



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2096		DATE: 2/18/2026
COMMITTEE: Local Government		
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: 2/17/2026 12:16 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in Support of this Bill with the Following Amendments: 1. That the Large Metropolitan Regional Planning Commissions who receive Federal Funds and Grants shall receive \$2.5-Million from Annual State Appropriations. 2. Medium or Smaller Regional Planning Commissions shall receive \$1-Million from Annual State Appropriations. These Regional Planning Commissions and Staff are vital components for all Missouri Counties and we as a State NEED to reconize this important work that is being done.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JEREMY TANZ		PHONE NUMBER: 573-547-8357
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SOUTHEAST MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 1 W. SAINT JOSEPH ST.		
CITY: PERRYVILLE		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63775
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/18/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: LAURA HOLLOWAY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-9134	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI MUNICIPAL LEAGUE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1727 SOUTHRIDGE DR.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/18/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MISTY EDWARDS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/18/2026 12:20 PM	
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Regional planning commissions play an important role in local and regional coordination on transportation planning, economic development, hazard mitigation, environmental review, and other shared priorities. Increasing the funding caps and indexing them for inflation helps maintain and potentially expand their capacity without shifting additional burden to local governments.



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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: 2/17/2026 9:36 AM
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Legislative Notice:

The General Assembly is hereby placed on notice that statutory CPI escalators embedded in program authorizations may create ongoing fiscal obligations beyond original legislative intent and may materially constrain future appropriations discretion.

Adoption of such escalators without performance safeguards or sunset review increases long-term structural spending exposure and shifts oversight burdens to future legislatures.