



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1124</b>		DATE: <b>3/5/2025</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Rural Issues</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<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>In-Person</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/5/2025 11:56 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MELISSA VATTEROTT</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-581-0561</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT</b>		TITLE: <b>DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY</b>	
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CITY: <b>UNIVERSITY CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63130</b>
EMAIL: <b>mvatterott@moenvironment.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/5/2025 10:58 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Bills 1263 & 1124 seek to put in place significant barriers to new wind energy projects. The bill, under the guise of avian security, proposes regulations and bureaucratic hurdles for new wind farms that are far more strict than the current FAA wind turbine regulatory suggestions. The FAA suggests that “exceeds an overall height of 200 feet” ought to include an FAA approved marking or light to ensure visibility. HB 1263 & 1124 include the provision that any windmill over 50 feet is required to go through a lengthy and intensive process to get lighting approved and installed on all their wind turbines. These provisions seek to slow or ultimately prohibit new wind energy developments by burying the developers in red tape. By lowering the height threshold and imposing complex technological and bureaucratic requirements, these bills create substantial barriers that could effectively discourage wind energy investments in our state. The potential consequences are profound: increased development costs could make wind projects economically unfeasible, limit Missouri’s renewable energy portfolio, potentially eliminate jobs in the renewable energy sector, and signal to investors that our state is not friendly to clean energy development. The environmental implications are equally concerning. By making wind energy development more challenging, these bills could slow Missouri’s critical transition to clean energy, increase reliance on fossil fuel-based generation, and hinder our state’s ability to reduce carbon emissions. The proposed regulations represent an unnecessary and potentially harmful interference with renewable energy development, going far beyond reasonable safety considerations and instead creating what appears to be deliberate obstacles to wind energy projects. Missouri has an opportunity to be a leader in clean energy innovation, and these bills threaten to undermine that potential. We urgently request that legislators reject vote “NO” on House Bills 1263 & 1124 in their current form. Instead, we recommend consulting with renewable energy experts and environmental scientists to develop balanced regulations that genuinely protect aviation safety without creating undue barriers to wind energy development.