



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 627		DATE: 3/3/2025	
COMMITTEE: Conservation and Natural Resources			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 11:19 PM

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

I am in Support of this Bill and including Local City, Village and County Governments in the Application and Permitting Process of any Programs and Services.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 11:32 PM

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

I am in Support of this Bill on its face. The Application must be in Compliance with all Local, Municipal, County and State Ordinances and Laws to obtain a Permit to Operate or Function under State Laws and Promulgated Rules and Regulations of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. This is a sensible and proper Checks-and-Balance to ensure that the Applicant is in Local Compliance.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BRENT HEMPHILL		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI PORK ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 156			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL KLEINSORGE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-821-2040	
REPRESENTING: INFRA		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 11863 COUNTY ROAD 393			
CITY: HOLTS SUMMIT		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65043
EMAIL: dan@inframissouri.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 8:13 AM
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Testimony will be given in person.			



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DOUG NELSON		PHONE NUMBER: 573-690-7209	
REPRESENTING: CLARKSTON NELSON LLC, PRESIDIO ENVIRONMENTAL/DERRICK STANDLY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 235 E HIGH ST			
CITY: JC		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JACOB KNAEBEL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-4181	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 3118 EMERALD LANE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: jknaebel@mocorn.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/2/2025 2:13 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW SMITH		PHONE NUMBER: 417-988-2257	
REPRESENTING: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 130 RIEF CT, UNIT B			
CITY: HOLTS SUMMIT		STATE: MO	ZIP: 20222
EMAIL: mjsmith65742@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 11:59 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: RAY MCCARTY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2246	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI		TITLE: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI	
ADDRESS: 3234 W TRUMAN BLVD			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rmccarty@aimo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 9:15 AM
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Associated Industries of Missouri supports this bill that does not allow local governments to change their mind through a change in ordinance after a company has complied with ordinances in effect at the time of application for a permit required by the MDNR. This bill is simple fairness to permit applicants.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ROCKNE MILLER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-216-6506	
REPRESENTING:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 714 HWY D			
CITY: OSAGE BEACH		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65065
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-727-0600	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVE			
CITY: UNIVERSITY CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2025 6:40 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

February 10, 2025 Chairman Jeff Farnan House Conservation and Natural Resources Committee 201 West Capitol Avenue Room 410-A Jefferson City MO 65101 Dear Chairman Farnan and Members of the Committee, Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. House Bill No. 627 would require the Department of Natural Resources to verify local compliance with zoning, building, and health codes before issuing or renewing any environmental permit, license, or grant of authority. We have significant concerns about this legislation and strongly urge you to vote "no" on HB 627. Of particular concern is the provision preventing permit denial based on local codes enacted after the initial permit application. This effectively creates a loophole allowing projects to proceed even when they conflict with new health and safety regulations that local communities have deemed necessary. This undermines local governments' ability to respond to emerging environmental and public health concerns. The practical implications of this bill are concerning. Projects could receive state environmental permits without adequate verification of compliance with local health and safety standards. The 30-day automatic verification provision could result in permits being issued by default, particularly in smaller jurisdictions that may lack resources to respond quickly to verification requests. To adequately protect the health and safety of Missourians, permit applications must be thoroughly reviewed by DNR's skilled permit team before being granted. In conclusion, HB 627 would create unnecessary administrative burden, undermine local control, and compromise environmental and public health protections. We respectfully urge you to vote "no" on HB 627. Sincerely, Melissa Vatterott Director of Policy and Strategy Missouri Coalition for the Environment mvatterott@moenvironment.org (314) 727-0600 ext. 111



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-581-0561	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND STRATEGY	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVE SUITE 100			
CITY: UNIVERSITY CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 1:15 PM	
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Dear Chairman Farnan and Members of the Committee, Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. Our mission is to educate, organize, and advocate in defense of Missouri's people and their environment. House Bill 627 seeks to force DNR's hand in approving "preliminary or final application" where the local government has ordinances, rules, or otherwise that would prohibit the operation of a business where it seeks to operate under the DNR permit. The bill specifically references local codes or ordinances that were "enacted following the filing of the application" received by DNR. While rejecting an application because local government policies changed since the applicant submitted such application would frustrate the plans of the applicant, we urge this committee to remember that the purpose of local and state government is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents. If the local government implements policy changes around the time that an application is being considered by DNR, that should be seen as even more reason to weigh that recent policy change in considering an application. For many citizens of our state, when they are concerned about developments coming into their community, they go to their local government first to learn about what is happening and to express concerns. Often these concerns relate to health and safety, water and air quality, and property values of residents near and downstream or downwind from the proposed site. If the local government implements a new policy to address these concerns, the policy is critical to the welfare of that local community. Such a series of events - 1) application submission to DNR, 2) community engagement with their local government, and then 3) local government policy implementation - should be interpreted to demonstrate that the local government is specifically making policy changes in response to the pending permit application. It would go against the purpose of DNR - protecting Missouri's natural resources and those who enjoy them - to not consider the local policy change. DNR should feel empowered to reject applications when they no longer comply with local policy due to recent changes. HB 627 specifically states that DNR "shall not deny any . . . application . . . based on a local zoning, building, health code, ordinance, or order" if those policy changes happened after the application filing. This proposed provision and the others in HB 627 demonstrate a desire to rubber stamp industry in the face of community welfare concerns, which is not what constituents want their state legislators to do. Because of all these reasons, Missouri Coalition for the Environment asks that you vote "no" on HB 627. Thank you for your time and consideration.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BERG		PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-1011	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SIERRA CLUB MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE: VOLUNTEER	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 432010			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63143
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 12:00 AM	
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