added above what was included in our FY 2026 budget recommendation. Additionally, according to fiscal forecasts, the current trajectory of state-level spending and revenues projects a budget shortfall starting in FY 2027. A course correction in State finances is not only warranted but will be constitutionally required to achieve a balanced budget in future years and safeguard Missouri's financial security and AAA bond rating moving forward. While this may be a worthwhile project, due to the aforementioned reasons, we must control new spending and cannot prudently justify this expenditure at this time.

Additionally, the demographic language does not describe any County in Missouri.

For a not-for-profit for a one-time capital funding project.
From \$500,000 to \$0 from General Revenue Fund.

From \$4,840,000 to \$2,840,000 in total for the section.

Section 12.400

I hereby veto \$581,520 Public Defender Reinvestment Fund for holistic defense services that provide public defender clients access to community services. The expansion of existing programs and services supported by State funding should be limited as much as possible at this time.

This will still provide \$581,520 in additional funding.

For holistic defense services.

From \$1,163,040 to \$581,520 from Public Defender Reinvestment Fund.

From \$87,136,846 to \$86,555,326 in total for the section.

Section 12.530

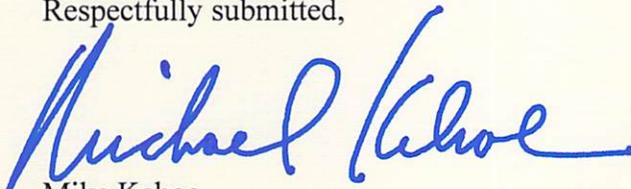
I hereby veto \$577,554,561 Missouri State Capitol Commission Capitol Preservation Fund for transfer into the State Capitol Commission Fund. This veto will keep the \$577 million in the Missouri State Capitol Commission Preservation Fund where it currently resides. At this time, there is no formal, agreed upon plan for the preservation and improvement of the Missouri State Capitol. The appropriation or movement of such funds is unnecessary until such plan is agreed upon by all stakeholders.

Said section is vetoed in its entirety from \$577,554,561 to \$0 from Missouri State Capitol Commission Capitol Preservation Fund.

From \$577,554,561 to \$0 in total for the section.

On June 30, 2025 I approved Conference Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Committee Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 12, except for those items specifically vetoed and not approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Kehoe
Governor