



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1271</b>		DATE: <b>3/31/2025</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Conservation and Natural Resources</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>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>3/31/2025 11:49 PM</b>

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

**I am in Support of this Bill with NEEDED Built-In Safeguards to Protect the Sales-Tax and Citizens.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LACEY HIRSCHVOGEL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-418-8298</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>2200 MCGUIRE BOULEVARD</b>			
CITY: <b>COLUMBIA</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65201</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/31/2025 12:00 AM</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>	
ADDRESS: <b>725 KINGSLAND AVE SUITE 100</b>			
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>3/31/2025 1:24 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Dear Chairman Farnan and Members of the Committee, Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. HB 1271 explicitly authorizes county sales taxes for park purposes to fund stormwater management projects utilizing natural infrastructure within parks. Current law does not explicitly authorize the use of park funds for natural stormwater infrastructure, creating potential legal ambiguity. This amendment provides statutory clarity that enables counties to implement integrated solutions that serve multiple public purposes through a single funding mechanism. Missouri faces increasing stormwater challenges due to changing precipitation patterns. Natural infrastructure approaches such as constructed wetlands, and vegetated swales provide ecological benefits and cost efficiencies compared to traditional infrastructure, while simultaneously enhancing recreational spaces. The bill preserves local control by offering additional flexibility without mandating any specific approach to park development or stormwater management. Counties retain discretion to determine which projects best serve their communities' needs. In conclusion, House Bill 1271 represents sound fiscal and environmental policy that maximizes the utility of public funds while addressing critical infrastructure needs. I respectfully urge the committee to support this legislation. Thank you for your time.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TIM DOUGLAS BAKER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>tbaker760@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/31/2025 9:44 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I support this bill. As a St. Charles County Councilman, the issue I come across most with my constituents is creek erosion. The ability to use this money to help citizens will be immense. I am also a civil engineer and I have designed storm/creekbank erosion projects and as an ex Public Works Director and St. Louis County Storm water engineer, I have first hand knowledge of the damage erosion can do.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ERMA KELLY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>noel65438@gmail.com</b>		ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/30/2025 11:12 PM</b>

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

**How many more taxes do y'all think you need to put on a seriously. We're sick and tired of it tired and sick**