

# HOUSE BILL NO. 3272

## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS.

6471H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 221, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to visitors to county or municipal detention facilities.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 221, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 221.358, to read as follows:

**221.358. 1. Except as provided under subsections 2 and 3 of this section, no  
2 person shall be permitted to enter any county or municipal jail, detention center, or  
3 holding facility except by special permission of the sheriff, chief of police, jail  
4 administrator, or other chief administrative officer of the facility, or under such  
5 regulations as such persons shall prescribe.**

**6 2. The following persons shall be authorized to visit any county or municipal jail,  
7 detention center, or holding facility at any reasonable time, subject to such rules as may  
8 be deemed necessary for maintaining security and safety:**

**9 (1) The governor; lieutenant governor; members of the general assembly; judges  
10 of the supreme court, courts of appeal, and circuit courts; attorney general; state  
11 auditor; state treasurer; and secretary of state;**

**12 (2) Members of any county commission or township board within the county,  
13 county judges, county prosecutors, and sheriffs;**

**14 (3) Mayors, city council members, aldermen, municipal judges, and city  
15 attorneys of any city that operates or contracts for the operation of a jail or detention  
16 facility within the jurisdiction; and**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17           **(4) Duly authorized employees, assistants, or agents of the officers listed under**  
18 **subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) of this subsection, when acting under specific authorization**  
19 **of their superiors and in accordance with established regulations.**

20           **3. All clergy or religious leaders of any recognized faith or denomination shall**  
21 **have access to such county and municipal facilities and may visit any person confined**  
22 **therein, subject to such rules as may be necessary to maintain order and security. Such**  
23 **clergy may administer the rites, sacraments, or ceremonies of their faith to any person**  
24 **confined in such facility who requests it, in accordance with the facility's rules.**

25           **4. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of any facility**  
26 **to regulate visitation for the purpose of maintaining the safety, security, and good order**  
27 **of the institution or to deny access to any individual for cause.**

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