



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2018		DATE: 2/17/2026	
COMMITTEE: Budget			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/13/2026 11:24 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

HB 2018 is presented as maintenance.

It is a capital authorization bill wrapped in maintenance language.

The Core Problem

This bill repeatedly funds:

“maintenance, repairs, replacements, unprogrammed requirements, emergency requirements, operational maintenance and repair, and improvements...”

The phrases “unprogrammed requirements” and “emergency requirements” are undefined.

Yet they are attached to hundreds of millions of dollars, including:

\$120,520,606 transferred into the Facilities Maintenance Reserve Fund

\$103,447,927 for “emergency requirements”

\$138,799,468 for statewide improvements

\$154,300,000 for Conservation

\$111,338,116 for Corrections

\$73,600,744 for Mental Health

\$84,070,426 for Highway Patrol

This is not narrow repair authority.

It is broad capital discretion.

If projects are known, they should be itemized.

If they are unknown, they should not be pre-funded at this scale.

Structural Issue

The Facilities Maintenance Reserve Fund becomes a centralized, high-volume spending reservoir.

When large sums are appropriated under undefined catch-all terms, legislative specificity is reduced and administrative prioritization replaces project-level legislative direction.

That is not fiscal restraint.

That is structural flexibility at scale.

Legislative Notice:

The recurring use of undefined categories such as “unprogrammed requirements” and “emergency requirements,” combined with significant transfers into and expenditures from the Facilities Maintenance Reserve Fund, materially increases executive discretion over capital allocation beyond enumerated project authority. The breadth of drafting diminishes traceable legislative intent and heightens audit and oversight complexity. The risk of scope expansion through reclassification under maintenance authority is foreseeable within the structure of this bill.

For these reasons, I oppose HB 2018.



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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: 2/17/2026 11:29 PM
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Cut all unnecessary expenses and waste.