



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
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: ALI GRAEFF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: alimariegraeff@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:20 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support this bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANGELA TOWN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: army1family@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 6:29 PM

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Paid vacation leave will kill small businesses, it's already difficult to keep the doors open with increased food cost, energy and insurance



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ANNETTE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: FREEDOM PRINCIPLE MO		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 5671 THOLOZAN AVE			
CITY: ST.LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63109
EMAIL: annettenowakowski@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:55 PM	

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

I am a member of Freedom Principle Missouri. I support HB 546. The increases in the minimum wage and paid sick leave will cause small and seasonal businesses to go out of business. The purpose of a minimum wage is that it is meant to be an entry level wage for a short amount of time and not a living wage for a lifetime. An employee is expected to work hard so that he or she can be promoted to a higher position with a higher wage.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BILL & JEAN HILLIS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-785-1016	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CAMELOT RV CAMPGROUND/RV PARK		TITLE: OWNERS	
ADDRESS: 215 CR 527			
CITY: POPLAR BLUFF		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63901
EMAIL: camelotrv@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 1:40 PM	
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As campground owners we are in favor of HB 546			



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BRAD JONES		PHONE NUMBER: 573-619-3077
REPRESENTING: NFIB		TITLE: STATE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 308 E. CAPITOL		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: Brad.Jones@nfib.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 4:45 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRENDA HOPFER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: brenda.hopfer55@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:22 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRENT THULL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: bt99ultra@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 2:48 PM
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Do not change



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BUDDY LAHL		PHONE NUMBER: 816-885-8500	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION		TITLE: CEO	
ADDRESS: 1417 W 47TH STREET			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64112
EMAIL: Buddyl@morerestaurants.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2025 12:57 PM	

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

I am Buddy Lahl, CEO of the Missouri Restaurant Association. The MRA represents the interest of over 12,000 restaurant operators across the state of Missouri. The Missouri Restaurant Association (MRA) represents the interests of over 12,000 restaurant operators across the state of Missouri. The MRA supports HB546, which defines a small business as having 50 employees and includes exemptions for seasonal businesses operating for 26 weeks or less. These guidelines benefit many of our restaurants and businesses in tourist areas across the state. Additionally, the MRA proposes that small businesses with less than \$10 million in gross annual sales be exempt from the sick pay portion of Proposition A. We recommend amending certain requirements that small businesses must adhere to under Proposition A. The eight pages of regulations in Proposition A are counterproductive to attracting and retaining businesses in Missouri. Specifically, the regulations on carrying accrued sick pay for nine months after an employee has left, extending sick pay to family members, adding a training wage condition for 14–20-year-olds, and providing a right to cure clause for employers without fines are all buried in the fine print. Most voters were unaware of the harmful effects Proposition A imposes on Missouri small businesses. These changes do not alter what urban Missourians voted for; they merely redefine the parameters for statewide compliance with Proposition A. As currently written, Proposition A is detrimental to Missouri restaurants. For a small casual service restaurant employing 40 people in a rural community, Proposition A will cost an employer more than \$1,300 per employee or over \$50,000 per year in additional payroll and tax expenses. With profit margins between 3-5%, operators will have no choice but to pass these expenses on to consumers through higher prices, layoffs, and replacing human employees with technology-based systems to minimize labor costs. This does not include the added time and expense operators will endure to comply with the regulations, taking time away from our core business of serving customers. In the hospitality industry, personal connection is paramount to our success. We value all our employees; they are part of our family and the most important part of our operations. Restaurants are an industry of opportunity. We hire entry-level personnel, teach hospitality and culinary skills, and provide opportunities for advancement. Owners increase pay based on merit and benefits based on profitability. Many operators would prefer to initiate a health insurance program promoting health and wellness before adding sick pay. I am happy to answer any questions from the committee regarding restaurants and compliance with Proposition A. In closing, the MRA remains committed to working collaboratively with lawmakers to ensure that our industry continues to thrive while supporting the well-being of our employees. Together, we can create a balanced approach that benefits both businesses and the communities we serve. The MRA is dedicated to fostering a vibrant restaurant community that not only provides exceptional dining experiences but also contributes positively to the local economy and community well-being. The restaurant industry is a significant contributor to Missouri's economy, providing jobs and supporting local suppliers and

communities.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: BYRON KEELIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-402-0655
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: FREEDOM PRINCIPLE MO		TITLE: PRESIDENT
ADDRESS: PO BOX 2		
CITY: BALLWIN		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63022
EMAIL: freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 7:56 PM

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

We are submitting this testimony in support of HB 546. Proposition A was a proposition pushed by out-of-state dark money groups to force businesses to pay a minimum wage of \$15.00 and paid sick leave. Proposition A is a bad policy and will have detrimental effects on Missouri's small businesses. The Entrepreneur Rights Act will exempt businesses with 50 employees or less or seasonal businesses from these dreadful provisions. The impact of this increased minimum wage will have a devastating impact on small and seasonal businesses by forcing businesses to lay off employees, increase prices, or even worse, force them to go out of business. Many small businesses in rural Missouri are family-owned businesses. These small businesses are the lifeblood of their community and generally serve as the connection for their town. These small businesses know their employees are their greatest asset and recognize the importance of offering competitive wages and benefits, but the market should demand what the wages should be, not out-of-state dark money groups.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROL PITZER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: allaboutjesus@centurytel.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:14 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. I STRONGLY FAVOR BERNETTI'S HB 546		



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL L WILKERSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: clwilk7279@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2025 4:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Without HB 546, small businesses and seasonal businesses will not be able to sustain operation due to the excessive new minimum wage. These businesses typically hire those that are less qualified for upper level positions in larger businesses or those that are still in school. Not demeaning these employees but the small and seasonal businesses do not have the income for higher wage earners. Seasonal business in particular have a minimal amount of time to earn their annual revenue. Also with the new sick leave scenario, an employee could call in sick on one of the businesses' busiest days of the week. Please vote in support of HB 546 to help keep small businesses and seasonal businesses alive and thriving.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CYNTHIA JONES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: singingblonde@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 7:56 PM
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I support HB 546 because Crawford County has many small and seasonal businesses that will be severely impacted by Proposition A.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DAN SHAUL		PHONE NUMBER: 314-378-4363	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI GROCERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: 415 NORTH KEN AVENUE			
CITY: SPRINGFIELD		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65802
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID OVERFELT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-636-2524	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI RETAILERS ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI GROCERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 618 E CAPITOL			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: dave@moretailers.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 5:53 PM	
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Small businesses need relief.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GEORGE & KRISTINE MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: gmmiller1980@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:57 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

We support this effort to support and bolster the economic health & foundation of the majority of Missouri's towns and cities. They were devastated, and many destroyed, by the mishandling of the now proven/exposed "fake" Covid "plandemic." Our governments, both state & federal, should grow/protect, not restrict ALL business. The business of America is, business" as President Coolidge so wisely stated. Thank You and your committee.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: GEORGE TUCKER		PHONE NUMBER: 515-577-2477	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TUCKERS SHUCKERS		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 366			
CITY: SUNRISE BEACH		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65079
EMAIL: searay332@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:11 PM	

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I'm in the restaurant business, our margins just can't support the extra cost of this. We are working harder and smarter then ever the last few years but overall we net less and less every year with the same amount of business. Labor costs are our biggest hurdle.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: HEATHER OVERSTREET		PHONE NUMBER: 660-621-3010	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: TOP DOG USA LLC		TITLE: OWNER OF TOP DOG USA	
ADDRESS: 213 E ASHLEY RD			
CITY: BOONVILLE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65233
EMAIL: missheatheroverstreet@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:17 AM	
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Presenting in person			



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES COOK		PHONE NUMBER: 573-937-1678	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: GASCONADE HILLS RESORT		TITLE: OWNER	
ADDRESS: 28425 SPRING RD			
CITY: RICHLAND		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65556
EMAIL: jcook@gasconadehills.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:39 AM	

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Supporting employee compensation exemptions for certain businesses can be a strategic move to foster economic growth and sustainability. By allowing exemptions, small and emerging businesses may have the flexibility to allocate resources more efficiently, potentially leading to increased innovation, job creation, and overall business viability. This approach can also help businesses navigate financial challenges and remain competitive in the market. However, it is essential to ensure that such exemptions are balanced with fair labor practices to protect employees' rights and well-being.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JOSHUA WILCUTT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: IT ONE SOURCE; WWW.JAKESJEMS.COM		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: ST CHARLES		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63301
EMAIL: joshua.wilcutt@live.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:57 PM
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With both my sons business and my own I support this legislation



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JUDITH MOOREFIELD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jlrmoorefi@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:48 PM
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I strongly support this bill and ask that you act as our voices, as you were elected to do, in supporting this bill as well.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JUDY SOFKA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jsofka@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:20 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KRISTA MICHELLE HARPER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-873-2866	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: WOSHELL1, LLC		TITLE: OWNER	
ADDRESS: 1837 N. BUSINESS ROUTE 5			
CITY: CAMDENTON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65020
EMAIL: michelle@camdentonfeedandsupply.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 4:25 PM	

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

We own a small business in Camden County Missouri and Prop A will likely either put us out of business or cause us to raise our prices which will ultimately put us out of business. Please pass HB 546 and support small businesses.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KYNA IMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-651-1185	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION		TITLE: LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1483			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LARRY HELMS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-337-0543	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: "BOILING SPRING CAMPGROUND, LLC" "MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF RV PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS"		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 18712 CLIFF RD			
CITY: DIXON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65459
EMAIL: larryh@dixoncamping.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 8:52 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Exemption is essential for survival of small businesses in Missouri. Must pass to protect the Missouri employers.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LAURA SALAMUN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-410-9609	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: POINT VIEW RESORT		TITLE: OWNER	
ADDRESS: 1620 VACATION L			
CITY: CAMDENTON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65020
EMAIL: lsalamun63@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 6:12 PM	

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

As a small, seasonal business in Lake of the Ozarks these mandatory minimum wage increases, and especially mandatory time off, are detrimental to my business. We operate a small resort and in the summer we turn the resort on Saturdays. This means we need to be at full staff. If I need to give every employee (we have 8) a day off it will mean I will have to hire an extra person just to cover off time. This added expense could cripple our already low margin business. Please vote to exempt smallAnd seasonal businesses.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LUKE REED		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-3511	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	
ADDRESS: 428 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA THOMAS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: melissaforliberty@pm.me	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:47 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

HelloAs a citizen who voted Against Prop A , knowing that it would likely cause most small business's to fail, I'm writing to support and ask that the committee vote a "Do Pass" for this bill to be heard and passed on the House floor. Small business's are the backbone of our state AND of America. I believe President Trump would ALSO support this effort to fight the consequences of out of state money and lobbyist who put Prop A on our ballot. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration on this bill.
Sincerely, Melissa Thomas, Cass County



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BOYD		PHONE NUMBER: 573-286-6621	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: INTEGRITY ELECTRIC		TITLE: OWNER	
ADDRESS: 403 BEAR CREEK RD			
CITY: BRUMLEY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65017
EMAIL: Wehaveintegrity@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 5:21 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

To whom it may concern. We support HP 546. These mandates on small businesses in Missouri are a death sentence. We believe this is true throughout the state but especially in areas like our at Lake of the Ozarks. We respectfully ask you to pass this Bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
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: MICHAEL J KERN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mkern45@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 7:30 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Small businesses need to be in charge of their business. If they can afford and want to give workers more benefits, wages, time off than let them decide. Forcing small businesses to do this only puts them out of business. A tip of my hat to Freedom Principle MO for bringing this to my attention.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE LAMBETH		PHONE NUMBER: 417-619-1144
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI CANOE AND FLOATERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 335 ARROWHEAD ROAD		
CITY: STRAFFORD		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65757
EMAIL: michelle@missouricanoe.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:33 PM

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

Thank you for taking my testimony in support of HB 546. As the Executive Director for the Missouri Canoe and Floaters Association, I represent businesses statewide in the floating industry. Small businesses are going to suffer from the new wage laws, but especially the seasonal businesses. In my industry our primary season is 15 weeks long from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Increasing the minimum wage and adding paid sick leave will destroy these small businesses. Not only will the wages increase but so will unemployment taxes, work comp, liability insurance, and other employment taxes. Sick leave is unnecessary for a temporary, short term job. Respectfully, Michelle Lambeth



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
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: MILDRED ANN BROWN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sugie502@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:34 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missouri voters approved the minimum wage increase just last year. The voters have spoken! When we vote and win we expect our government to put it into effect. I am now 73 years old. I was underpaid at \$1.35 an hour in the 1970s while fresh fruit was 10 cents a pound. Look how much it costs today! Costs rise every year irregardles of how much money you make. Plus \$15.00 an hour isnt enough anyway. Every year the cost of living has gone up, but paychecks don't match the rising costs. No reason to punish low income workers for that.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
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: NATALIE STEPHENS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: reidei7889@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:16 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I support HB 546 to protect Missouri small businesses.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
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: REID STEPHENS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: reidei7889@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:24 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support HB 546 to protect small businesses in Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: SELENA K. LAMBRICH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-471-4905	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SELENA's ACCOUNTING SERVICES		TITLE: OWNER, EA	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 79			
CITY: HIGH RIDGE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63049
EMAIL: selena@selenasaccounting.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:06 AM	

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

I think that HB 546 is a crucial bill to small businesses in Missouri for many reasons if Proposition A is not overturned. I own a small business myself and employ 3 individuals beside myself; they all are paid a salary far above minimum wage and I already have a plan in place that allows my employees pto equivalent to one weeks of their average time worked in a week after one year employed, however without the passage of HB 546 the seasonal workers I employ during tax season will have to be given PTO. In addition, many of the small business owners in my community will be devastated by the paid leave rules of Proposition A if HB 546 is not passed. Restaurants, retailers, salons and other businesses who often pay minimum wage are already facing the impact of the increase in salary. Many small businesses such as landscaping companies and cleaning services already pay significantly over minimum wage due to the increased labor involved, and some also offer employee benefits, but their paid leave benefits (such as my company) may not be to standards of Proposition A. Now many of these small businesses who do not have a Human Resources department in place will have to invest in an independent company to rewrite or create an employee manual that includes paid leave rules. They will also have to pay additional money to determine how much they need to raise their prices to absorb the costs of their new paid time leave. If they don't, they may find themselves in economic hardship after implementing paid leave. I am opposed to the mandate of paid leave for businesses, and I hope that the passage of HB 546 will still allow for small businesses to grow to a point where they can offer their employees paid leave and benefits without mandates.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
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: TERESA MCBRIDE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kcchiefs.teresa@proton.me	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 11:47 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I support this bill to help fight Proposition A which is destroying our businesses in Missouri. We need the government hands OUT of our businesses. Let merit and work performance dictate how an employee is paid.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: TORI MERCADO		PHONE NUMBER: 417-862-5567	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SPRINGFIELD AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE		TITLE: PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 202 S JOHN Q HAMMONS PARKWAY			
CITY: SPRINGFIELD		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65806
EMAIL: tmercado@springfieldchamber.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 4:35 PM	

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

Dear Chairman Casteel and members of the House Committee on Commerce: On behalf of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, please accept this letter of support for House Bill 546, sponsored by Representative Jeff Vernetti. Ensuring that we have policies that allow for a productive and successful small-business community is vital to the health of the Springfield region. Small businesses play a pivotal role in fostering economic vitality and job creation in the Springfield area. However, they often operate with limited resources and face unique challenges, including rapidly rising operational costs. We hear consistently from our members, specifically small businesses, the impact of minimum wage increases on their ability to operate and support their workforce. While we appreciate the intent behind minimum wage adjustments, these increases can disproportionately burden small enterprises, hindering their ability to expand, hire, and invest in their communities. This exemption serves as a necessary safeguard, allowing small businesses to maintain flexibility in adapting to economic pressures. By doing so, we can preserve jobs, ensure competitive markets, and sustain the entrepreneurial spirit that drives our local economy. We believe this approach strikes a responsible balance between supporting employees while allowing businesses to make policy decisions for their own workforce. As representatives of 1,500 businesses in the Springfield area, we urge you to support this legislation as a vital step toward sustaining our region's economic resilience. Thank you for your leadership and for considering HB 546. Please let us know how and if we can provide additional insights from our members on this critical issue. Sincerely, Matt Morrow President and CEO, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce 202 S John Q Hammons Parkway Springfield, MO 65806



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ABBY I TEMPLERRODRIGUES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: abby.templer@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:47 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

In November 1.6 million Missouri votes (over 57%) voted yes on YES on Proposition A to raise minimum wage to \$15/hr by 2026 and ensure earned paid sick days to Missouri workers. HB 546 is an attempt, fueled by corporate lobbyist who make far more than \$15/hour, to subvert the will of the people. Do not hang Missouri's working class out to dry.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ADAM ROSSI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: adampaulrossi@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:37 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I vehemently oppose denying 1.1 million Missouri workers their hard-won wage increases and benefits. Under this law, over two-thirds of the workers that won a wage increase in November will be denied. People in November didn't vote to increase the minimum wage and give benefits to workers who work for companies of under 50 employees. That's ridiculous. They voted to increase the minimum wage and give benefits to workers. Period. This law simply values corporations and doesn't value human beings. This law would be devastating for Missouri workers and their families. Oppose this law please. Protect the human beings that make Missouri great.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALBERTA MOBLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tamobley@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:49 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This was already Passed by the people. Keep your R mits off.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALEXANDRA KOGER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: aakoger7@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 4:26 PM

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

The MO voters (myself included) spoke with Prop A. I am against HB546 and any lawmakers supporting HB546 are against the wants of the people of Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALEXIS COOK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: alexis.gayle.cook@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 11:46 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

As a low-wage worker and someone who personally gathered over 2,000 signatures to put Proposition A on the November 2024 ballot, I have some thoughts on this bill for your consideration. Proposition A, which this current bill would overturn, was overwhelmingly passed by Missourians across the state— Black, white, male, female, Christian, non-religious, poor, wealthy, and all those in between. I had conversations with folks in front of grocery stores, at the polls, and on their doorsteps about this measure and how it transcends political party lines. Why? Because all low-wage workers, regardless of political affiliation, deserve to be compensated fairly for the work they do and afford to live. I talked with single mothers working two, three jobs just to make ends meet... and even then, she would need to make sacrifices that politicians in this room couldn't fathom. I implore anyone who has a say over the passage of this bill to research the origins of a minimum wage policy, and compare that to the cost of living in somewhere like Kansas City or St. Louis. If you believe someone making \$12.65— the 2025 minimum wage without implementation of Prop A— can afford to live in every city in Missouri, then you've either not done adequate research or are rejecting facts for your own political agenda. Either of which, indicate you are bad at your job and lack the ability to do your job as a congressperson effectively. I understand the appeal of this bill is to "protect small businesses," but the sign of a successful entrepreneur is their ability to pay their employees enough to support themselves and juggle their profit margin. If they are unable to do that, they fail as an entrepreneur, and it isn't on the state government to reconcile that failure. I will leave you on one final, and perhaps, most meaningful thought: Rejecting the explicit will of the people is the beginnings of tyranny. I may have lost some of you because it seems that "tyranny" is becoming a buzz word nowadays, but for good reason. Overturning an election result where 58% of Missourians voted "yes" to Prop A— the full text of it— is explicitly rejecting the will of the people in favor of personal or political gain. What is the difference between our state government and the governments of Venezuela or Zimbabwe? Both seem to reject the election results in pursuit of an interest that doesn't apply to their own citizens. I implore you to vote "No" on HB 546 if it's called for a vote, and to take the appropriate steps to prevent it from being called.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMANDA MICHEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: amanda.michel@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:40 AM

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
Stop. We voted for Prop A. The people have spoken. You lost on this one.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY R. BECK, PHD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: drbeckadvocates@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:36 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANN BODE RODRIGUEZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ann.bode@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 5:09 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANNA ELWOOD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: annafletch@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:07 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

We worked hard to ensure paid sick leave and fair measures for workers and our compensation. I am against this bill which would undo what has already been voted on and decided by a majority of constituents, myself included.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" 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: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 11:22 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am highly Opposed to this Bill and its awful intension of going around and undemining my fellow Missourians who just past a State Constitutional Amendment to set the minuim Hourly Rate of Missouri Employees. Give me a break Mr. Verneti. You are NOT smarter than the Will and the Vote of the majority of Missourans. Defeat this Bill!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BARBARA J FAVRE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: barbara.j.favre@sbcglobal.net		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:27 AM

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I am strongly opposed to bills that subvert the will of Missouri voters.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BEVIN EARLY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bfearly@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 11:54 AM

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Prop A won with 58% of the vote. Don't you dare roll back this victory in which the people of MO voted for higher wages and paid sick leave.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BLYTHE SPINDLER-RICHARDSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: blythe24@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2025 7:11 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missouri workers and their families deserve the living wages they overwhelming voted to receive this past election. This bill will be detrimental to many Missourians, especially in the face of rising costs of basic necessities, and it should not be considered as viable legislation. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN COLBY		PHONE NUMBER: 206-769-3497	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI BUDGET PROJECT		TITLE: VP OF PUBLIC POLICY	
ADDRESS: 6441 VALLEY ROAD			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64113
EMAIL: bcolby@mobudget.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 8:06 PM	

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

- **Over 1 million workers (1,127,391) in MO work for businesses with fewer than 50 employees.**
- **Firms employing 1 to 49 workers made up 96.4 percent of all businesses in Missouri.**
- **Private sector employees who work for a small business (fewer than 50 employees) comprise 46.5 percent of the workforce. MBP goes on record in opposition. The impact of this bill impacts a huge number of people and goes against the will of the people.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY KIEFER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: brittany.kiefer@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 6:44 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: THE NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR WOMEN & FAMILIES		TITLE: ECONOMIC JUSTICE POLICY COUNSEL	
ADDRESS: 1725 I STREET			
CITY: WASHINGTON		STATE: DC	ZIP: 20006
EMAIL: bwilliams@nationalpartnership.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:47 AM	
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January 29, 2025
 The Honorable Representative David Casteel
 House Commerce Committee
 201 W Capitol Avenue
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION OF HB 546

STANCE: UNFAVORABLE

The National Partnership for Women & Families appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition of HB 546. This bill would greatly undermine Proposition A and would have devastating consequences for the most vulnerable workers in Missouri. Proposition A is a ballot initiative that passed with the support of 1.6 million Missourians and would provide workers in Missouri with paid time off to care for themselves and their loved ones. If passed, HB 546 would override the will of Missouri voters and strip Missouri workers from the critical time they need to recover from illness or care for an ill family member by exempting any business with less than 50 employees. The National Partnership is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy group that has more than 50 years of experience in combating barriers to opportunity for women workers, such as sexual harassment and other forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence. The National Partnership works for a just and equitable society in which all women and families can live with dignity, respect, and security; every person has a fair chance to achieve their potential; and no person is held back by discrimination or bias. Through our legal and research support, we have worked tirelessly alongside partners to advocate for paid sick and safe days for all workers. Paid sick and safe days allow workers to take brief periods of time away from work to attend to their and their family's health. To date, almost 27 million U.S. workers – more than one in five private sector workers and six in 10 of the lowest-income workers— can not earn a single paid sick day. This disparity is even greater for workers of color, as nearly half (48 percent) of Latinx workers and more than one-third (36 percent) of Black workers report having no paid time away from work of any kind. Without the ability to take paid time away from work to deal with illness, workers must forfeit critical wages and possibly risk job loss in order to recover or take care of a loved one. For many households, just a few days of lost pay is equivalent to losing an entire month's worth of groceries or health care expenses. Paid sick days also have the power to protect the health of Missourians. Public-facing occupations such as food service (81 percent), personal care and service – including child care (75 percent) are some of the least likely to have access to paid sick days, even with their increased risk of spreading illness to the general public. The Food and Drug Administration requires service workers to work on a restricted basis until 24 hours after symptoms subside, but nearly 60 percent of food service workers surveyed in a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study reported working while sick, and nearly half of those workers said they went to work because they did not have paid sick days. Furthermore, the Centers for Disease and Control also found that 40 percent of foodborne illness outbreaks were caused by ill or infectious food workers. With access to this form of earned time off, previous studies suggest that Missouri's

workers would be 1.5 times less likely than those without paid time away to report going to work with a contagious illness like the flu or a viral infection. Paid sick days are good for business as well, saving employers up to \$2.4 billion each year through fewer absences from reduced spread of flu-like illnesses alone. Workers with paid sick time are also three times more likely to obtain timely medical care, helping them recover faster from illness and get back to work sooner with reduced health care costs. Additionally, providing workers flexibility can reduce turnover by 50 percent; reducing costs incurred from advertising, interviewing, and training new hires that can add up to 24 percent of a worker's annual compensation. These benefits will cost businesses little to nothing when it comes to their bottom line – paid sick days laws have not increased business bankruptcies and businesses providing paid sick days are less likely to fail in their first years of operation. For example, a DC audit found that a paid sick and safe leave law did not discourage owners from basing businesses in the District. HB 546 would also restrict the number of workers who could receive paid safe days. Paid safe days support the ability of survivors of domestic violence and their families to seek medical assistance, obtain a protective order, access assistance or relocate from their current dwelling. Low-income workers are the least likely to have access to any paid leave, risk termination if they are absent, are the least likely to have significant savings, and face high schedule unpredictability. These factors mean they cannot afford the lost wages and out-of-pocket costs associated with the fallout of domestic violence incidents, they are more likely to stay trapped in a cycle of abuse. Earned safety days can help workers seek safety and healing from domestic violence and sexual assault and help protect the economic stability and lives of Missourians. Paid sick leave for all workers is long overdue. Over 35 other jurisdictions nationwide have adopted paid sick days laws, including 17 states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Michigan, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, Alaska, and Nebraska. Overall, HB 546 fails Missourians and leaves workers with the impossible choice of risking their paycheck and caring for loved ones or themselves – all of which Proposition A sought to prevent. We respectfully urge an unfavorable report on the bill. If you have any questions about this testimony, please contact Brittany Williams, Economic Justice Policy Counsel at the National Partnership for Women & Families at bwilliams@nationalpartnership.org. Sincerely, Brittany Williams Economic Justice Policy Counsel



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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CARA ARTMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: singingcara@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:58 PM
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WE voted YES on Prop A. Fair wages and paid sick days strengthen our communities, local businesses, and the economy. No one should have to choose between their own or their children's health and their paycheck. Having a home with a stable income is proven to support children's healthy development. Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CARA HILE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: carahile@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:33 AM
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This November, over 1.6 million Missourians (over 57% of voters across Missouri) voted YES on Proposition A to raise minimum wage to \$15/hr by 2026 and ensure earned paid sick days to Missouri workers. The people of Missouri have spoken and this is what they want. Exempting businesses with less than 50 employees will deny the will of the voters to over 1 million Missouri workers. If you can't afford to pay people what they deserve then maybe you shouldn't have a small business. Please respect the will of the voters and vote down HB546



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CARA HUHMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: clhuhman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 1:04 PM
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The majority of citizens voted for Prop A. Legislature should not go behind the backs of their citizens to create a bunch of exemptions to Prop A. Exemptions should go back to the voters if needed. Implement Prop A as intended.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROLYN RANDAZZO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cmrandazzo@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:40 AM
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The people of Missouri made it clear in November that we wanted the minimum wage raised to a wage that, while not a living wage, would help workers have a more stable life. We also made it clear that everyone needs paid sick leave. Do you really want workers who are sick to continue to come into work, spreading germs to other workers, management, and customers? Sick workers are not usually productive workers. Workers feel valued when they earn a decent wage and time off when they are sick. I oppose HB546.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CASSANDRA GOMEZ		PHONE NUMBER: 212-285-3033	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT		TITLE: SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEY	
ADDRESS: 90 BROAD STREET, SUITE 1100			
CITY: NEW YORK		STATE: NY	ZIP: 10004
EMAIL: cgomez@nelp.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 6:53 PM	

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My name is Cassandra Gomez. I am a Senior Staff Attorney at the National Employment Law Project (NELP). Founded in 1969, NELP is a non-profit, non-partisan leading advocacy organization with the mission to build a just and inclusive economy where all workers have expansive rights and thrive in good jobs. We partner with federal, state, and local lawmakers on a wide range of workforce issues. We have worked with dozens of city councils and state legislatures across the country and with the U.S. Congress on measures to boost labor standards, including higher minimum wages, efficient enforcement, unemployment insurance modernization, and other policies that protect workers. Most relevant to today’s hearing, we have also helped support numerous community-driven ballot initiatives to improve labor standards for all workers. Thank you to the Committee on Commerce for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding HB 546, which would significantly undermine Missouri’s minimum wage and paid sick time laws as recently modified and enacted by Missouri voters via Proposition A. We urge you to oppose HB 546 in order to protect the will of Missourians and provide essential workplace rights to workers throughout the state. HB 546 Would Take Missouri Backward. In November 2024, a strong majority of voters in Missouri voted in favor of Proposition A. As reflected by its popularity across party lines, Proposition A will bring much-desired change to Missouri. Specifically, the Proposition 1) gradually increases the state’s minimum wage over the course of the next few years, and 2) creates a new right to earned paid sick time for covered workers. If allowed to move forward, HB 546 would roll back voter-approved Proposition A. Missouri voters directly approved Proposition A by a strong majority, with approximately 58 percent of Missourians voting in support. Natalie Wallington, 27 Counties and 2 Cities Supported Proposition A in Missouri. Was Yours One of Them?, The Kansas City Star (Nov. 9, 2024), <https://www.kansascity.com/news/politics-government/election/article295267969.html>. Beyond being approved by voters in general, voters approved Proposition A across party lines. Many counties that voted staunchly in favor of Trump/Vance also voted yes on Proposition A—for example, rural counties, such as Taney County and Henry County favored Proposition A. See id.; County Results: State of Missouri – General Election, November 05, 2024, Missouri Sec. of State, <https://enr.sos.mo.gov/CountyResults.aspx> (last accessed Jan. 29, 2025). These results show that Missourians are aligned: Missourians will be better off with the increased minimum wage and newly enacted paid sick time provisions. Now, mere months after Missourians made their desires loud and clear, HB 546 places the will of the People of Missouri in peril. In particular, HB 546 would exempt businesses with 50 or fewer employees and seasonal businesses from having to comply with both the higher minimum wage rate and the newly enacted paid sick time law. This unwarranted amendment to Proposition A would effectively repeal these newly enacted rights for many Missourians, in direction violation of the will of the voters. Almost half of Missourians (46.5 percent) who are private-sector employees work for businesses with fewer than 50 employees. 2022 Missouri

Businesses by Size, Missouri Economic Research & Information Ctr. (March 2024), <https://meric.mo.gov/media/pdf/mo-businesses-size#:~:text=Private%20sector%20employees%20who%20work,46.5%20percent%20of%20the%20workforce>. And 96.4 percent of all businesses in Missouri employ fewer than 50 employees. Id. HB 546 would harm workers and leave Missouri worse off. HB 546 would have a significantly negative impact on workers and public health. The benefits of paid sick time protections are well-documented and well-researched. Paid sick time has been shown to serve as a critical public health measure as it reduces the spread of illnesses and allows workers to seek preventive care. Fact Sheet: Nationwide Paid Sick Days are Essential for Public Health, A Better Balance (Feb. 28, 2020), <https://www.abetterbalance.org/resources/fact-sheet-paid-sick-days-are-essential-for-public-health/>; Summary of Studies on the Health Effects of Paid Sick & Safe Time Ordinances, A Better Balance (May 12, 2023), <https://www.abetterbalance.org/resources/summary-of-studies-on-the-health-effects-of-paid-sick-safe-time-ordinances/>. Paid sick time has also proven to be an effective tool for businesses as it increases worker productivity, reduces instances of workplace accidents, and reduces costly presenteeism. Paid Sick Leave Is Good For Business, A Better Balance (May 12, 2023), <https://www.abetterbalance.org/resources/sickleavebusinesscase/>. Embracing the wide-reaching benefits of paid sick time, 19 states (including Missouri) and various cities and counties throughout the U.S. have enacted their own paid sick time laws. Interactive Overview of Paid Sick Time Laws in the United States, A Better Balance, <https://www.abetterbalance.org/paid-sick-time-laws/> (last accessed Jan. 29, 2025). Of those jurisdictions with their own paid sick time laws, only one county and two states completely exempt employers under a certain size from their respective laws. See id. Importantly, both of those states will repeal those exemptions in their entirety in the near future. (Pursuant to a decision recently released by the Michigan Supreme Court, the State of Michigan's paid sick time law will cover employers with one or more employees effective February 21, 2025. See Earned Sick Time Act - Effective Feb. 21, 2025, Michigan Dep't of Labor & Economic Opportunity, <https://www.michigan.gov/leo/bureaus-agencies/ber/wage-and-hour/paid-medical-leave-act> (last accessed Jan. 29, 2025). Pursuant to recently enacted legislation, Connecticut will gradually repeal its paid sick time law's employee threshold exemptions, with the full repeal taking effect in 2027. Governor Lamont Signs Legislation Expanding Connecticut's Paid Sick Days Laws To Include More Workers, Office of Governor Ned Lamont (May 28, 2024), https://portal.ct.gov/governor/news/press-releases/2024/05-2024/governor-lamont-signs-legislation-expanding-paid-sick-days-laws?language=en_US.) If HB 546 is allowed to move forward, Missouri's paid sick time law would be a major outlier across the U.S., encompassing the smallest scope of covered workers. While Proposition A's paid sick time measures are new to Missouri, minimum wage is not. For many years, workers throughout Missouri have relied upon the state's minimum wage law, which provides a higher wage floor than the stagnant federal minimum wage. HB 456 would alter the state's longstanding minimum wage law by exempting "seasonal businesses" and businesses with 50 or fewer employees, all of whom have long been covered under the law. This bill would take away a voter approved minimum wage increase for nearly half of the state's workforce, leaving them vulnerable to stagnant wages that do not keep up with inflation or the cost of living. Minimum wage increases benefit workers, employers, and the economy. See generally Minimum & Living Wage, National Employment Law Project, <https://www.nelp.org/explore-the-issues/minimum-living-wage/> (last accessed Jan. 29, 2025). When workers have more money in their pockets through increased wages, consumer spending goes up, resulting in increased production and hiring. Id. Employers also directly benefit from increased wages through increased employee productivity and decreased worker turnover. Id. HB 456 would take Missouri several steps backward when voters have made the path forward crystal clear. HB 456 would go far beyond ignoring the democratic will of voters in Missouri; it would deliver a gut punch to workers who need and deserve these workplace protections. Conclusion and Recommendations We urge this Committee to uphold the will of Missouri voters and reject this attempt to take away much needed raises and paid sick time protections from a large portion of Missourians.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CASSANDRA ROYSTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: cassio2265@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 1:11 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. It is unlawful not to enforce law one voters have made their decision clear			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHENOA BURNS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: noahrns11@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:56 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS OSBORNE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mtruculent1@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:06 AM
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This is a blatant attempt to subvert the purpose and intent of proposition A passed by a significant majority of voters in the 2024 November election. Such subversion of the voters intent in adopting the proposition would represent a significant breach of elected representative vows and an abrogation of responsibility in a democratic republic.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTIAN RAK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SEIU LOCAL 1		TITLE: MISSOURI AND SOUTHERN ILLINOIS DIRECTOR AT SEIU LO	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63139
EMAIL: lrodriguez@seiu1.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 6:01 PM	
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My name is Christian Rak and I am the Missouri and Southern Illinois Director at SEIU Local 1. The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1 represents nearly 45,000 working people in six states and 11 cities across the Midwest, including nearly 6,000 members throughout Missouri - from St. Louis to Kansas City. Last November, over 1.6 million Missourians voted YES on Proposition A to raise minimum wage to \$15/hr by 2026 and ensure earned paid sick days to Missouri workers. 57% of Missourians voted for Proposition A and to help working families, but now we are seeing attempts to undermine and/or get around the decision made by Missourians. While I am not surprised by these attempts, it is infuriating to see. Local 1 members and leaders worked hard for weeks and knocked on hundreds of doors to ensure Missouri's working families were aware of what was on the ballot in November: Prop A - Raising the Minimum Wage and Mandatory Paid Sick Leave. Missourians raised their voices and used their electoral power because they know Missouri working families deserve fair pay and respect. SEIU Local 1 urges you to listen to Missouri voters, and stand with Missouri working families and vote no on this bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLARE MCLELLAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: andthruthewire@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 6:00 PM
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Please protect the will of the voters and raise the minimum wage for ALL workers regardless of business size. Or at least make the minimum business size 20 employees or fewer instead of 50.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CONRAD CEDAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: enkidudethink@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 11:48 AM

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Absolutely not. 15/h 20 years ago wasn't a living wage. Under 15/h CURRENTLY is slave labor/holding pattern wages. If you can't pay an employee right, do it yourself. WE VOTED FOR 15 MINIMUM, NOW DO IT. There is no business without workers or people with money to buy the services. Minimum wage NEEDS to be 30/h



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CORINNE O'BRYAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: obryan.corinne@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:50 PM

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HB 546, which proposes exemptions for certain businesses from employee compensation laws, is a dangerous precedent that undermines fair labor standards, worker protections, and economic stability. This legislation would allow select businesses to bypass critical compensation requirements, leading to lower wages, fewer benefits, and increased worker exploitation. It is essential to reject this bill to ensure a fair and competitive workforce that upholds the dignity and rights of employees. One of the most immediate concerns is the impact on worker wages and benefits. Compensation laws exist to ensure that employees receive fair pay for their labor. By exempting certain businesses, HB 546 creates an environment where workers can be paid below industry standards, leading to financial instability for families and communities. Lower wages and reduced benefits mean workers may struggle to afford basic necessities such as housing, healthcare, and education. This does not just affect individual employees but has a ripple effect on the economy, decreasing consumer spending and weakening local businesses that rely on a stable customer base. This bill creates an unfair competitive advantage for businesses that receive exemptions. Companies that continue to follow fair labor practices will face financial strain, as they are forced to compete against businesses that can cut costs by reducing wages and benefits. This could encourage a broader erosion of labor standards, leading to a race to the bottom where businesses that prioritize fair compensation are at a disadvantage. Over time, this could result in an overall decline in job quality and stability, affecting entire industries. From a legal and ethical standpoint, HB 546 is deeply problematic. Employment laws are designed to protect workers from exploitation and ensure safe and equitable workplaces. Granting exemptions for certain businesses weakens these protections, opening the door to potential abuse and legal challenges. Employees deserve workplaces where their contributions are valued and where they are compensated fairly for their time and effort. HB 546 would have long-term negative consequences for workforce retention and productivity. When wages and benefits decline, turnover rates increase as workers seek better opportunities elsewhere. High turnover leads to decreased productivity, higher training costs, and a less experienced workforce. Rather than boosting business growth, exempting businesses from compensation laws may have the opposite effect, making it more difficult for employers to attract and retain skilled employees. For these reasons, HB 546 is not just a bad idea, it is a direct threat to the well-being of workers and the integrity of the labor market. A strong economy relies on fair wages, competitive business practices, and protections that ensure workers can thrive. Rather than creating exemptions that weaken compensation laws, policymakers should focus on strengthening labor protections that support both workers and businesses in the long term. I urge legislators to oppose HB 546 and instead advocate for policies that promote fair pay, economic stability, and a level playing field for all businesses.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CURTIS M URNESS SR.		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: curtis.urness@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 3:16 PM
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I don't understand why this law is being changed by legislature after the voters have spoken?! If our representatives wish to change the law, then this change should be brought before the voters through a legitimate ballot procedure. This is a very sensitive issue because many Missourians are living paycheck to paycheck, barely able to support their families. The power behind this law should stay with the people who voted, not with politicians trying to change it after the fact



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANA MALLORY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mallory.dana1@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:49 AM	
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I support the I tent and will if Missourians to raise wages and provide sick days. As a parent and grandparent in Missouri, I know what it's like to have to make tough choices when money is tight. That's why I gathered signatures to help raise the minimum wage and make sure that workers in Missouri earn sick time. And voters in Missouri agreed. Missouri voters approved Prop A with over 57 percent of the vote. One in five kids in Missouri lives in a household that will see a wage increase due to Prop A. As a parent, I spend any extras on my kids - like new shoes when they've outgrown their shoes the second time in a year, or shin guards and cleats for soccer, money for the school book fair. Raising kids is expensive, so we need to continue to invest in working families. Working families are the drivers of the economy. When we can afford to buy the basics and when we can afford to get sick – that's good for communities, local businesses, and the economy.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DANIELLE KOGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ddkoger@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 5:23 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVONNA FELICIA WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: davonnaw8@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:07 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

No one should have to choose between their own or their children's health and their paycheck. But for as many as 1 in 3 Missouri workers who don't have access to earned paid sick days, that is the choice they face - to either go to work sick or leave a sick child at home alone, or risk losing necessary income to keep food on the table. No one should make this choice and we made sure no one will have to when we passed Proposition A last November. The legislature must listen to the will of the people and stand with Missouri families. Over 1.6 million Missourians (over 57 percent of voters) voted YES on Proposition A to raise the wage to \$15/hr by 2026 and bring earned paid sick days to Missouri workers.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEIDRE NELMS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: deidreanelms@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 1:31 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Respect our democratic decisions and raise the minimum wage and require all businesses to provide paid sick days. No one should have to work while sick or while their children are sick. Restaurants and other small businesses are no exception. Allowing workers to stay home to care for themselves protects the whole community. If fast food chains in America can pay \$15 an hour so can all Kansas City businesses. Nothing in the letter of the ballot initiative suggested that this law should exempt small businesses.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DJ BARNES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: djsblackmail@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:15 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DON CLOSSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: donclosso@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 3:13 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a small business owner I understand that the welfare of employees is critical to stability and growth. I oppose this bill because it would undermine the welfare of employees who cannot support themselves or their families on any amount less than \$15/hr. Please vote against HB 546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DON CROZIER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: doncrozier@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 8:20 PM

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

I supported Prop A along with over 1.6 million Missourians. I know what I voted for and I know that the legislature needs to **KEEP THEIR HANDS OFF**. I'm sick and tired of you all running roughshod over the will of the voters. This bill would have devastating consequences for the most vulnerable Missouri workers- workers who are already exempted from federal protection.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DOUGLAS M. KINNEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: daventis1971@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 5:10 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

In 1970, 55 years ago, I worked the counter at my small town's McDonalds for \$2.00/hr. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator that \$2.00/hr equates to \$16.70/hr today. Come on, folks. Why do you feel you can arbitrarily overturn propositions supported by a majority of Missouri voters, not to mention a GREAT majority (58%) when you don't agree with the outcome? Are you smarter than we are? Keep up with the times! A living wage and time off is only fair and needed by workers no matter their age, job or gender. A living wage won't keep businesses from moving into Missouri but rather encourage better employees to work at these businesses. We live in a democracy. Respect and act on the will of THE PEOPLE.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH CALLAHAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lizz.callahan@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:12 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill harms workers and their families by removing protections voted in by the overwhelming majority of Missouri's voters in this past election. We spoke as a state that we wanted people to have access to higher wages across the board. Democracy is government by and for the people. They spoke, please listen.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH KRAMER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kramer.liz@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:36 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a small business owner in Missouri. While I only have a handful of employees, being a business owner has really allowed me to see how critical minimum wage and leave benefits are for employees, as it allows employees to be productive and engaged without fear that they will lose their jobs. Exempting organizations with less than 50 employees will hurt the economy and the well-being of workers across the state. The voters of Missouri supported these requirements, and we must uphold them! I would not want my employees choosing between their health and coming to work — it does not benefit them nor does it benefit me!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: ELLIE BLEDSOE		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: PLANNED PARENTHOOD GREAT RIVERS ACTION		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO ZIP: 63108
EMAIL: ellie.bledsoe@ppgr.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:16 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I stand before you today to express my strong opposition to HB 546, a bill that would deny minimum wage and paid sick leave to the more than 45% of Missourians who work for a business that has less than 50 employees. This bill defies the will of the people. In November 2024, more than 1.6 million Missourians voted yes on Proposition A to raise the minimum wage and guarantee workers' right to earn paid sick days. This overwhelming support from voters across the state demonstrates that Missourians believe that all workers deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of the size of their employer. HB 546 would undermine the intent of Proposition A by exempting small businesses from its provisions. This would create a two-tiered system in which some workers are entitled to basic workplace protections, while others are not. This is unfair and unjust. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and I understand the need to support them. However, we must not do so at the expense of our workers. Small businesses can and should be able to provide their employees with fair wages and paid sick leave. I urge you to reject HB 546 and support policies



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY DAUGHERTY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: emilyhdaugherty@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:20 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Missouri voters elected to pass Prop A, showing that workers rights are important to us. Wage increases are the desire of the people and our representatives need to represent what we want: paid sick days and a higher minimum wage.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EMILY RAPP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: emilyrapp@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:47 AM

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

Missourians voted in favor of increasing minimum wage so their fellow Missourians could support their families with less hardship. You are now disenfranchising these voters by trying to evade implementation of the \$15 minimum wage



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EVELYN K RUCH-GRAHAM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: evieruchgraham@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:17 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The people have already spoken on this issue. Please honor our wishes. After all, YOU work for US.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EVERETT KOEHN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ekoehndoc@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 8:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

In 1970, 55 years ago, a worker at the counter in a small town's McDonalds was paid \$2.00/hr. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator that \$2.00/hr equates to \$16.70/hr today. Come on, folks. Why do you feel you can arbitrarily overturn propositions supported by a majority of Missouri voters, not to mention a GREAT majority (58%) when you don't agree with the outcome? Are you smarter than we are? Keep up with the times! A living wage and time off is only fair and needed by workers no matter their age, job or gender. A living wage won't keep businesses from moving into Missouri but rather encourage better employees to work at these businesses. We live in a democracy. Respect and act on the will of THE PEOPLE.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: FRANK MANIACI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: simpleman72685@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 4:58 PM

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

A lower minimum wage forces people to live on food stamps. This is corporate welfare at its finest.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GABRIELLA ALMENDAREZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: gabbie.almendarez@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:03 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GARRETT GRIFFIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: garrettsakoulasgriffin@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 2:25 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

When the people of Missouri voted for Prop A in November, raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2026, we sent a clear message that workers deserve to make enough to take care of their families. I guess some lawmakers have other ideas. This bill exempts businesses that employ 50 or fewer workers from the law, meaning about 1 million workers will be denied the raise that passed at the ballot box. This is an attack on worker wages and on the will of the people. Vote NO on HB 546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GETTA R. HALL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: getta_hall@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 11:26 AM

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

Good Day, A fully-paid Golden Life member of both THE NAACP and THE Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a public service sisterhood founded on Christian principles, I have visited the Missouri Capitol several times over the years. I traveled from Kansas City as part of our Social Action Committee's annual Delta Days at the Missouri State Capitol. I was an advocate of Medicaid Expansion. Established in 1913 at Howard University in Washington, DC, Delta's first social action was marching down Pennsylvania Avenue for women's suffrage. This eventually resulted in the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920. Our advocacy continues to this day. Communities Creating Opportunities and other community and faith-based organizations sponsored several bus trips to the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City in support of Medicaid Expansion for citizens caught in the Affordable Health Care gap. I do not understand why Medicaid Expansion did not pass the Missouri legislature. How could a state legislature refuse billion\$ in federal funding to comply with the spirit of federal law in deference to public health? Your health care is partially funded by the taxpayers in the gap!!! The Citizen's Initiative Petition process is an important check to the partisan politics I saw evident in Medicaid Expansion which required Supreme Court intervention to be enacted. The failure of a partisan Missouri legislature to act in the best interests of our citizenry was countered by this process to get the issue on the ballot and it passed. Many benefited from Affordable Health Care (aka, Obama Care) especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Missouri has profited from the influx of federal funding as one of 41 Medicaid Expansion states. This was initiated via a citizens' petition. However, it seems the spirit of the law was not followed as bureaucracy ensued and continues to-date with budget squabbles. I was a paid signature gatherer with Missouri Jobs with Justice for the citizens' petition initiative known as Healthy Families. This past November, over 1.6 million Missourians (over 57% of voters across Missouri) voted YES on Proposition A to raise minimum wage to \$15/hour by 2026 with a cost-of-living provision and ensure earned paid sick days to Missouri workers. GLORY TO GOD. But, like we've seen before, industry groups and corporate politicians are already trying to roll back what voters approved in November, 2024. HB546 is the first attempt. It exempts businesses with less than 50 employees from the minimum wage increase and paid sick leave denying over 1.1 million Missouri workers these benefits! This is an egregious attempt to invalidate the will of Missouri voters and directly harm hundreds of thousands of Missouri families. Amazed by His Grace, Sis. Getta R. Hall (pronounced " G " as in Glory - "Ta" - "Hall" as in Hallelujah(816)-483-9759 - getta_hall@yahoo.com PS: I attended MOVPC (Missouri Voter Protection Coalition)'s Lobby Day on January 28th. We must take care of the working poor as Jesus admonished us to in Matthew 25:40. "... Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." (KJV)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GINA MEYER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jemeyer1955@comcast.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:20 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Please do not attempt to subvert the will of the people by changing the laws we passed. We know what we want, and that's how we vote. If you do not respect that, you are not the representative we want, and we will not vote for you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GLEN CONNOLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: glennconnoley@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 4:19 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missouri voters spoke loud and clear on prop A in order to make life better for our workers with a minimum wage increase and paid sick leave. I find it frustratingly offensive that you are no trying to undo the will of the voters. This bill should not be allowed to pass. One of several ways our legislature is disregarding what the voters made clear by their ballots. You are negating government by the people, and it should not be allowed to stand!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HAROLD WATSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: watsonh1956@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:18 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: IDA FOGLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ida@fogles.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 5:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We have to have a wage that actually pays enough so that the expenses of working -- costs to commute, clothes to wear, childcare, don't cost more than the paycheck. For many folks, the \$15.00 wage is the difference between having shelter and being homeless, between paying for kids shoes or looking for donations. As far as sick leave, it's such a tiny amount, really. But it could mean that the person serving your food at a restaurant isn't also serving up germs. Even if you have no regard for the wellbeing of workers, wouldn't self preservation prompt you to support a little sick leave?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JACKMAN ESCHENROEDER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jackmanesch@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:46 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Employees deserve a livable wage. If a business cannot afford to pay that wage then the business is not solvent, no exceptions.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANE LONG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: longel@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:43 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Please stop trying to reverse the wheel of the people of the state of Missouri. The majority of people support in increasing the minimum wage and providing paid sickleave. Those are just basic things that an employee should have and it's what the majority of the people of our state want.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEANETTE MOTT OXFORD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jmo.mott.oxford@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 7:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I ask this committee to oppose HB 546. Nearly half of Missouri's workers are employed by businesses with less than 50 workers. Workers in companies of every size need the protection of a decent wage - sufficient to cover the costs of essentials like food, housing, health care, and child care. All workers, regardless of where they work, need to be able to take off paid sick time. It's good for all of us not to have desperately poor workers showing up sick for their shift and transmitting viruses to the rest of the community. As a person of faith, I am a member of the Workers Rights Board of Missouri Jobs with Justice. We worked hard to collect signatures from our neighbors to put the minimum wage increase and paid medical leave on the ballot since neither the state or federal government would respond to our cries for help. Healthy communities depend on adequate wages and affordable access to medical care.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JEN BERNSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-277-9080
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN STL		TITLE: ADVOCACY MANAGER
ADDRESS: 295 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD.		
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63141
EMAIL: jbernstein@ncjwstl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:59 AM

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

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in opposition to HB 546. My name is Jen Bernstein and I am the Advocacy Manager for National Council of Jewish Women, based in St. Louis (NCJWSTL). NCJWSTL is a non-profit organization in metropolitan St. Louis, representing over 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state. We focus our work on community service, advocacy, education and philanthropy to improve the quality of life for women, children and families while supporting individual and civil rights, and have been doing so since 1895. When over 1.6 million Missourians voted for Prop A, we voted for an economy that centered workers and families. Prop A guarantees millions of workers access to paid time off to care for ourselves and our loved ones, something that is critically important because of two major flaws in the Family Medical Leave Act that left millions of workers unprotected. Over 1.1 million and nearly half (46.5%) of Missouri's workforce work for a business of less than 50 employees, the business my husband owns included. Prior to November, they had no protections for leave in case of serious illness from work, but we fixed that. Now House Bill 546 seeks to exempt any business of less than 50 employees from Missouri's paid sick leave and minimum wage requirements. This bill would have devastating consequences for the most vulnerable Missouri workers- workers who are already exempted from federal protection. This bill is bad for Missouri. NCJWSTL urges you to vote no on HB 546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER ANDERSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hennypenny66@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:55 AM

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

We can't let them undermine our victory with this bill, denying 1.1 MILLION workers their raise and paid sick days. The people of Missouri have spoken with our votes!



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER BIXBY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jennifersbixby@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:15 AM

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

We passed this so it shouldn't be an issue. To go against the will of the people is disgusting and shameful!



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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER SCHAEFER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: schaejfen@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:51 PM

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

As a concerned citizen and a concerned parent, I am opposed to HB546. People who are sick need to be able to stay home without loss of income, for the safety of everyone--fellow employees, the public that they serve and for themselves. Also, as a parent in Missouri, I know what it's like to have to make tough choices when money is tight. That's why I signed the petition to get Prop A on the ballot and canvassed to help raise awareness about the need to raise the minimum wage and make sure that workers in Missouri earn sick time. Missouri voters agreed! They approved Prop A with over 57 percent of the vote. And over 600 businesses and organizations endorsed Proposition A. Also, one in five kids in Missouri lives in a household that will see a wage increase due to Prop A. As a parent, I am concerned that many parents and kids do not have what they need to live, even when working a full time, minimum wage job. Raising kids is expensive, so we need to continue to invest in working families, as they are the backbone of the economy. We all need to be able to buy the basics for life and to be able to be sick. When we can afford to buy life's essentials and when we have paid sick leave, that is good for our community, our local businesses, and also for the economy. Please vote against HB 546 to make for stronger families and for a stronger Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA LEFTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jess.lefton@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 4:28 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The voters approved Prop A. This is a blatant attempt to overturn the will of the voters.



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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JIM DAVID KOGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kogerjam@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I do not appreciate the legislature trying in multiple cases to implement their own wishes in opposition to what the voters approved. We need to ensure we are providing a living wage for those on the front lines and access to paid sick leave as the voters approved in November.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOEL DARRAH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jocda1@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:46 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Prop A is the law of the land and voters knew what they were doing when they passed it with 58% of the vote. We need to raise wages and give folks paid sick days that they earn by showing up to work everyday and providing goods and services to our community. My kids preschool teachers got a raise and will now earn time off when they are sick-- which I know happens because kids are full of germs and illness. This will help keep everyone healthy! Please don't mess with our vote. I care a lot about my local community and my neighbors and the small businesses (many who signed on support Prop A) that rely on local folks having \$ in our pockets. Prop A is good for us! Leave it be please.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN F HICKEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: johnhickey77@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 11:12 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Our state government is a democracy. The voters of Missouri have spoken. Voters overwhelmingly passed the measure to increase the state minimum wage and require earned sick leave. It would be wrong for the State Legislature to overturn the vote of the people. The people of Missouri understand that a higher minimum wage is good for our state. The increase will bring make it more possible for Missouri families to put food on the table and pay the rent. Earned sick leave is also good for Missouri. It is not good policy to force workers to go to work when they are sick. For example, many fast food workers do not have earned sick leave. If those workers are forced to go to work due to a lack of earned sick leave, all of us are negatively impacted. This is common sense.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN MICHAEL PIPES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: johnpipes@jobsandfreedom.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:29 AM

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

It is disgusting to see state legislators being so brazenly anti-democratic as stripping away gains for low-income families, individuals, and their very own constituents. Instead, lawmakers have decided to do the bidding of corporations and monied interest whose profits come at the expense of unlivable wages and poor working conditions. Each time a state-wide referendum becomes the target of the powerful in Jefferson City they commit an assault on the intelligence and sovereignty voter who marked yes at the ballot box. These same individuals will wrap themselves in the flag and pretend to care about the "little guy" but then stab them in the back each and every chance they get. Vote against limiting the recently passed referendum in favor of helping Missouri's working poor.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JUDITH DASOVICH, MD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jdaso@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:02 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Proposition A is the will of the people. I was at the capitol yesterday in support of the initiative process as it currently stands. Do your job - work for the people of Missouri who made their needs known through a free and fair vote, not the money that buys your vote.



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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JULIE HOLLAND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: juliedemandsaction@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:36 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill goes against the will of the majority of people who passed proposition A. Legislators are supposed to support the will the people not go against it



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KAREN ANDERSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: anderson.karen@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:30 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The people of Missouri voted to increase minimum wage and give sick days. I strongly oppose any efforts to modify or nullify this vote. Good lord, it's hard enough for people even with a raised minimum wage, especially considering that prices are going to continue to go up because our valuable agricultural workers are scared to go to work to produce our food,



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KAREN ROGERS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: krogersmo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The size of the employee workforce does not correspond to the employee's work, their contributions to the workforce, or their need to earn living wages.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATIE HILDEBRAND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: katieleehildebrand@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:56 AM

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

Missouri voters have consistently approved an increase in minimum wage because we care about working people in our communities being able to take care of themselves and their families. When low wage workers earn more, that money is spent locally and supports local economies. HB 246 would exempt so many workers that it is essentially a repeal of Prop A and is an insult to the strong majority of voters who approved it. Our elected representatives must respect the will of the voters and show that they care about working people and supporting a healthy economy by voting no on HB 246.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KELSEY THURMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kelsthurman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:11 PM

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

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 456, which would exempt certain businesses from paying employees a living wage and providing them with essential time off for medical care or family responsibilities. This bill undermines the dignity of hardworking individuals by allowing employers to pay wages that do not meet basic living standards, making it nearly impossible for families to afford necessities such as housing, food, and healthcare. Furthermore, denying employees the ability to take time off to see a doctor or care for a sick child forces them into impossible choices between their health, their loved ones, and their livelihoods. No one should have to risk their job simply because they need medical attention or must care for a family member in need. Fair wages and reasonable leave policies are not just moral imperatives—they are also economic necessities that benefit communities as a whole. When workers are paid fairly and have the ability to take care of their health and families, they are more productive, businesses see lower turnover rates, and local economies thrive. HB 456 prioritizes corporate interests over human well-being, setting a dangerous precedent that weakens the workforce and increases financial instability for countless families. I urge you to reject this harmful legislation and instead support policies that promote economic security and dignity for all workers in our state. Sincerely, Kelsey Thurman
 Columbia, Missouri 65201



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KEVIN PRANGE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kevprange@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:19 AM

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

Labor has value, and a person's labor value should not be dependent on the size of the company where they are able to find work. If employers value the labor of their employees, they need to pay for that value. Paying poverty wages will result in high turnover and shoddy products and services. Raising the state minimum wage to \$15/hr begins to honor the value of Missourians' labor - although still far short of a living wage in Missouri for those with children. Keeping families in poverty harms our families, social structure, and workplaces and, in the end, costs all of us more in the long run. Likewise, paid sick leave values the whole life of the worker and treats them as a human being and not a machine. One should not have to choose between their own or their children's health and their paycheck. Having a home with a stable income is proven to support children's healthy development. Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community. We worked hard for nearly two years to educate voters, collect signatures, and rally votes. To claw back these hard-won rights that 57% of Missourians - in rural, suburban, and urban areas voted for - is a slap in the face to Missouri workers and voters. It will once again show that this legislative body does not care about either working Missourians or democracy. Reject HB 546 here and now in committee.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY ALLEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: allenkimberlyc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:04 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The legislature and private businesses and other organizations need to respect the will of the people we voted so that people would have a living wage and benefits. Do not overturn the amendment that was voted for.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KIMBERLY WALLIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kimberly.t.wallis@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:23 PM

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

Do not roll back wages and earned sick leave. Missouri families and businesses spoke clearly at the ballot - the heart of our economy is our workers, and they deserve their wages and sick leave. There are several small businesses in my neighborhood - like coffee shops, a neighborhood bar, a local grocery, and a tax office - these workers deserve sick leave and fair wages like everyone else. Over 600 businesses and organizations endorsed Proposition A and Missourians passed it in a landslide last November. Research shows that during the phase-in of Missouri's last minimum wage increase, Missouri's unemployment rate went down at a rate higher than the national average and higher than each of Missouri's neighbors that did not increase the minimum wage.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KRISTEN CRAWFORD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kristencrawford78@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:50 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The people have voted! Do not take the will of the people away. I do not care if a business will have trouble if they have to change minimum wage or paid time off. If they can't afford to pay fellow citizens a living wage and let them stay home when they are SICK, then they maybe need to start asking family to volunteer. No business should be allowed to take advantage of the Missouri citizens because they can't afford to pay it. They need to fix their business model, not take advantage of the poor people in Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KYLE CRAWFORD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Keepyourskilletgreasy@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 11:09 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KYLE DAVID MEYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: k.meyer.917324@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:40 PM

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

At a time when Missouri's working families, such as my own, are still struggling due to price gouging, increased rent, and rate hikes on electric bills, the last thing working families need is the state to decide some workers aren't deserving of the critical pay raise they overwhelmingly voted for. Missourians made their voices heard, and I urge this committee to reject this bill in order to honor the will of the voters and support working Missourians.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LENNY JONES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION		TITLE: MISSOURI STATE DIRECTOR, SEIU	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63112
EMAIL: Lenny.Jones@seiuhcil.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:06 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) represents essential workers across Missouri and the nation, advocating for fair wages, workplace protections, and the right to dignity on the job. As Missouri State Director of SEIU, I, Lenny Jones, strongly oppose HB 546 because it contradicts Proposition A, an approved voter mandate ensuring that workers and families have a living wage and access to paid sick leave. In November 2024, I and more than 1.6 million Missourians voted to pass Proposition A, a policy chosen by the people, for the people. This overwhelming support sent a clear message: Missouri voters believe no one should have to risk their health or financial security due to illness or severe circumstances. Proposition A corrected two major flaws in the Family Medical Leave Act—it made leave accessible by ensuring it was paid, and it extended protections to workers at small businesses with fewer than 50 employees, who had previously been excluded. Now, House Bill 546 seeks to undermine these hard-won protections by exempting any business with fewer than 50 employees from Missouri’s paid sick leave and minimum wage requirements. This would strip protections from over 1.1 million workers—nearly half (46.5%) of Missouri’s workforce—who are already excluded from federal safeguards. Moving forward with this legislation would not only be a harmful policy, but a direct rejection of the will of Missouri voters. Missourians voted for a stronger, fairer economy that prioritizes workers and families. SEIU stands firmly against any effort to roll back these critical protections and urges lawmakers to respect the decision of the voters by protecting the rights and well-being of Missouri’s working people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LILY BUSSMANN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lilybussmann@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:53 AM

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

Missouri workers deserve fair wages. End the greed of corporations and business owners and support the people who pay your salaries! Enough of this greed in a world where so many are struggling! We will vote you out if you make it clear you do not support the working class.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA KAY SINGER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lindas.pball@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 11:47 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a registered Missouri voter who voted in November to successfully pass the right for workers to have \$15 minimum wage and paid sick leave, I am appalled that my vote may be overturned. Low wage workers are an essential part of our work force. They deserve these benefits. In the past, these workers have often had to work 2 jobs just to meet their families basic needs of food, rent, and health care. Without paid sick leave, they may have no choice but to come to work sick just so they can get paid which isn't good for them, their co-workers, or their customers. Please vote "NO" against the proposed bill " HB546. Thank you for listening. Linda Kay Singer



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA KRAM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lindakram@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:40 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA SCHROEDER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tandschroeder5@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 5:23 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a longtime ally of low wage workers who won the support of a strong majority of Missouri citizens who voted for livable wages and other crucial benefits, I am shocked and outraged that you would now attempt to cancel our votes. Please vote NO on HB 546!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LISA WARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lisaward1962@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:02 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missourians have spoken at the voter booth. This circular issue of legislature trying to overrule the voice of the voters has got to stop. Missourians deserve to have a decent minimum wage in order to make ends meet. I strongly oppose this bill. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE HALLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mhaller7@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:37 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

There should be no exemptions to the minimum wage law for any businesses. Missouri voters were clear about to whom the raise in the minimum wage applies. The Legislature should not be trying to thwart the will of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE OLIVIA EDMONDSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: ABORTION ACTION MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1210 S VANDEVENTER AVE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL: maggie@abortionactionmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:30 PM	

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

Chair, Vice-Chair, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of Abortion Action Missouri in opposition to HB 546 that seeks to revoke the newly established protections in Proposition A for more than 1 million Missouri workers– the most vulnerable Missouri workers- workers who are already exempted from federal protection. Reproductive care is directly tied to financial stability and wellness of a family. Many parents are faced with termination or loss of future hours if they take time off work to care for their families/children. Low-paid jobs are especially likely to lack basic benefits like paid time off or control over work schedules, making it especially likely that pregnancy will lead to income loss or job loss for these workers. Missouri women are 2.1x more likely to be low wage workers and we know that women and particularly women of color are more likely to experience gender and combined racial and gender bias in hiring. All of this is compounded by the fact that women have a disproportionate share of family care-giving responsibilities. As a result, because women dominate low-wage industries, they must jeopardize their wages and jobs when they take time off to care for themselves, a sick child, or other loved ones. According to the National Partnership for Women and Families, for the typical working family, just 3.5 sick days without pay is equivalent to losing an entire month of groceries. For single-parent families, which are usually headed by women, the consequences are even more dire. Lack of access to earned sick leave contributes to Missouri's gender wage gap, and research demonstrates that workers with paid sick leave experience better economic and health outcomes, than those without it. Missourians and Missouri families know this– that's why this past November the majority of Missourians turned out to the ballot box to vote in favor of Proposition A. Subverting the will of the people to exempt more than 1 million of Missouri's most vulnerable workers would be devastating for workers, subsequently devastating for families, and subsequently devastating for Missouri. Abortion Action Missouri, whose volunteers collected more than 15,000 signatures statewide for Proposition A, urges the committee to vote no. Abortion Action Missouri works to protect and expand every Missourians' right to bodily autonomy, to access essential reproductive healthcare including abortion care, to access accurate information to make the best decisions for ourselves and our families, and to parent our children in safety and dignity.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARI JACOBY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mari.jacoby@outlook.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:38 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

If passed, HB546 would roll back the law to deny 1.1 million Missouri workers their hard-won wage increases and benefits by exempting workplaces that employ up to 50 workers. That means over two-thirds of the workers who were promised a raise in November would be denied. Missouri workers deserve fair compensation and I urge you to oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARIANN MCCORMALLY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mccormallysmith@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 11:33 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The People of Missouri know what our State needs and that is a working class that can pay our bills and care for our families - and live with dignity. That is why we voted to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour. LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE! If a business can't stay-in-business paying a just wage, then it shouldn't be in business. Exempting some businesses from this minimum wage hike will hurt our State. Please vote NO on HB 546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY BUREN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: aburen99@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 7:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Please respect the law and the wishes of the majority of Missourians to maintain Proposition A. I took it upon myself to promote a yes vote for proposition A with friends and family, many on opposite party lines. All agreed to support this in November with many stating that \$15 minimum wage is NOT a living wage. Why can you not accept the will of the majority of Missourians? Respect our choices. Make Missouri a place for its citizens to be able to survive economically and a place where workers want to live compared to surrounding states. My full zip code is 64131-1640



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY ELLEN FENDLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: efendler48@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:00 AM

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

You had us vote, and the majority said to increase the minimum wage in 2026. Why do you think you can just change what the people voted for? Do you think votes don't count?? This is a democracy, that's why you asked us to vote on this issue in the first place. But you, as trusted representatives, need to honor our wishes, not your own selfish "whims". Do your DUTY: Vote NO on HB 546



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARY KLINE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mwkline54@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 1:30 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Why deprive people of what is the minimum of a living wage?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY LEE KOPPE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: maryleekoppe@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 8:35 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I believe you should honor the election results and enforce a new minimum wage. What is the point of an election if you ignore the results.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARY TIMMEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: marytimmel@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:26 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am opposed to this bill. Missourians voted to increase wages for minimum wage workers and those increases should stay. We deserve to have our votes respected, not undermined.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MAUREEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: m.flynn21391@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 2:00 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Establishments under 50 employees should be required To increase minimum wage. Adjustments as well as prices will increase, but those who use these establishments will adjust to providing a better living standard. Don't short change our citizens who provided needed services. Pay them!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VILLA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jacob31102@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:46 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
The people of MO overwhelmingly voted for this. You are obligated to honor the will of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MIA SEAGRAVES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: miaruns@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:10 AM

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

The people voted that individuals should be able to make a living wage and if they work full time, get sick leave to take care of themselves or sick family members. Your constituent's votes are legitimate and should be respected



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BERG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mistermichaelberg@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:34 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We voted for a change. Don't undo our vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL KELLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: michaelckelley22@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:05 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am asking the committee to oppose HB 546. Missouri's minimum wage was too low for too long. It is disappointing that people across the state had to fight so hard for the right to earn a livable wage only to have legislators push a measure to reverse those efforts. Without being able to earn a livable wage, residents will struggle to pay their bills. This will push them into our massively over-extended and under-supported social safety net. Missourians deserve to live with dignity and a livable wage is critical to that idea. I ask this committee to vote NO on HB 546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE MCCOY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: michellemccoy38@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:20 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a single mom and fortunately have a good paying job and paid sick leave, but many single moms don't. Missouri voters passed the proposition to increase minimum wage and provide for paid sick leave. It is unconscionable that a bill has been proposed to go against the will of Missouri voters and would not allow single moms to be more financially independent and be protected when they have a sick child or they are sick and decrease the need for welfare. Please don't pass this new bill that would undermine Missouri voters and ultimately lose confidence in elected officials to represent them fairly.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHELLE WITTHAUS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: michellewitthaus1@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:51 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This past November, I and the majority of Missourians voted for a minimum wage increase and guaranteed paid sick leave. However, Missouri lawmakers are trying to undo the will of the people. Missouri lawmakers need to uphold the will of the people and stop going against what we vote for. Missourians work hard and they deserve living wages and time off when they get sick without the risk of losing their jobs. America is supposed to honor and respect hard work, yet, Missouri lawmakers continually introduce legislation that is anti-worker and anti-workers' rights. This leads me to believe that they are acting in the best interest of lobbyists and those offering big dollars to their campaigns. This bill is another bad attempt to usurp the will of the voters, hurt Missouri families, and make it more difficult for Missouri workers to earn a living. For the good of workers in Missouri, the ones who deserve your allegiance, I urge you to keep this bill from moving out of committee.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY BATEMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: batemykee52@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:54 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The will of the people was made clear in the November election as you continue to say. Well Missourians have spoken on this issue. Respect it. Hardworking Missourians deserve a living wage with sick leave. If employers can't deliver that they need another business model.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY DIANE LOW		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: dianlow@aol.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 2:06 PM

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

A strong no on this bill. I have been a Big Brothers Big Sisters mentor for ten years and have seen the devastation that extremely low unfair wages and lack of sick leave have on families. It causes children to go without medical care because parents can't take off work to get them to a doctor without losing wages. It means parents work 2-3 jobs to pay for rent & their children are raised by strangers. It means children miss school when they miss the bus because no one has a car to take them to school. And it means children don't eat lunch because the parents don't fill out forms needed for free lunches. The only time the child I mentored had steady school lunches was the one year Jefferson City Public Schools had free lunches. She thrived that year. Not everyone has a functional family. When a parent works so many jobs without sick leave from any of them, we as a state government are setting them up for failure. A minimum should be a living wage. It was tied to the cost of living (COLA) until the late 70s. That needs to be restored. A person working a minimum wage job should be respected for their hard forty hours each week by living wages as well as a good work ethic. Because no matter what the job, they are contributing to our economy. In the 1950s, you could buy a house, a car and provide the basic necessities on a minimum wage job. This should be the case now. We voted yes to change our minimum wage. Table this bill & respect the decision of the Missouri voters. Fair wages and paid sick days strengthen our communities, local businesses, and the economy. No one should have to choose between their own or their children's health and their paycheck. Having a home with a stable income is proven to support children's healthy development. Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NATALIE HEATH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: heathn.natalie@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 1:37 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

All Missourians are entitled to a living wage. The proposed changes to the minimum wage still do not provide an adequate living in many areas of the state, and providing exceptions for some businesses will further hurt Missouri workers. If a business cannot pay a reasonable wage to its employees, it is not a sustainable business.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: NATHAN J. MADDEN		PHONE NUMBER: 816-393-0105	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION		TITLE: IMPACT STRATEGIST - POLICY	
ADDRESS: 2300 MAIN STREET, SUITE 304			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64108
EMAIL: nmadden@healthforward.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:15 AM	

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

Chair Casteel and members of the committee -On behalf of Health Forward Foundation (Health Forward), I submit this written testimony in opposition to House Bill 546. Health Forward works to support and build inclusive, powerful, and health communities characterized by racial equity and economically just systems. We oppose this bill as it explicitly defies the will of the people who voted for Proposition A. Additionally, minimum wage and paid sick leave are important components of a healthy, vibrant workforce and economy. This legislation would leave out over 1.1 million Missouri workers who stand to see a pay increase and the security of paid sick leave, which is demonstrated to not have a significant or meaningful impact on the costs of doing business (<https://clasp.org/sites/default/files/public/resources-and-publications/publication-1/Business-Case-for-HFA-3.pdf>). Additionally, this is important for issues of equity and fairness, especially since paid medical leave access is lower amongst low-income earners, women, and people of color (<https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2022.306825?journalCode=ajph>). Paid sick leave prevents people who are sick from coming into work and spreading illness, thereby increasing overall costs to the business in lost employee productivity and time. It's clear of the benefits: paid sick time reduces the number of people working while sick almost instantaneously (<https://doi.org/10.1377/hlthaff.2020.02320>). Not only that, but it's simply good for business. Simply adopting paid sick leave increases worker productivity by 6% and increases business profitability by 1.6% in states that have implemented paid sick leave policies (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4096707). Health Forward asks legislators on this committee to vote NO on HB 546. This bill would not only drag down Missouri's economy in a time when things are tight, but it would harm the hard working people who are just trying to do the right thing by showing up to work consistently and with perseverance. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or would like additional resources at nmadden@healthforward.org Respectfully, Nathan J. Madden, Ph.D. Impact Strategist - Policy Health Forward Foundation



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NORMA SPEAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: norma.spear@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 11:44 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We voted against HB546 last year but you chose to ignore the majority of us voters who recognize that the minimum wage is not sustainable to support a family without working 2-3 jobs. Please heed your constituents' wishes and vote no to HB546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: OLIVIA STOCKMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: oliviastockman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 1:19 PM

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

A person making \$15/hour working 40 hours a week year round is still only making \$30,000/year before taxes. Come on be for real and stop crapping on the little guy, Republicans.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAUL LOIDA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: paul.loida@bayer.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:44 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This past November, we voted YES on Prop A because we know that workers are the drivers of the economy. Here are some other reasons Missourians voted YES to include in your submission: • Fair wages and paid sick days strengthen our communities, local businesses, and the economy. • No one should have to choose between their own or their children’s health and their paycheck. Having a home with a stable income is proven to support children’s healthy development. • Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PHYLLIS JACOBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: phyllisajacobson@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 5:40 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Missouri legislators should understand by now that a citizen petition is not made lightly but is often the last resort for people to get justice. Do not be an enemy of your people. If you are afraid that businesses will lose money, consider Jesus words in Matthew 6: "Seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness (- just treatment among other things) - AND all these things will be added unto you". Don't be afraid to do the right thing.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PRIYA PAL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: priya.pal789@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:01 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The current minimum wage in this state is insufficient for a single individual to support themselves, let alone an entire family. From every perspective possible increasing the minimum wage is the correct thing to do. Economically, increasing the minimum wage and allowing workers to have earned sick leave will improve productivity and reduce dependence on social support programs. From a humanitarian perspective, allowing workers to having a living wage and earned sick time allows folks to work with dignity and respect while being able to care for themselves and their families. As a physician we unfortunately see the consequences of low access to healthcare and wages which do not support preventative care, resulting in patients arriving to the hospital when their conditions have worsened drastically. It is imperative that you respect the will of voters and protect earned sick leave and an increase in minimum wage.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RACHEL BEAUCHAMP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rdb3nc01@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:22 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

**Please defend Prop A and MO workers' guaranteed \$15.00/hour minimum wage and paid sick days.
Vote NO on HB 546.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RACHEL JAMIESON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rachel.jamieson@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 11:28 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Dear House Commerce Committee, All Missouri workers should have access to the fair wages and earned paid sick leave that the Missouri voters chose ny the democratic process of a majority vote. Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community.No one should have to choose between their own or their children’s health and their paycheck. But for as many as 1 in 3 Missouri workers who don’t have access to earned paid sick days, that is the choice they face - to either go to work sick or leave a sick child at home alone, or risk losing necessary income to keep food on the table. No one should make this choice and we made sure no one will have to when we passed Proposition A last November. Stop trying to subvert the will of the people and undermining democracy. Reject HB546. Sincerely,Rachel Jamieson



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA WEAVER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: rebeccaw851@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 2:59 PM

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

This November, over 1.6 million Missourians (over 57% of voters across Missouri) voted YES on Proposition A to raise minimum wage to \$15/hr by 2026 and ensure earned paid sick days to Missouri workers. HB546 is an egregious attempt to invalidate the will of Missouri voters and will directly harm thousands of Missouri families. This past November, we voted YES on Prop A because we know that workers are the drivers of the economy. Fair wages and paid sick days strengthen our communities, local businesses, and the economy. No one should have to choose between their own or their children’s health and their paycheck. Having a home with a stable income is proven to support children’s healthy development. Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community. I urge you to reject HB546 and uphold the will of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: REV. JENNIFER WELLS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: revjennywells@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:59 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am writing today to urge you to vote NO on HB546. For more than a decade, fast food and other low-wage workers, along with allies, fought for a \$15 minimum wage. As a pastor of a church that operates a food pantry, I am well acquainted with a number of our neighbors who have longed for this change. By voting NO on HB546, you will be allowing those working low-wage jobs in our state the opportunity for benefits they were once denied in addition to a long-awaited and hard fought for increase in pay. By voting NO on HB546, you will also be giving the low-wage workers in our state the opportunity to try and get ahead of where they are now. It's time we listen to the people and what their needs are instead of giving into the greed of corporations. Thank you for voting NO on HB546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RIVA CAPELLARI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rivacapellari@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:20 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill will create loopholes for companies that suddenly become "seasonal". What is the definition of "small"? How many employees must they have to be considered small? These businesses will not survive if they don't pay the going rate. I know small business owners and they usually pay more than the minimum to keep workers because they can't offer other benefits. This is not economically feasible for anyone. Those workers will leave as soon as they find a higher paying job.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cerrmj@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:23 AM

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

The majority of Missouri Citizens have already spoken and voted to implement a higher minimum wage and paid sick days in the State. The Legislature has no business attempting to override the will of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBIN POSTLEWAIT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bmalarki@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:50 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a lifelong Missouri resident and I voted to expand minimum wage in the state. No person or family can survive on measly wages. Do you get raises? Yes you do! You vote them in yourselves. We the people voted for a raise. It passed! Leave it be! Do not oppose the will of the people or our will will be to get rid of you in this office. Unbelievable and illegal the way you disregard the voters.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RON BERRY		PHONE NUMBER: 660-537-2239	
REPRESENTING: JOBS WITH JUSTICE VOTER ACTION; SEIU (SERVICE EMPLOYEE INTERNATIONAL UNION) HEALTHCARE WORKERS		TITLE: REGISTERED LOBBYIST	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 722			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: ronalddberr@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:08 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Oppose



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROXANNE PENDLETON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rev.roxanne@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 2:13 PM

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
PLEASE RESPECT OUR DEMOCRACY!! GIVE ALL WORKERS THE RAISE WE PROMISED WHEN WE
VOTED "YES" ON THIS!!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARA WILKE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: efolluo@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 5:35 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

STOP reversing what the citizens of Missouri have voted for. You do NOT have that right. The voters have spoken, so do your jobs and implement what we have voted for.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH HOBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sarah.hobson@communityalliesconsulting.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:43 AM

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

The \$15 minimum wage has been hard fought and hard won. It should not be changed for any company, no matter how small in size and employees. The cost of living continues to be prohibitive for lower-income families and for all families. If we want to help people secure employment that allows them to at least live and leads them to better paying employment, we've got to do our part.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH L SHEPARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ssnowflake96@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 4:11 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHELBY RUDOLPH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: shelby.m.rudolph@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:34 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill would make Missouri a hostile state to workers. We need to make our communities an attractive place to live and work where people can support themselves as productive members of society. We as Missourians voted to pass prop A and we demand you respect our vote. Your job is to serve the PEOPLE. Respect our voices. Do your duty.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHELLI CARMAN-BROWN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: shelli.c.brown@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 8:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missouri voters in November elected to raise the minimum wage and this bill directly undermines that work. If Missouri is to be a state where individual votes matter and our voices are heard this bill cannot and should not be passed.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SHERA DALIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: shera7464@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:10 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

All employees, regardless as the size of the company they work for, deserve to be paid the minimum wage and have earned sick days. Do not subvert the will of the people in voting for these rights and protections.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SHERRY L BUCHANAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: sherrybuchanan66@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 12:13 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
Employer exemptions are included in the compensation bill the voters approved. Let the people speak!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SONJA SADOVSKY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: sonja.sadovsky@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:41 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Please do not molest or modify Proposition A in any way. 57% of voters passed this raise in minimum wage and sick time with wide bipartisan support. Constituents have made their will heard in this matter, and over 500 small business owners align with this effort for businesses to invest in their employees. Does the legislature answer to a handful of exploitative business owners, or does it answer to the constituents? Abating any part of prop A or making exceptions will just send the message that the legislative branch ignores the clear bipartisan will of the people in favor of monied intetests/donors. Please honor your office and serve the will of the people.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STACEY KLEDIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sjmcdade@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:31 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The people have voted and made their will clear. Do not pass a law against their wishes. Vote no on HB 546.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEPHEN WILLIAMSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: swilliamson1954@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 8:09 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

It is un-American for the legislature to try to ignore the will of the people. The people of Missouri voted for a living minimum wage and paid leave by an overwhelming 58% of the vote. Donald Trump only received 49.8% of the vote and he considers this a mandate. Based on this rationale, 58% is a hard mandate. Please respect this mandate by the people of Missouri. In 1971, I worked at a Kentucky Fried Chicken for \$2.25/hour, which would be equivalent to \$17.53/hour today. Certainly \$15/hour is not unreasonable. Please do not go against the will of the people. Thank you, Stephen Williamson



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STEVE MCLUCKIE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: steve.mcluckie44@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:51 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The people of Missouri voted to raise the minimum wage and allow workers to earn limited sick leave days. Please respect democracy and the will of the citizens of Missouri. Giving workers increased buying power will benefit our state economy. Allowing workers to stay home when they or their children are sick is the right thing to do and will aid in stopping the spread of sickness. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 1:52 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

If a business cannot provide the livable wage and benefits that The Voters prescribed, then their business model is faulty and the legislature does not need to bail the business out with a welfare bill. Working families are the drivers of the economy. When everyone can afford to buy the basics, that's good for communities, local businesses, and the economy. Let the state motto be your guide: *Salus Populi Suprema Lex Esto.*



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN ULMER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: spiralspiritsu@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:16 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I strongly oppose the efforts to override the will of the people!!! You are working for the people of Missouri, not the other way around!!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SYDNEY HINES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: sydney.hines@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 3:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Please do not take away PropA! Families all over the state of Missouri would be devastated. Mothers wouldn't be able to take off for sick days, fathers wouldn't be able to make a decent living. We need PropositionA more than you realize. Please think of the hard working American people that keep this country afloat big and small!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TAMARA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: leonardtamarad@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/27/2025 9:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

While proponents claim this bill helps small businesses, it would create an uneven playing field. Businesses that comply with the law would be at a competitive disadvantage against those that exploit loopholes, potentially driving them out of business.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TAMATHA L FISCHER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jipper_1@msn.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:08 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The voters approved the sick time for employees. Mr. Vernetti is only trying to use his new position as a State Representative to benefit himself because he owns a small grocery store. He doesn't want to pay sick time for his employees or a \$15 minimum wage. He was just elected and is already abusing his power. We are the only first world nation that doesn't have government mandated pay for sick time, vacation time, or holidays.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TERESA JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: teresa.merlo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 9:27 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

No!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025	
COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: THE REV. DR. TERESA DANIELEY		PHONE NUMBER: 314-503-7415	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MISSOURI; MISSOURI JOBS WITH JUSTICE		TITLE: MISSIONER FOR PUBLIC ADVOCACY	
ADDRESS: 3887 WYOMING STREET			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63116
EMAIL: publicadvocacy@diocesemo.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:55 AM	

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

I am the Rev. Dr. Teresa Danieley, Missioner for Public Advocacy for the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri and Champions Consultant for Missouri Jobs with Justice. I collected signatures for and notarized signatures for Prop A. Prop A passed by over 57% of the vote on November 5. You have no right to overturn the will of voters. Working families are the drivers of the economy. When we can afford to buy the basics, and when we can afford to get sick, that's good for communities, local businesses and the economy. The increase on January 1st raised wages for nearly 440,000 MO workers, and will inject over \$365 million into the MO economy. This increase in wages will have positive ripple effects that benefit all Missourians as workers spend their increased earnings in local communities. Over 600 businesses and organizations endorsed Proposition A. Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community. Paid sick leave is personally important to me because, when I hemorrhaged and lost over 2 liters of blood after giving birth to my youngest child, my husband could not take any paid sick leave to take care of me and our three children. By American standards and by regional standards, my husband had a "good" job with "great" benefits and yet, we did not have what we needed when we needed it most. I was mostly alone during the day, anemic and weak, caring for our children as best I could until I recovered. Our experience made me realize in a visceral, embodied way just how vulnerable families with fewer social and economic resources must be in times of illness and injury. Prop A must stand in its entirety.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THERESA HAGE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: terrihage@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 7:06 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

To the members of the Missouri Legislature: As a Missouri resident and voter, I am deeply disappointed that you would attempt to overturn the clear will of the voters in regards to raising the minimum wage to \$15/hour. I urge you to respect the voters and the many Missourians who struggle to provide the bare necessities for themselves and their families. Businesses that employ 50 or less people can pass that extra pay to their customers if they desire, but it is unfair and immoral to deny this small increase in pay to your constituents, especially since you're going against the will of the people who put you in office to represent them. I ask you sincerely to do the right thing.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THERESA HEBRON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: eartousky10@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 9:54 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

In the General Election of November 2024, Missouri voters, over 57% of us, voted to raise the minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour by 2026 and to ensure that workers earned and were given paid annual sick leave. Missouri voters are not stupid nor are we uninformed when voted for Proposition A. I am sick and tired of Missouri legislatures attempting to override the will of the voters. Please respect our wishes and do your jobs and raise the minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour by 2026 and give All workers the right to paid annual sick leave. Please look out for Missouri Workers the Same Way That You Look Out For Yourself and Businesses!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS PATRICK HOPKINS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: thomashopkins3480@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 6:42 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The Missouri people have voted, and this is a blatant and unapologetic slap in the face to the voice of the people. Prop A should be interpreted how the missouri people intended, for all Missourians with NO exceptions. The Missouri people deserve the dignity and respect to be able to take paid sick days. Missourians should not have to choose between their health or their paycheck. When this many people are living paycheck to paycheck they cannot afford to miss a day of pay. Coming into work sick puts other workers at risk. Especially those who are immunocompromised or who have family that are. Allowing exceptions to Prop A allows and enforces a disgusting disregard for the most vulnerable of our state. Paid sick days should not be a luxury only afforded to highly paid workers as a benefit as it often is. This should be guaranteed for all Missourians. Allowing exceptions will disproportionately affect poor working class families. Fair wages give working class Missourians a chance in an ever increasing class struggle. Prices are higher than ever, but wages are stagnant. Putting more money into the pockets of working class people means they can afford their needs without increasing debt, pay off existing debt, and afford to patronize local businesses overall leading to a betterment of our economy and small businesses.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TIFFANY HINK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tiffany_cm2003@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:51 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose HR 546 because it is trying to invalidate the voters' choice. Last November, Prop A was passed by Missourians. Why does the legislature continue to try to defy the will of the people? Don't all Missourians deserve to be paid a living wage and be allowed to take sick days without fear of losing their job? When my children were infants, they were often sick with ear infections and viruses. If they were ill, they couldn't go to day care, which meant that my husband or I had to take the day off work. This is already a stressful situation, which would have been even worse if I didn't have a job with sick time and had to worry about being fired. I understand that this cost could be a strain on small businesses. I recently read the Missouri has a budget surplus. Couldn't this surplus be used to help small businesses? This would help the businesses stay open, and provide people with better pay and less stress. Prop A will help Missourians to provide a better life for their families, which, in turn, will strengthen our communities.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TIFFANY WORTHAM		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: tiffanywortham33@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 10:29 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TIM VANDEHEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tim@pacificwhim.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 5:46 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Missourians passed Proposition A with the clear intent to give all our fellow Missourians a wage increase and the chance at a better life. For the legislature to consider passing an exemption for businesses with fewer than 50 employees is a clear contravention of the will of the voters, something for which Republicans have already shown contempt with their unconstitutional sabotage of Clean Missouri, passed by 62 percent of voters in 2018. As long as we live in a democratic Republic, state legislators are obligated to respect the will of all their constituents, not simply those with an "R" on their voter registration. I strongly urge the legislature to oppose HB 546 and re-establish their intent to do right by all Missourians, especially those working for the minimum wage. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 546		DATE: 1/29/2025
COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TUFANI SENGUPTA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tufanisengupta@msn.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 7:25 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This past November, we voted YES on Prop A because we know that workers are the drivers of the economy. Here are some other reasons Missourians voted YES to include in your submission: Fair wages and paid sick days strengthen our communities, local businesses, and the economy. No one should have to choose between their own or their children's health and their paycheck. Having a home with a stable income is proven to support children's healthy development. Everyone gets sick, but not everyone can afford to be sick. Letting employees earn paid sick days helps working families -- and helps prevent people from spreading infections to coworkers, customers, and the community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Commerce		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VANESSA WESTERN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: vdub1229@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2025 8:55 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose changing what Missouri voters already approved. Employees for smaller businesses still deserve paid sick leave and a living wage. Please respect the will of Missouri voters and turn down this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Commerce			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ZACHARY CALLAWAY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: zacharycallaway@protonmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/28/2025 10:33 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Hello, as a Missouri voter who has both worked as an employee and now for myself as a small business owner, I am writing in strong opposition to HB 546. Organizers and workers (myself included) dedicated numerous hours gathering signatures from our fellow workers and supporters throughout the state of Missouri in 2023 and 2024, in order to get a minimum wage increase and guaranteed sick leave on the ballot for the people of Missouri to approve. This proposition then passed by a clear majority of the Missouri voting population last fall - making it clear that it's the will of the people to enshrine a minimum wage increase and sick leave in law for all workers. To roll this proposition back via state overreach is an affront to the democratic process, and an insult to Missouri workers and voters. Workers don't magically require less pay, or suddenly stop getting sick, because their workplace employs less than 50 people or only open seasonally. As a small business owner, I work on the assumption that fair pay and sick time off are fundamental parts of an annual budget, not something to wriggle out of via legislative exemption. I would suggest that Rep. Vernetti and other small business owners in the state take responsibility and update their budgets accordingly, or make more revenue.