



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2020		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: BLYE MOORE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2026 4:33 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We must support our families and not abandon consistent and reliable help!



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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: 2/13/2026 11:34 AM	
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1) Earmarking by population bracket (functionally special legislation).

HB 2020 repeatedly directs appropriations to a single locality or a narrow set of localities by using highly specific population ranges (“more than X but fewer than Y,” sometimes with county seat ranges). This is a common technique to avoid naming a recipient while still selecting one. That approach undermines statewide neutrality and transparency and invites special-law concerns when classifications are not rationally related to a statewide purpose.

2) Preferential waiver of local match = unequal treatment.

The bill toggles between required match (90/10, 70/30, 50/50, 60/40) and explicit “no local match” carve-outs for selected projects (e.g., certain transit/streetcar/port authority items and specific local projects). If the policy rationale is “local buy-in,” waiving it for favored recipients defeats the stated fiscal discipline principle and creates fairness and equal-access problems for similarly situated communities.

3) Appropriation language collapses distinct authorities into lump-sum discretion.

Many sections combine planning, design, construction, renovation, upgrades, and property acquisition in single line items. That structure reduces the General Assembly’s ability to control scope, sequencing, and cost ceilings—especially where land acquisition and new construction create predictable ongoing operating liabilities.

4) Fund integrity and transparency risks in large inter-fund transfers.

HB 2020 authorizes major intra-SRF transfers (e.g., \$150,000,000 between “various” Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery funds and \$230,000,000 moved to the Revenue Replacement Fund). Regardless of legality, that scale of movement should be paired with tight reporting and purpose limitations; the bill largely relies on broad categories instead of project-level controls.

5) Non-germane policy rider risk.

The clause stating “no funds shall be expended to the World Health Organization” is a substantive policy restriction inside an appropriations act. Whatever one’s view of WHO, this reads as a policy rider rather than an appropriation condition tethered to Missouri program administration.

Legislative Notice:

HB 2020's repeated use of narrow population brackets and selective waiver of local match requirements predictably operates as de facto earmarking, reducing transparency and creating foreseeable challenges that the measure functions as special-purpose legislation rather than generally applicable appropriations. The bill also consolidates planning, acquisition, and construction authorities within broad line items and authorizes large inter-fund transfers with limited project-level constraints, which foreseeably increases discretion, weakens traceable legislative intent, and amplifies lifecycle cost exposure beyond the fiscal year.

For these reasons, I oppose HB 2020.



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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.