



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1641		DATE: 2/12/2026
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency		
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 "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2026 11:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in Support of this Bill and its Intension to have oversight and power in changing or rewriting a Department Promulgated Rules and Regulations. There NEEDS to be Separation of the Branches within Our State Government, but oversight and authority to overrule the State Department.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ABIGAIL HERNDON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/11/2026 4:00 PM	
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I have major concerns that this is political interference and and is political over reach by the legislative branch. This should only be acceptable if the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules had a 50/50 split of Republicans and Democrats to make it Bipartisan and have different party for the positions of chair and vice chair. Until then I oppose this measure.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2026 1:00 PM
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To the Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 1641 because it violates Missouri’s separation of powers, undermines due process, and authorizes legislative intrusion into executive enforcement functions.

HB 1641 grants a legislative committee authority to investigate, compel testimony, declare noncompliance, and influence funding decisions related to executive agency actions.

These powers extend beyond legislative oversight and constitute executive and quasi-judicial functions prohibited by Article II, Section 1 of the Missouri Constitution.[1]

The bill further creates a functional legislative veto by allowing a committee to issue noncompliance determinations regarding agency rules, policies, and guidance without judicial review or statutory adjudicatory safeguards. Missouri courts have repeatedly held that the General Assembly may not retain control over the execution of laws after enactment.[2]

HB 1641 also raises serious due-process concerns. Agencies and regulated entities are subjected to coercive findings and potential prosecutorial referrals without neutral decisionmakers, evidentiary standards, or appeal rights. This politicized enforcement framework chills lawful administration and replaces rulemaking clarity with uncertainty and fear.[3]

Finally, the bill explicitly ties committee findings to the appropriations process, converting budgetary authority into an enforcement weapon. Conditioning funding on compliance with legislative committee interpretations violates core principles of accountable governance.[4]

Oversight must operate within constitutional boundaries. HB 1641 crosses those boundaries and substitutes political leverage for the rule of law. For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to oppose House Bill 1641.

Because House Bill 1641 is facially unconstitutional, irreparable harm is presumed and preliminary injunctive relief will be warranted immediately upon filing.

This isn’t oversight — it’s retaliation by statute, and it won’t survive its first court hearing.

FOOTNOTES

[1] Mo. Const. art. II, §1

[2] *State ex rel. Missouri Dep't of Nat. Res. v. Crouch*, 899 S.W.2d 838 (Mo. banc 1995); *Chaffin v. Arkansas Game & Fish Comm'n*, 757 S.W.2d 950 (Ark. 1988) (persuasive authority on legislative veto structures)

[3] *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254 (1970); Mo. Const. art. I, §10

[4] *United States v. Klein*, 80 U.S. 128 (1871); Mo. Const. art. III, §1



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: LISA PANNETT		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: ARMORVINE		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: MO
		ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2026 12:00 AM
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