



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3076		DATE: 2/4/2026
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Rural Issues		
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: ALFRED BRANDT		PHONE NUMBER: 573-680-9564
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI DAIRY		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS:		
CITY: LINN	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65051
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST ABE" DIENOFF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BEN TRAVLOS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-3819
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 734 S. COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DERRICK STEEN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-4181	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: POLICY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 3118 EMERALD LANE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MARK FIEGENBAUM		PHONE NUMBER: 573-690-8580	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI FARM BUREAU		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 701 S COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 12:00 AM	

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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT J. BRUNDAGE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-338-5735	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI AGRIBUSINESS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: GENERAL COUNSEL	
ADDRESS: 410 MADISON ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON COOPER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-890-1432	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATTLEMAN'S ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI FOREST PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 208 MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: STEVEN R. CARROLL		PHONE NUMBER: 573-761-5952	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI GRAPE GROWERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 215 E. CAPITOL AVE.			
CITY: JC		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 11:10 PM
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HB 3076 deletes "water contaminant" from the provision that establishes when an operating permit is required. By deleting this wording, the state would be significantly narrowing what it can regulate and what requires a permit. Pollution entering waterways through surface runoff or subsurface seepage could fall outside regulatory oversight, even when it causes measurable harm to water quality. vote "no" on HB 3076.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA VATTEROTT		PHONE NUMBER: 314-727-0600	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE: POLICY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 725 KINGSLAND AVE SUITE 100, ST. LOUIS, MO 63130			
CITY: ST. LOUIS, MO		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63130
EMAIL: mvatterott@moenvironment.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2026 4:36 PM	
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February 4, 2026

Chairman Dean Van Schoiack
 Special Committee on Rural Issues
 MO House of Representatives
 201 West Capitol Avenue
 Room 317-A
 Jefferson City MO 65101

Dear Chairman Schoiack and Members of the Committee,

Missouri Coalition for the Environment is a statewide, advocacy nonprofit organization that works to empower Missourians to protect their environment and health. HB 3076 deletes "water contaminant" from the provision that establishes when an operating permit is required. This fundamentally weakens Missouri's water protections by limiting permitting requirements solely to point sources. We urge the committee to vote "no" on HB 3076. Current law prohibits operating, using, or maintaining any "water contaminant or point source" without a permit. A point source is a conveyance that may discharge pollutants, while a water contaminant broadly includes any substance that enters state waters and may cause pollution or violate standards. This allows regulation even when pollution does not come from an identifiable point source, often referred to as non-point source pollution.

By deleting "water contaminant" from the wording, as this bill proposes, the state would be significantly narrowing what they can regulate and what requires a permit. Pollution entering waterways through surface runoff or subsurface seepage could fall outside regulatory oversight, even when it causes measurable harm to water quality. Agricultural runoff is a key example. The National Water Quality Assessment shows that agricultural runoff is the leading cause of water quality impacts to rivers and streams (1). This runoff carries fertilizers, pesticides, and animal waste, all of which have been widely linked to nutrient pollution, harmful algal blooms, and contamination of drinking water sources (2). Pollutants from agricultural operations can also enter groundwater, potentially harming human health. Nearly 3 million Missourians rely on private wells for drinking water, meaning contamination could leave millions without safe drinking water (3). Agricultural stormwater runoff and irrigation return flows are already excluded from the legal definition of a point source under state law. Maintaining authority over "water contaminants" remains one of the primary mechanisms available to address pollution from these nonpoint sources.

State and federal law already struggle to address nonpoint source pollution, and Missouri law allows for very limited flexibility to respond when this type of pollution degrades water quality. HB 3076 would eliminate that flexibility at a time when it is most needed. In Missouri, over 85 percent of impaired rivers and streams and more than half of impaired lakes are affected by nonpoint source pollution (4). However, only 10% of Missouri rivers and streams had data available for assessment in 2020 or the five years prior, meaning the issue is even farther reaching. Of the available data, about 48% are impaired (5). Therefore, water pollution is a major issue in Missouri, and further restricting the state's ability to respond will only worsen these conditions.

Missouri cannot afford to further erode its water protections. HB 3076 would narrow regulatory authority, and make it harder to address pollution already degrading our waterways. For these reasons, we strongly urge the committee to vote "no" on HB 3076.

Sincerely,

**Melissa Vatterott, JD
Policy Director
Missouri Coalition for the Environment
mvatterott@moenvironment.org
(314) 727-0600, ext. 111**

(1) United States Environmental Protection Agency. (2025, February 27). Nonpoint Source: Agriculture



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2026 11:09 PM
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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: 2/3/2026 11:00 AM	

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HB 3076 is a sweeping rewrite of Missouri’s water-pollution permitting and enforcement framework that materially weakens environmental safeguards while expanding discretionary exemptions, grandfathering high-risk facilities, and limiting meaningful public and judicial oversight.

Although framed as technical cleanup, this bill substantively alters enforcement outcomes and contaminant-risk exposure statewide.

First, HB 3076 dramatically expands exemption authority and retroactive carve-outs for existing industrial wastewater storage facilities, including commingled offsite industrial wastewater basins. By exempting facilities holding permits as of July 9, 2024, from newly established buffer requirements, the bill rewards legacy noncompliance and locks in risk for surrounding communities without individualized safety findings.

This is regulatory amnesty, not public protection.

Second, the bill repeatedly substitutes agency discretion for enforceable statutory standards. Broad phrases such as “as the commission may promulgate by rule” and “site-specific determination” appear throughout, while simultaneously constraining citizen participation and judicial review through procedural compression.

Environmental protection statutes must provide clear, enforceable limits—not open-ended discretion insulated from challenge.

Third, HB 3076 follows a clear cross-bill pattern this session: shifting regulatory burden away from regulated entities, weakening permit accountability, accelerating approval timelines, and narrowing remedies when agencies fail to act.

This pattern appears across utilities, agriculture, and environmental bills and reflects a coordinated rollback of public-interest enforcement under the guise of efficiency.

Fourth, the bill raises serious due-process concerns. It expands permitting shields, limits objections, compresses appeal windows, and conditions judicial review on full exhaustion of administrative remedies—even where harm may be ongoing or irreversible.

Clean water protection is not compatible with delayed accountability.

Finally, the scope and density of HB 3076 make it an ideal vehicle for late-stage amendments with far-reaching consequences that will not receive standalone hearings or public scrutiny.

Legislation governing water contamination must be precise, transparent, and publicly accountable—not buried in omnibus restructuring.

If specific technical updates are needed, they should be advanced in narrow, subject-specific bills with full fiscal, environmental, and constitutional review.

As drafted, HB 3076 is overbroad, structurally unsafe, and exposes Missouri to environmental, legal, and public-health risk.

Recommendation: Do not pass HB 3076.

Constitutional Footnotes (Missouri-Specific):

Mo. Const. art. III, §23 — Single-subject requirement (prohibits omnibus legislation masking substantive policy shifts).

Mo. Const. art. II, §1 — Separation of powers (limits legislative encroachment on judicial review and individualized determinations).

Mo. Const. art. I, §§10 & 14 — Due process and access to courts (protects meaningful notice, hearing, and remedy where rights and health are implicated).