



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2694		DATE: 2/9/2026	
COMMITTEE: Corrections and Public Institutions			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: "ALEX" ALEXANDER VIVAS		PHONE NUMBER: 816-896-9931	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL		TITLE: CHIEF OF STAFF	
ADDRESS: 1510 E. ELM ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2026 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JAYLN TALBOT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-508-2465	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1101 RIVERSIDE DR.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/9/2026 12:00 AM	
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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: 2/9/2026 1:26 PM
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I am Opposed to this Bill. The four (4) Department of Public Safety and Divisions Funds should be Self-Sufficient Enterprise Funds with expenses and staff being Appropriated Annually by the Budget Committee and General-Assembly. If there is overage after two (2) Years, that money shall be returned to the State General Fund.



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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: 2/5/2026 11:31 AM	
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HB 2694 should be rejected in its entirety.

This bill does not modernize fiscal management; it systematically dismantles Missouri’s constitutional budget controls by exempting multiple dedicated funds from reversion to General Revenue at the end of each biennium.

What HB 2694 Actually Does

HB 2694 amends four separate statutes to permanently exempt the following funds from §33.080 reversion requirements:

- Highway Patrol Academy Fund**
- Crime Victims’ Compensation Fund**
- Boiler and Pressure Vessels Safety Fund**
- Elevator Safety Fund**

Each change follows the same template:

remove legislative reversion ? allow balances to roll forward indefinitely ? concentrate fiscal control inside agencies and boards.

This is not coincidence. It is a pattern.

Core Objections

- 1. This bill erodes the General Assembly’s power of the purse**

The Missouri Constitution vests fiscal authority in the Legislature, not agencies. Reversion is not a clerical habit—it is a constitutional accountability mechanism that forces periodic justification of continued funding.

By exempting these funds wholesale, HB 2694 allows agencies to:

Accumulate surplus balances without legislative review

Expand operations without renewed authorization

Operate beyond the normal biennial appropriations discipline

That is a functional delegation of budgetary authority.

2. “Victims’ funds” are being used as political insulation

The Crime Victims’ Compensation Fund is emotionally sensitive, and this bill exploits that fact. Oversight is not hostility to victims.

In fact, reversion safeguards public trust by ensuring funds are:

Actively used for their stated purpose

Not warehoused, misallocated, or quietly redirected

Subject to routine legislative and public scrutiny

Removing reversion does not protect victims—it protects administrators.

3. This bill collapses transparency across unrelated policy areas

HB 2694 bundles law enforcement training, victim compensation, industrial safety, and elevator inspection into a single reversion-evasion strategy.

These programs share no operational necessity for perpetual balances. What they share is administrative preference for unreviewed funds.

This bundling prevents meaningful debate and masks the cumulative impact.

4. Precedent risk: this bill invites fund-by-fund budget fragmentation

If passed, HB 2694 will be cited as precedent to exempt:

Licensing boards

Regulatory agencies

Enforcement divisions

Professional funds

The result is a shadow budget system—money inside the treasury but outside effective legislative control.

Constitutional and Legal Concerns

Reversion exemptions directly undermine:

Biennial budgeting

Legislative supremacy over appropriations

Public accountability through periodic review

“Subject to appropriation” language is rendered hollow when balances never return for reconsideration.

Bottom Line

HB 2694 does not fix a problem.

It creates one—a permanent weakening of fiscal checks and balances across Missouri government.

Good programs withstand oversight.

Bad policy hides from it.

I respectfully urge a NO vote on HB 2694.

Legislators who genuinely intend to serve in future General Assemblies may wish to begin by voting “No” on bills that erode legislative authority, obscure accountability, and trade transparency for administrative convenience. Governance is not measured by how much passes—but by how well the people can see what was done in their name.

Constitutional Footnotes (for the Record)

Mo. Const. art. III, § 36 — Legislative authority over appropriations.

Mo. Const. art. IV, § 28 — No money drawn from the treasury except by lawfully enacted appropriation.

Mo. Const. art. II, § 1 — Separation of powers; fiscal authority may not be ceded to executive agencies by statute.

§ 33.080, RSMo — Reversion requirement exists to preserve legislative review and prevent fund entrenchment.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: ANGIE GIDDINGS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY		TITLE: DPS BUDGET DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 1101 RIVERSIDE DR		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JON STAMBAUGH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
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