



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1408		DATE: 4/9/2025	
COMMITTEE: Crime and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 4/9/2025 11:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL CLARK		PHONE NUMBER: 314-393-1738	
REPRESENTING: ST. LOUIS FIREFIGHTERS IAFF LOCAL 73		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 4271 DELOR			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63116
EMAIL: d.clark@stlouisfirefighters.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/9/2025 3:03 PM

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Chairman Meyers and Members of the Committee, On behalf of the St. Louis Firefighters IAFF Local 73, I urge your support for House Bill 1408. Every day, St. Louis Firefighters respond to emergencies on five interstate highways and numerous high-traffic routes throughout the city. These roadway incidents place both our personnel and the public in harm's way due to the dangers posed by oncoming traffic. Our members and our equipment have not been immune to these risks. Firefighters have been struck, and multiple fire trucks have been damaged—including one that was completely destroyed after being rear-ended. While scene protection is crucial during initial patient care, once the patient has been transported, our crews frequently remain on the scene for extended periods—often over an hour—waiting for law enforcement to arrive and coordinate vehicle removal. This bill is not about encroaching on the duties of law enforcement. It's about enabling firefighters to safely and responsibly clear scenes when appropriate, so we can reduce roadway closures and minimize the danger to both first responders and the public. We understand the importance of preserving accident scenes when reconstruction may be required. In such situations—particularly those involving serious injury or loss of life—protocols will ensure that vehicles and evidence are preserved. In practice, law enforcement often consults our personnel on patient condition before making those determinations. To be clear, this isn't a question of law enforcement commitment—it's a reflection of the sheer volume of calls and limited resources available. We believe House Bill 1408 offers a sensible, safety-minded solution to help streamline response operations while protecting both first responders and Missouri drivers. Respectfully, Daniel Clark President St. Louis Firefighters IAFF Local 73



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WITNESS NAME: DAVID M RODRIGUEZ		PHONE NUMBER: 636-633-1528	
REPRESENTING: ST. LOUIS FIREFIGHTERS IAFF LOCAL 73		TITLE: SECRETARY-TREASURER	
ADDRESS: 4271 DELOR			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63116
EMAIL: d.rodriguez@stlouisfirefighters.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/9/2025 3:00 PM

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Chairman Meyer and members of the committee, Operating on roadways is inherently dangerous—even the most cautious drivers can struggle to navigate accident scenes with shifting lanes and flashing lights. We work to protect ourselves and those involved in accidents by directing traffic around the scene and positioning our apparatus in a sacrificial manner to shield the area. Despite these precautions, the potential for secondary accidents remains, further endangering the public. What we cannot control is the amount of time we are exposed—along with the public—to the hazards of an active roadway scene. House Bill 1408 simply aims to reduce that exposure by allowing firefighters to request and authorize the tow of disabled vehicles from the roadway. The faster we can clear scenes and reopen traffic lanes, the safer it is for everyone. The St. Louis Fire Department has had firefighters struck while operating on highways, and we've even had a fire truck hit and totaled while blocking an accident scene. Far too often, we are left waiting for law enforcement to arrive and call for a tow—sometimes for well over an hour after the patient has already been transported. We also want to assure you that this bill is not to take over the function of our law enforcement officers or imply that they are in any way responsible for the lengthy wait times. We believe House Bill 1408 presents a practical, safety-driven solution to an everyday problem. On behalf of St. Louis Firefighters IAFF Local 73 I ask for your support. Respectfully, David Rodriguez Secretary-Treasurer St. Louis Firefighters IAFF



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REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JACQUELINE BARDGETT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-8760	
REPRESENTING: THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 205 E CAPITOL AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: jacque@bardgett.net	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 4/9/2025 5:10 PM
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