



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |             |   |                      |
|--|-------------|---|----------------------|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |             | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>                 |                      |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |             |   |                      |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |             |   |                      |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |             |   |                      |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |             |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>ALEX EATON</b>   |             | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>573-616-9860</b>      |                      |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>SECURE ELECTION PROJECT</b>  |             | TITLE:                                    |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>2840 5TH AVE.</b>   |             |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>SAN DIEGO</b>  |             | STATE:<br><b>CA</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>92103</b> |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:00 AM</b> |                      |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |             |   |                      |



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| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                               |                                      |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>ANNE CROAT</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-409-9101</b> |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>WOMEN AGAINST REGISTRY AND WAR FAMILY FOUNDATION</b>   |                               | TITLE:<br><b>PRESIDENT</b>           |  |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>4104 PARKER AVENUE</b>  |                               |                                      |  |
| CITY:<br><b>SAINT LOUIS</b>  |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                  | ZIP:<br><b>63116</b>                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>annecroat@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                                      | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 3:20 PM</b> |

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I believe that all people should be able to reintegrate into society when they are released and HB 617 is a good start. I support any efforts to restore people's right to vote after they have served their sentence. The United States incarcerates more than 10 times more people than any other country in the world and this should not prevent people from playing their part in our democracy.



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>BRITTANY KIEFER</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>brittany.kiefer@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 3:22 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

My name is Brittany Kiefer and I am a voter from St. Louis City. I ask that you support HB 617 by voting YES. Currently, thousands of Missourians who have served their time and paid their debt to society are still denied access to the democratic process. HB 617 would restore voting rights immediately after release. This restoration of rights would allow formerly incarcerated individuals to fully re-enter society and have a voice in decisions that affect their lives. Many states across the country (8 total including: Florida, California, Connecticut and Minnesota) have passed similar legislation. In these states we see that restoring voting rights reduces recidivism, strengthens communities, and promotes citizenship. More than 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated, but have served their time. They are living in our communities, having completed incarceration, or while being on probation or parole. These people are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government. Voters of color are disproportionately impacted. One in 19 African Americans of voting age is disenfranchised due to a felony - a rate 3.5 times that of non-African Americans. Among the adult African American population, 5.3 percent is disenfranchised compared to 1.5 percent of the non-African American population. Missouri has the opportunity to move forward in the right direction by extending voting rights to folks who have completed their sentences and are expected to be fully productive members of society. Please vote YES on HB 617.



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |             |   |                      |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |             |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CAMELLIA PETERSON</b>  |             | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>417-726-9475</b>      |                      |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY</b>   |             | TITLE:                                    |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>PO BOX 94</b>   |             |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>   |             | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>65102</b> |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:00 AM</b> |                      |
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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |             |   |                      |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |             |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CHRIS ROEPE</b>  |             | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>816-294-0497</b>      |                      |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>SECURE DEMOCRACY USA</b>   |             | TITLE:                                    |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>205 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE, SUITE 100</b>  |             |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>   |             | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>65101</b> |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:00 AM</b> |                      |
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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |  |                      |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                               |  |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CHRISTA NICOLS</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>202-266-5157</b>     |                      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>CAMPAIGN LEGAL CENTER</b>  |                               | TITLE:<br><b>LEGAL COUNSEL, POLICY</b>   |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>1101 14TH ST NW, SUITE 400</b>  |                               |  |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>WASHINGTON</b>   |                               | STATE:<br><b>DC</b>                      | ZIP:<br><b>20005</b> |
| EMAIL:<br><b>cnicols@campaignlegalcenter.org</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 4:42 PM</b> |                      |
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March 12, 2025 ? Members of the Judiciary Committee? Missouri House of Representatives?? ? Via Online Portal? ? Re:? Support for H.B. 617 to Restore Voting Rights to Individuals on Probation and Parole? ? Dear Chair Mayhew, Vice-Chair Cook, Ranking Minority Member Collins, and Members of the Corrections and Public Institutions Committee:?? ? We write to urge you to support H.B. 617, a bill to restore the right to vote to Missourians on probation or parole following felony convictions. H.B. 617 will re-enfranchise tens of thousands of people, simplify the current law, and bring Missouri more closely in line with the 25 others states that do not strip people serving community supervision of the right to vote.1? ? Campaign Legal Center (“CLC”) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization working to protect and strengthen the U.S. democratic process across all levels of government through litigation, policy analysis, and public education. Our Restore Your Vote program helps restore voting rights to people with past convictions by providing direct rights restoration services and empowering community leaders to understand and monitor implementation of rights restoration laws.? ? We strongly support ending Missouri’s disenfranchisement of individuals who are serving community supervision after a felony conviction. The right to vote is sacred and foundational; to deprive someone of that right is a profound and serious governmental act. While we do not believe there is any legitimate reason why an American citizen should be stripped of the right to vote in the first place, there is certainly no justification for depriving people on community supervision of the right to vote. Missourians on probation or parole live and work in their communities. They pay taxes and should have a say in the policy decisions that affect them and their families.? ? Felony disenfranchisement laws—particularly post-incarceration—do not serve any legitimate criminal legal purpose: they have no meaningful punitive, deterrent, or restorative value. Indeed, studies actually show that disenfranchisement undermines rehabilitation and hinders re-entry.2 Conversely, restoring the right to vote improves individuals’ connection to and engagement with their communities while incarcerated, as well as their transition back into society post-release.3? ? Still, despite these empirical facts, felony disenfranchisement laws persist, and their history explains why. In many states, these laws were enacted after the Civil War and proliferated during the Jim Crow era with the explicit and open purpose of undermining the 14th and 15th Amendments.4 Put simply, felony disenfranchisement exists and continues in the United States because of efforts to suppress voters and communities of color.5 Missouri’s disenfranchisement scheme still serves that purpose today, disenfranchising Black citizens at over twice the rate of the general population.6 Felony disenfranchisement and its racist roots are a stain on our democracy. H.B. 617 will make great strides toward eliminating this exclusionary electoral feature and restore the right to vote to over 50,000 voters from Missouri.7 ? ? Enfranchising formerly incarcerated individuals is also important for democratic accountability. Elected officials make consequential decisions every day that directly impact formerly incarcerated voters. Not only do

legislators make the laws that such individuals were charged with breaking, but legislators also create the conditions for their re-entry and continued rehabilitation after incarceration, processes which are so often hindered by barriers to employment, housing, and other markers of full participation in a community.<sup>8</sup> Formerly incarcerated voters' exposure to the criminal legal system gives them a major stake in the outcome of public policy, and their participation is crucial if the ballot box is truly to be a site where we hold our elected officials accountable. ? ? A system in which individuals are eligible to vote upon their release from incarceration additionally protects against de facto disenfranchisement: the process by which confusion and misinformation around voting after a criminal conviction leads many people with past convictions—and election officials—to believe wrongly that they cannot vote, even if they are eligible.<sup>9</sup> H.B. 617 will combat de facto disenfranchisement by creating a simple, bright line rule governing voter eligibility. ? ? We also urge you to eliminate disenfranchisement for individuals incarcerated for misdemeanor offenses by removing the language “or misdemeanor” from proposed sections 115.133(2)(1) and 561.026(1).<sup>10</sup> Disenfranchisement for misdemeanor convictions is likely unconstitutional, since the Missouri Constitution only permits “persons convicted of felony, or crime connected with the exercise of the right of suffrage” to be “excluded by law from voting.”<sup>11</sup> Given that misdemeanors pertain to minor offenses, misdemeanor disenfranchisement also does not advance any meaningful public policy interests. ? ? In sum, H.B. 617 is Missouri's opportunity to join the growing list of states that have eliminated disenfranchisement after prison.<sup>12</sup> There are tens of thousands of Missourians working to put their lives back together while serving probation or parole. They deserve a voice in our democracy and a say in the future of the state. H.B 617 is an essential step toward ending the outdated, discriminatory, and anti-democratic practice of felony disenfranchisement and will affirm Missouri's commitment to the principle that democracy works best when all eligible voters can participate. We urge you to take this important step. ? ? Sincerely, ? ? Christa Nicols Legal Counsel, Policy [cnicols@campaignlegalcenter.org](mailto:cnicols@campaignlegalcenter.org) ? ? (202) 266-5157 ? Blair Bowie? Director, Restore Your Vote? [bbowie@campaignlegalcenter.org](mailto:bbowie@campaignlegalcenter.org) ? ? (202) 736-2201 ? ? Danielle Lang? Senior Director, Voting Rights? [dlang@campaignlegalcenter.org](mailto:dlang@campaignlegalcenter.org) ? ? (202) 856-7911 ? ? ? Campaign Legal Center? 1101 14th St. NW, Ste. 400 ? ? Washington, DC 20005?

<sup>1</sup> See?National Conference of State Legislatures,?Felon Voting Rights? (Oct.?18, 2024), <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/felon-voting-rights>.??? <sup>2</sup> See, e.g.,?Guy Padraic Hamilton-Smith & Matt Vogel,?The Violence of Voicelessness: The Impact of Felony Disenfranchisement on Recidivism, 22?Berkeley La Raza L.J.?407 (2012); Christopher?Uggen?& Jeff Manza,?Voting and Subsequent Crime and Arrest: Evidence?From?a Community Sample, 36?Colum. Hum.?Rts. L. Rev.?193, 205 (2004). Felony disenfranchisement not only means that incarcerated people, as a class, are inadequately represented by the political process, it also means that the political power of certain racial and economic groups is diluted due to the number of members who cannot vote. In other words, disenfranchisement not only impacts incarcerated citizens,?it? disempowers the groups to which they belong.?See?Christopher?Uggen, Jeff Manza, & Angela Behrens,?Felony Voting?Rights?and the Disenfranchisement of African Americans, 5?Souls?48 (2003), [http://users.cla.umn.edu/~uggen/Uggen\\_Manza\\_Behrens\\_04\\_Souls.pdf](http://users.cla.umn.edu/~uggen/Uggen_Manza_Behrens_04_Souls.pdf). <sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Civic Nebraska,?Recidivism & Voting Rights, Case Study: Florida?(Jan. 30, 2019), <https://www.civicnebraska.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2019-Florida-recidivism-case-study.pdf>; Victoria Shineman,?Restoring Rights, Restoring Trust: Evidence that Reversing Felon Disenfranchisement Penalties Increases Both Trust and Cooperation with Government?(Oct. 25, 2018), [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=3272694](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3272694).??? <sup>4</sup> Jennifer Rae Taylor,?Jim Crow's Lasting Legacy at the Ballot Box,?The Marshall Project?(Aug. 20, 2018), <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2018/08/20/jim-crow-s-lasting-legacy-at-the-ballot-box>.??? <sup>5</sup> Erin Kelley,?Brennan Center for Justice,?Racism & Felony Disenfranchisement: An Intertwined History?(2017),?https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/racism-felony-disenfranchisement-intertwined-history; George Brooks,?Felon Disenfranchisement: Law, History, Policy, and Politics, 32?Fordham Urban L.J.?101 (2005), <https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?httpsredir=1&article=2140&context=ulj>.??? <sup>6</sup> The Sentencing Project,?Locked Out 2024=: Four Million Denied Voting Rights Due to a Felony Conviction at 18-19?(2024), <https://www.sentencingproject.org/app/uploads/2024/10/Locked-Out-2024-Four-Million-Denied-Voting-Rights-Due-to-a-Felony-Conviction.pdf> ? (Missouri?disenfranchises?1.79% of?its? general population and 3.76% of?its?Black population).? <sup>7</sup> See id.?at 16?(in 2022, approximately 58,502?Missourians?were disenfranchised while serving probation or parole for a felony conviction).? <sup>8</sup> See?Celisa?Calacal, Formerly Incarcerated People Can Still Vote in Missouri. This KC Group Shows Them How,?Missouri Independent, Sept. 28, 2021, <https://missouriindependent.com/2021/09/28/formerly-incarcerated-people-can-still-vote-in-missouri-this-kc-group-shows-them-how/>.? <sup>9</sup> See?Erika Wood & Rachel Bloom, Am. Civil Liberties Union & Brennan Ctr. for Justice,?De Facto Disenfranchisement?2-5 (2008),?https://www.aclu.org/other/de-facto-disenfranchisement.??? <sup>10</sup> See?H.B. 617,?103rd Gen. Assembly, 1st Reg. Sess. (Mo. 2025), <https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills241/hlrbillspdf/4046H.01l.pdf>. <sup>11</sup> Mo. Const.?art.?VIII,

§ 2. 12 See?National Conference of State Legislatures,?supra?note 1.





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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CHRISTOPHER FOSTER</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>cmfoster86@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/11/2025 12:23 AM</b> |
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There is too much confusion in the process of voting rights restoration. HB617 would restore voting eligibility to Missourians on probation/parole for felonies. Disenfranchisement laws are a relic from the Jim Crow Era. Missourians would regain their Right To Vote immediately after incarceration concludes. This much needed reform would place Missouri in line with national trends favoring rights restoration in states due to proven impacts on reducing recidivism and promoting citizenship.



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |             |   |                      |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |             |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CONNER LUEBBERT</b>  |             | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>573-291-2463</b>      |                      |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>MO VOTER PROTECTION COALITION</b>  |             | TITLE:                                    |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>277 JEFFERSON</b>   |             |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>   |             | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>65101</b> |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:00 AM</b> |                      |
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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CONSTANCE DOTY</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>constancedoty@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 10:57 AM</b> |

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**I strongly support this bill which would allow individuals on probation or parole to exercises their right to vote. Current law inordinately targets people of color and disenfranchises them. Restore voting rights to individuals convicted of felonies who are currently on probation or parole.**



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CYNTHIA WEGERER</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>cindy@kazoo-media.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 10:52 AM</b> |
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Restoring voting rights to Missourians who have completed their incarceration is a crucial step toward a more just and inclusive democracy. Currently, individuals on probation or parole for a felony conviction are denied the right to vote, despite living, working, and paying taxes in their communities. HB 617 seeks to change that by ensuring voting rights are restored upon completion of incarceration, a move that aligns Missouri with the 26 states and the District of Columbia that have already taken action. Nationwide, 4.6 million Americans are disenfranchised due to past felony convictions, and in Missouri, approximately 60,000 individuals on probation and parole remain without a voice in their government. This disproportionately impacts communities of color, with African Americans being disenfranchised at a rate 3.5 times higher than non-African Americans. Studies show that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism by fostering civic engagement and a sense of belonging. Since 2020, eight states have reformed their laws to restore voting rights post-incarceration. Missouri should follow their lead and ensure that all citizens who have served their time are given the opportunity to fully participate in our democracy.



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>DANY LACIO</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>dlacio84@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 11:09 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Committee, My name is Dany Lacio, and I am writing in strong support of HB 617, a crucial piece of legislation that would restore voting eligibility to Missourians on probation and parole for felonies. This bill aligns Missouri with national trends that recognize the importance of rights restoration in strengthening democracy, reducing recidivism, and promoting full community reintegration. Under current law, Missourians who have completed their incarceration remain disenfranchised until the conclusion of their probation or parole. HB 617 corrects this injustice by ensuring that individuals regain their right to vote immediately upon release. This change acknowledges that returning citizens are already rejoining society, working, paying taxes, and contributing to their communities—yet they are denied the most fundamental civic right. The restoration of voting rights has been shown to reduce recidivism by fostering civic engagement and a stronger sense of belonging. When individuals feel invested in their communities, they are less likely to reoffend. Additionally, Missouri has an opportunity to join a growing number of states that recognize voting as a key factor in successful reintegration. I urge you to support HB 617 and take a meaningful step toward a more just and inclusive democracy. Thank you for your time and consideration.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>DEBORAH J. KITCHEN</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>djresisting@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/10/2025 11:27 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

This issue is important for me to speak about, as it affected a family member. When a person returns from serving “their time”, it is hard to return to society without support from family and friends. The more a community welcomes the person back into the “whole” of their community the more positive results the person can achieve. And one thing I know from my family members experience is that after the sentence was served, they had to wait until all the probation period was also served before they had their voting rights restored. They didn’t feel part of the community or society, still felt outcast while under that restriction. They don’t feel invested in their community, not locally, or statewide. It would help these persons feel more connected to their community and society if they could have their civic voice restored as soon as released and working on the return to society.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                                 | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>                       |                      |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                                 |   |                      |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                                 |   |                      |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                                 |   |                      |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                                 |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>DENISE LIEBERMAN</b>   |                                 | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-780-1833</b>            |                      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION</b>  |                                 | TITLE:<br><b>DIRECTOR &amp; GENERAL COUNSEL</b> |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>6047 WATERMAN BLVD.</b>   |                                 |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>SAINT LOUIS</b>  |                                 | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                             | ZIP:<br><b>63112</b> |
| EMAIL:<br><b>denise@movpc.org</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>In-Person</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/11/2025 5:39 PM</b>        |                      |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                                 |   |                      |

Dear members of the House Corrections and Public Institutions Committee: The Missouri Voter Protection Coalition (MOVPC) submits this testimony in support of HB 617, which would restore voting rights to Missourians on probation or parole for prior felony convictions. This is a much needed reform proven to reduce recidivism and promote positive reentry and citizenship. The majority of states allow those on probation or parole to vote. Currently, Missourians are not eligible to vote during any period of incarceration, as well as during any period of probation or parole for a felony conviction. This legislation would restore voting rights upon completion of their term of incarceration for a felony (except for crimes associated with right of suffrage). Nationwide, 4.6 million people - one in 50 Americans of voting age - are disenfranchised due to a felony conviction in their past. And more than 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated, but living in our communities, having completed their sentences, or while being on probation or parole. These people are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government. In Missouri, there are approximately 60,000 individuals on probation and parole. Voters of color are disproportionately impacted. One in 19 African Americans of voting age is disenfranchised due to a felony conviction - a rate 3.5 times that of non-African Americans. Among the adult African American population, 5.3 percent is disenfranchised compared to 1.5 percent of the adult non-African American population. Studies unilaterally confirm that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism. States that allow voting by those on probation and parole have lower recidivism rates, and more positive re-entry experiences. Why? Voting encourages engagement and participation. It gives people a stake in their communities. This is one reason many states are moving towards restoring voting rights for those on probation and parole. Since 1997, 26 states and the District of Columbia have guaranteed voting rights to people living with felony convictions in their past. As a result, over 2 million Americans have regained their fundamental right to vote, and are contributing members of their communities. Since 2020, more than 8 states have changed their laws to provide for voting rights after incarceration. Missouri should join this list by allowing people to vote once they have completed their sentence of incarceration, and allow those on probation and parole to register to vote. Accordingly, we urge this committee to Support HB 617. Sincerely, Denise Lieberman, Director & General Counsel MISSOURI VOTER PROTECTION COALITION 6047 Waterman Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63112 denise@movpc.org; (314) 780-1833 www.movpc.org



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>DIANE MCCULLOUGH</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>dmccspae@sbcglobal.net</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:27 PM</b> |

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

**People who have 'done their time' and are out working and paying taxes in their communities deserve to have their voices heard.**





MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>DON CROZIER</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>doncrozier@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/10/2025 12:43 PM</b> |

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I support HB 617. Once people have served their time, they should be able to vote. This much needed reform would place Missouri in line with national trends favoring rights restoration in states due to proven impacts on reducing recidivism and promoting citizenship.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |  | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>     |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |  |                               |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |  |                               |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |  |                               |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |  |                               |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>EA</b>   |  | PHONE NUMBER:                 |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |  | TITLE:                        |   |
| ADDRESS:   |  |                               |   |
| CITY:  |  | STATE:                        | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>eafrank711@gmail.com</b>  |  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 10:48 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |  |                               |   |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>ELIZABETH L SONDHAUS</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>lsond16@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 1:54 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>I support this bill</b>   |                               |                           |  |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>FELICIA HAMPTON</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>fhampton89@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 11:11 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I support HB 617 Studies confirm that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism, which has significant economic benefits. Why? Voting encourages engagement and participation, giving individuals a stake in their communities. When people feel connected to society, they are less likely to reoffend, reducing incarceration costs that burden taxpayers. Lower recidivism means fewer people cycling through the criminal justice system, saving millions in prison expenses and law enforcement resources. Additionally, restoring voting rights fosters economic stability by encouraging civic engagement, which often translates into greater workforce participation and financial independence. This is one reason many states are moving toward restoring voting rights for those on probation and parole. Since 1997, 26 states and the District of Columbia have guaranteed voting rights to people with past felony convictions. As a result, over 2 million Americans have regained their fundamental right to vote, becoming active contributors to their communities and the economy. • Since 2020, eight states have changed their laws to restore voting rights after incarceration. Missouri should join this movement by allowing individuals to vote once they have completed their sentence of incarceration and enabling those on probation and parole to register to vote. Doing so would not only strengthen democracy but also generate economic benefits—reducing recidivism, increasing employment opportunities, and expanding the tax base as more individuals secure stable jobs and contribute to local economies. Restoring voting rights isn't just a moral issue; it's an economic investment in stronger, more prosperous communities.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>GREG CAMPBELL</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>gcampbell@hammondshinners.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/10/2025 5:17 PM</b> |

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**This bill will reduce recidivism and promote citizenship among the formerly incarcerated.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |             | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>                 |                      |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |             |   |                      |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |             |   |                      |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |             |   |                      |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |             |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JAMES ROBINETTE</b>  |             | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>573-356-4433</b>      |                      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>MISSOURI NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE</b>  |             | TITLE:<br><b>MEMBER</b>                   |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>111 WEST HIGH</b>   |             |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>   |             | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>65101</b> |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:00 AM</b> |                      |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |             |   |                      |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JEAN DUGAN</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>jbdugan@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 10:50 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

Voting rights should be restored after people convicted of a felony have served their time and are back in their communities, working and paying taxes. Missouri is one of just 15 states where individuals incarcerated for felonies are not eligible to vote until they complete both their sentence and parole. This bill would restore full citizenship rights to 79,000 people, or 1.7% of Missouri's eligible voters, according to a report by the Sentencing Project.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JEANETTE ROUSE</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>rousejl53@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 2:04 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |





MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |             | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>                 |                      |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |             |   |                      |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |             |   |                      |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |             |   |                      |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |             |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JEFF SMITH</b>   |             | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-323-0915</b>      |                      |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>MISSOURI APPLESEED</b>   |             | TITLE:                                    |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>5380 MAGNOLIA AVE.</b>  |             |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>ST. LOUIS</b>  |             | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>63139</b> |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:00 AM</b> |                      |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |             |   |                      |



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**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JENNFIER SCHAEFER</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>schaefjen@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 3:51 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

Please support HB 617 which will allow parolees or people on probation to vote. Currently, Missourians cannot vote while incarcerated, as well as during any period of probation or parole for a felony conviction. HB 617 would restore voting rights upon completion of their term of incarceration for a felony. About 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated, but have served their time. These people are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government. In Missouri, this would affect approximately 60,000 individuals on probation and parole. Also, studies show that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism because voting encourages engagement and participation. It gives people a stake in their communities. Therefore, I ask you to please vote in support of HB617 to restore voting rights to these individuals.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>            |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                                      |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                                      |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                                      |   |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                               |                                      |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JENNIFER BERNSTEIN</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-277-9080</b> |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ST. LOUIS</b>   |                               | TITLE:<br><b>ADVOCACY MANAGER</b>    |   |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>295 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD.</b>   |                               |                                      |   |
| CITY:<br><b>ST. LOUIS</b>  |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                  | ZIP:<br><b>63141</b>                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                                      | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/10/2025 12:07 PM</b> |

**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 testimony in support of HB 617. 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. This bill is good for Missouri and its citizens. HB 617 would restore voting eligibility to Missourians on probation/parole for felonies. This much needed reform would place Missouri in line with national trends favoring rights restoration in states due to proven impacts on reducing recidivism and promoting citizenship. NCJWSTL urges you to vote yes on HB 617.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JOANNE HAGLOF</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>jhh816719@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 11:46 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I support restoring voting rights to citizens on probation or parole. These citizens have served their punishment and are expected to be working, contributing, taxpaying members of society while on probation or parole. There is no reason to deprive them of the right to vote which is fundamental to a democratic society. Restricting this right is an extrajudicial punishment and does not seem constitutional. It should be our goal to reintegrate these individuals, not ostracize them by disenfranchisement. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>            |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                                      |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                                      |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                                      |   |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |                               |                                      |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JONATHAN SCHMID</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-652-3114</b> |   |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI</b>   |                               | TITLE:<br><b>POLICY COUNSEL</b>      |   |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>906 OLIVE ST., STE. 1130</b>  |                               |                                      |   |
| CITY:<br><b>ST. LOUIS</b>  |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                  | ZIP:<br><b>63101</b>                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>jschmid@aclu-mo.org</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                                      | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 10:02 AM</b> |

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

The ACLU of Missouri (ACLU-MO) submits this testimony in support of HB 617, which expands the right to vote to those persons completing probation or parole. The ACLU-MO is the state affiliate of the national ACLU and works in the courts, legislature, and Missouri communities to defend and preserve the civil rights of individual Missourians, specifically of that to vote. This bill is a much-needed reform with proven impacts on reducing recidivism, promoting positive reentry, and engaged citizenship. Nationwide, almost five million individuals are disenfranchised due to a felony conviction in their past. Nearly three-quarters of those are not presently incarcerated but are on probation or parole and are living in our communities. These individuals are hard-working, contributing, tax-paying members of our communities who have been disenfranchised because of their past. Of particular concern is that felon-disenfranchisement laws disproportionately affect voters of color, as over 5% cannot vote due to a past felony conviction – a rate 3.5 times that of white voters. This bill, if passed, would not only allow but encourage those involved in our criminal legal system to have their voices heard in their system of governance, thereby facilitating greater community engagement and reducing recidivism. Accordingly, we urge to vote YES on HB 617.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JONI RESIDES</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>resides1@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:07 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

Restoring voting rights to our fellow Missourians who have served their time for crimes is an important part of making these citizens "whole" again.. Denying these rights keeps thes folks on the outside of full citizenship and less likely to become involved in their communities in a positive fashion.60,000 Missourians are on probation or parole. They have served their time and are out working, paying taxes and spending money, but they are still voiceless when it comes to participating in our state's work. As is often the case, it is our citizens of color who are more likely to be left voiceless.Please vote YES on HB 617



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JUDITH CAMPBELL</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>jacampbell314@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/10/2025 4:08 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

I urge you to support HB 617: Would restore voting eligibility to Missourians on probation/parole for felonies. Missourians would regain their RTV immediately after incarceration concludes. This much needed reform would place Missouri in line with national trends favoring rights restoration in states due to proven impacts on reducing recidivism and promoting citizenship. This would make MO a safer and more productive state. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>KAREN COULSON</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>keculson715@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 8:49 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

Removing the requirement to complete all probation and parole before being allowed to vote allows more people to participate in voting. Removing barriers to voting allows people to perform their civic duty while insuring that their voice is counted. This is a nonpartisan issue. Our country is better when more people vote.





MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>KAREN FRANCIS</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>karenbitzafrancis@yahoo.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 3:13 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

**I support this - long over due**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>KAREN J AROESTY</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>kjaroesty@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 8:15 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

I'm so glad to see this bi-partisan effort. Giving voting rights after someone has served their time improves public safety participations in communities. I want as many people as possible to have the right to vote, and it's just confusing to make probation and parole a barrier to that participation. People have served their time. They are working to get their lives back on track. Whatever they can do to meaningfully be in community and society, they should be able to do. Thank you for this legislation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>KAY PARK</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>kaypark122@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 10:55 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

More than 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated, but have served their time. They are living in our communities, having completed incarceration, or while being on probation or parole. These people are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government. In Missouri, there are approximately 60,000 individuals on probation and parole. Studies confirm that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism. Why? Voting encourages engagement and participation. It gives people a stake in their communities. This is one reason many states are moving towards restoring voting rights for those on probation and parole. Since 1997, 26 states and the District of Columbia have guaranteed voting rights to people living with felony convictions in their past. As a result, over 2 million Americans have regained their fundamental right to vote, and are contributing members of their communities



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |  | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>     |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |  |                               |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |  |                               |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |  |                               |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |  |                               |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>LINDA KRAM</b>   |  | PHONE NUMBER:                 |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |  | TITLE:                        |  |
| ADDRESS:   |  |                               |  |
| CITY:  |  | STATE:                        | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>lindakram@charter.net</b>   |  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 4:19 PM</b> |

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

**If you are a productive member of society, you should be able to vote!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>LINDA REZNY</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>lrezny@hotmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 9:12 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

I volunteer at a program that helps people get their IDs and Birth Certificates. Among our guest are people who have been incarcerated. I am always happy to tell those who are now off papers that they can now register to vote, contrary to what many have been previously told. >>Many who are still on papers seem to feel like they are still being treated like outcasts although they have finished their time. << They have come to us to get the IDs they need for work and to participate in the community, but they are still held back in many ways. Being able to vote is a sign of the community encouraging them to return as full members.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>LINDA S HANSON</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>uniatowski@charter.net</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 8:50 AM</b> |

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

**As a Board member of the St. Louis Metro League of Women Voters, I wholeheartedly support this bill. It is the right thing to do and I appreciate that it has bipartisan support. Please support this legislation. Thank you.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------|---|----------------------|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |             | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>                 |                      |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |             |   |                      |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |             |   |                      |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |             |   |                      |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |             |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MALLORY RUSCH</b>  |             | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-306-8945</b>      |                      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>EMPOWER MISSOURI</b>   |             | TITLE:<br><b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>       |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>PO BOX 104900</b>   |             |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>   |             | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>65110</b> |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE: | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:00 AM</b> |                      |

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



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MARGARET GRAY</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>mgray813@outlook.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 10:50 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I support this bill out of fairness to a population that has served their time- most unfairly impacting people of color. Currently, Missourians cannot vote while incarcerated, as well as during any period of probation or parole for a felony conviction . HB 617 would restore voting rights upon completion of their term of incarceration for a felony (except for crimes associated with right of suffrage). More than 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated, but have served their time. They are living in our communities, having completed incarceration, or while being on probation or parole. These people are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government.





MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                                 | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>                 |                      |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                                 |   |                      |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                                 |   |                      |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                                 |   |                      |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                                 |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MARILYN MCLEOD</b>   |                                 | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>573-239-3708</b>      |                      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI</b>   |                                 | TITLE:<br><b>PRESIDENT</b>                |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>8706 MANCHESTER RD., SUITE 104</b>  |                                 |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>ST. LOUIS</b>  |                                 | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>63144</b> |
| EMAIL:<br><b>marilyn_mcleod@yahoo.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>In-Person</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:40 PM</b> |                      |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                                 |   |                      |

This bill would restore voting eligibility to Missourians on probation or parole for felonies. They would regain their right to vote immediately after incarceration ends. More than 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated but have served their time. They are living in our communities, having completed incarceration, or while being on probation or parole. These people are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government. This much needed reform would place Missouri in line with national trends favoring rights restoration in states due to proven impacts on reducing recidivism and promoting citizenship. Studies confirm that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism. Since 2020, eight states have changed their laws to provide for voting rights after incarceration. Missouri should join this list by allowing people to vote once they have completed their sentence of incarceration and allow those on probation and parole to register to vote. Voting encourages engagement and participation because it gives people a stake in their communities. The League of Women Voters of Missouri goes on record in support of HB 617.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MARY FITZGERALD</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>mfitzgerald1809@yahoo.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 11:05 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I am, president of St.Louis County,Mo,I am in support of HB617,Studies confirm that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism. Why? Voting encourages engagement and participation. It gives people a stake in their communities. This is one reason many states are moving towards restoring voting rights for those on probation and parole. Since 1997, 26 states and the District of Columbia have guaranteed voting rights to people living with felony convictions in their past. As a result, over 2 million Americans have regained their fundamental right to vote, and are contributing members of their communitiesSince 2020, 8 states have changed their laws to provide for voting rights after incarceration. Missouri should join this list by allowing people to vote once they have completed their sentence of incarceration, and allow those on probation and parole to register to vote. More than 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated, but have served their time. They are living in our communities, having completed incarceration, or while being on probation or parole. These people are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government.In Missouri, there are approximately 60,000 individuals on probation and parole. Give these folks the message that we believe in second chances and give them the right to have a voice and choice by giving them the right to vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MARY WAGGENER</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>marywaggener@yahoo.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/10/2025 8:14 PM</b> |

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

**I am in support of restoring voting rights to those that have served their time but are on probation or parole. It has been proven that promoting citizenship reduces recidivism.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                                      |  |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>            |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |                               |                                      |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MATTHEW THOMPSON</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>660-537-5234</b> |  |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>REACH HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION</b>  |                               | TITLE:                               |  |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>124 E HIGH STREET</b>   |                               |                                      |  |
| CITY:<br><b>COLUMBIA</b>   |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                  | ZIP:<br><b>65203</b>                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>matt@wintonpolicygroup.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                                      | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 4:33 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                                      |  |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MELANIE BUSSE</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>melbusse7@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 3:12 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

I am writing in support of House Bill 617 that restores voting rights to an individual upon completion of their term of incarceration for a felony. This much needed reform is in line with national trends favoring rights restoration, especially since voters of color are disproportionately impacted.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |  |                               |  |
|--|--|-------------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |  | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>     |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |  |                               |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |  |                               |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |  |                               |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |  |                               |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MICHAEL</b>  |  | PHONE NUMBER:                 |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |  | TITLE:                        |  |
| ADDRESS:   |  |                               |  |
| CITY:  |  | STATE:                        | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>libertytree.cottage976@passinbox.com</b>  |  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/9/2025 12:37 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |  |                               |  |

I SUPPORT HB 617 as originally filed.    I support restoring voting rights to those on parole and probation. I also would like to see the word "misdemeanor" struck in every instance it appears in this bill. I even think convicted felons should have their voting rights restored to them after they have served their time and been released.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MICHELLE MEARS</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>michellermears13@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 11:40 AM</b> |

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

**I fully support the restoration of voting rights to Missourians who have completed their sentences, and allowing people on probation or parole to register and vote in the interests of reducing recidivism and encouraging community participation and involvement.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>NANCY THOMPSON</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>nthompson128249@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 6:51 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

I support this bill. If we want people on probation and parole to be or become responsible members of society, we need to give them a stake in that society and a feeling of belonging. Allowing them to vote on what their community's future will look like will be a great step forward.





MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>REBEKAH BERKOWITZ</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>rebek_b@sbcglobal.net</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:11 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I believe that it is our responsibility to help those that have gone astray. Restoring voting rights to those seeking to reintegrate into society demonstrates our community responsibility, justice, and the dignity of every person.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>RIVA CAPELLARI</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>rivacapellari@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 2:39 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

HB 617 would restore voting rights upon completion of a citizen's term of incarceration for a felony . More than 75% of people who can't vote due to a criminal record are not incarcerated, but have served their time. They are living in our communities, they are working and paying taxes, yet they have no voice in their government. Studies confirm that voting while on probation and parole reduces recidivism. Voting encourages engagement and participation. It gives people a stake in their communities. Since 1997, 26 states and the District of Columbia have guaranteed voting rights to people living with felony convictions in their past. As a result, over 2 million Americans have regained their fundamental right to vote, and are contributing members of their communities. Missouri needs to join this list by allowing people to vote once they have completed their sentence of incarceration, and allow those on probation and parole to register to vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>RONALD HAGLOF</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>rehaglof@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 12:39 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I believe that voting for one's elected officials is a fundamental right that should be exercisable by everyone over 18, regardless of whether they have committed a crime. I believe in our democratic form of government.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                                      |  |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b>            |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                                      |  |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                               |                                      |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SANDRA KAY KEELY</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-532-3212</b> |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>3 DAUGHTERS AND 1000 SONS</b>  |                               | TITLE:<br><b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>  |  |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>3811 LAWLER DRIVE</b>   |                               |                                      |  |
| CITY:<br><b>ST. LOUIS</b>  |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                  | ZIP:<br><b>63121</b>                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>3daughtersand1000sons@gmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                                      | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 7:19 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                                      |  |

The US is realizing that once citizens have paid their debt to society for crimes that may have been committed, that debt should be considered paid in full. All rights of citizenship must be restored and that includes the right to vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SHERRY L BUCHANAN</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                    |
| EMAIL:<br><b>sherrybuchanan66@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/7/2025 4:35 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SHERRY L BUCHANAN</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>sherrybuchanan66@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 4:11 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

HB617 would support the goal of rehabilitating those on probation and parole. Hopefully, they are maintaining the conditions of their probation or parole, are gainfully employed, are being self-sufficient, and paying taxes. They should have the right to vote.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SHERYL HALL</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>sherrieworkersrights@gmail.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/11/2025 1:32 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

I know a number of people who made criminal mistakes in their lives, but have served their time and now are law-abiding citizens who make much better decisions than before. Those people have a unique perspective on many issues that come to a vote, and they should be permitted to full and free exercise of the constitutional right to vote. Most other states have already passed comparable legislation. Missouri should too.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SUSAN GIBSON</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>Onesuegibson@protonmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/10/2025 10:13 AM</b> |

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

**In other states, restoration of voting rights has been proven to reduce recidivism. Previously incarcerated individuals should have a say in governance just like anyone else.**





MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SUSAN KOHLHAGEN</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>skohlhagen@att.net</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 1:23 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

Voting encourages engagement and participation. It gives people a stake in their communities. This is one reason many states are moving towards restoring voting rights for those on probation and parole. They have served their sentence. Since 1997, 26 states and the District of Columbia have guaranteed voting rights to people living with felony convictions in their past. Seems if you can run for and be president of the USA and have a felony, why can't you vote!!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>THERESA HEBRON</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>eartousky10@att.net</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 11:17 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I am writing to support HB 617 that would restore voting rights to persons that are on parole or probation. Every person needs to feel respected and valued as a member of society. This is even more true for a person newly released from prison. He/she struggles to adjust to entry back into society, find a job and be accepted and valued as a person. I think that includes being given the right to vote while on parole or probation, because it tells the person that you have value and worth and your opinion matters.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>TIMOTHY FABER</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                    |
| EMAIL:<br><b>tfaber@mobaptist.org</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/8/2025 5:26 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |

I support this bill because once a person has served the sentence for their crime they need to be restored, and disallowing them to vote prevents them from being fully restored. Preventing them from voting is the same as still holding that sentence over their head. If we encourage employers to high those who were formerly incarcerated, even while still on probation or parole, shouldn't we set an example by allowing the same folks to vote?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>TRICIA JOSTLEIN</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>tricia_horn@yahoo.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/11/2025 8:18 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |

I am writing to SUPPORT HB 617 to restore voting eligibility to Missourians on probation/parole for felonies. Missourians should regain their RTV immediately after incarceration concludes. They have served their time and deserve to have their rights restored. Restoring voter rights is a proven way to reduce recidivism and promote citizenship among the formerly incarcerated, which strengthens our communities and makes us safer.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |  |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>VICTORIA BARSHIS</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>barshisv@aol.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 8:10 AM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>I support this bill.</b>  |                               |                           |  |



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

|  |                               |                           |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 617</b>  |                               | DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025</b> |   |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Corrections and Public Institutions</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |   |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |   |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |   |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                      |
| EMAIL:<br><b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>3/12/2025 11:59 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |   |