



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1830</b>		DATE: <b>3/4/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Local Government</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: <b>TOM DEMPSEY</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>636-288-7461</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>ST. CHARLES COUNTY</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>3103 BUCKSKIN PATH</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. CHARLES</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63301</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/4/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/4/2026 11:47 PM</b>	
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I am Opposed to this Bill for the Following reasons:

1. This Bill is Unconstitutional and is Special Legislation.
2. This Bill needs to be Appointed by the Mayor with the Confirmation of the Majority of the Governing Body Elected Members.
3. There NEEDS to be staggered Terms-Of-Office and will be Appointed when the current Trustee of the Board Term Expires.

City of O'Fallon & City of Saint Peters-2028  
 City of Wentzville-2029  
 Saint Charles City-2030

and that five (5) Members will be Appointed in staggered Terms, by the County Executive with the Confirmation of the County Council.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
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WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/4/2026 11:48 PM</b>	
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/4/2026 6:37 AM</b>	

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

**HB 1830 does not solve a demonstrated statewide problem. Instead, it restructures library governance through population-specific rules that appear designed to alter board appointments in only a narrow set of jurisdictions.**

**Legislation should establish general policy for the state of Missouri, not quietly reengineer the composition of individual local boards through population thresholds and appointment formulas.**

**When statutes are written this narrowly, it raises the obvious question: why is statewide law being changed to affect only a handful of local political arrangements?**

**The use of narrowly tailored population brackets in HB 1830 strongly suggests that the bill is designed to affect only a very limited number of jurisdictions. Statewide statutes should establish general policy for the people of Missouri, not function as indirect mechanisms for restructuring the governance of specific local boards.**

**Public libraries operate with taxpayer funds approved by voters. Governance of those institutions should remain transparent and directly accountable to the public. HB 1830 instead fragments appointment authority across multiple municipal executives, diluting responsibility and increasing the potential for political maneuvering within boards that should remain focused on educational and community service missions.**

**Missouri law does not benefit from statutes that complicate governance structures without a clear statewide need. If a local jurisdiction wishes to change its library governance, it already possesses local mechanisms to pursue that goal without altering statewide statutory frameworks.**

**HB 1830 therefore represents unnecessary statutory interference in local institutional governance and should not advance.**

**Legislative Notice:**

**The General Assembly is placed on notice that HB 1830 restructures governance authority for public library districts funded through voter-approved taxation. When statewide statutes are used to alter the composition of local governing boards through narrowly tailored population provisions, the legislature should carefully consider whether it is creating general policy or attempting to legislate specific local outcomes.**

**Statutory schemes designed to affect only limited jurisdictions risk undermining the principle that statewide legislation should apply uniformly unless a clear and compelling statewide interest exists.**