



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 3097		DATE: 2/3/2026	
COMMITTEE: Crime and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ADAM RAPERT		PHONE NUMBER: 636-577-7370	
REPRESENTING: NORTH AMERICAN FAMILY INSTITUTE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 215 E. CAPITOL AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2026 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: ANDRE PARKS		PHONE NUMBER: 816-726-8360
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER KANSAS CITY		TITLE: TEEN SERVICES DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 3831 EAST 43RD STREET		
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 64130
EMAIL: aparks@helpkckids.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2026 7:51 AM

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My name is Andre Parks and I am a employee for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City. I have had the oppportunity of hosting the YPI program for several years. This program has been very beneficial for our young people and the Police Officers who have engaged with the teens in multiple ways such as building relationships that still stand today, open and honest dialog, public speaking and the oppportunity to embrace the challenges that that young people face growing up in the inner city of Kansas City, Missouri. I highly recommend that this program would be provided to all of our young people across the state. I personally have seen the impact of this program that has changed the thoughts of young people, parents, staff and officers in a positive way. Anytime that you can see firsthand our young people and officers smiling, crying, and hugging after a week of sessions it let's you know that the impact was fruitful.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: KARI THOMPSON		PHONE NUMBER: 816-536-8560
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: KCPD		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 3821 HARRISON BLVD.		
CITY: KC		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 64109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARK TRAMMEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 8:26 PM
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YPI has changed lives, perception, attitudes and relationships. I've witnessed firsthand the impact of the program. The youth who have been through the program are not the same as they were entering the program. The Youth Police Initiative is a program that needs to be embraced and implemented to help the youth in our communities.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PHILLIP HARLTON JR		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 2/3/2026 3:39 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ZOEI SINCERE MARIE GIPSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 8:11 PM
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My name is Zoei Gipson and I attend the Boys and Girls Club in Kansas City. The YPI program was introduced to my club and it was the most life changing experience ever. With all of the many different view points of police officers from the youth, being able to see how police officers do just want to help and are people also helped clear that up. This program gave us the space to feel safe in our experiences with police and be educated on their purpose and intentions as well. All of the police officers who came in were so kind and treated us as if we'd known each other forever. Everyone was very understanding and had the genuine passion to help us. We did activities that taught us what to do in times of stress, when to call the police, and how to get help quickly. I've learned so many things and I strongly believe people all around should have the opportunity to learn and be loved by the people who help to protect us.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 5:01 PM
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I am Opposed to Tax-Credits, especially when they are sold as a comody!



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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: 2/3/2026 11:46 PM

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While the goal of building trust between communities and police is laudable, I strongly oppose House Bill 3097. This bill represents a misguided and regressive approach that fails to address the root causes of community-police tension and redirects essential public funds toward ineffective solutions.

The bill proposes a tax credit for donations to nonprofit-run "youth police initiatives." This is a direct subsidy for the police, funneling up to \$500,000 annually in foregone state revenue—funds that could instead be invested in proven, community-led public safety solutions like mental health crisis responders, youth employment programs, affordable housing, and fully-funded schools. These are the initiatives that genuinely address the poverty and systemic neglect that create "at-risk" conditions.

Furthermore, the structure is ripe for abuse. It allows tax credits to be sold or transferred, potentially benefiting wealthy donors and corporations more than communities. It places the Department of Public Safety—an agency aligned with law enforcement—in charge of certifying eligible programs, creating a clear conflict of interest and ensuring only initiatives acceptable to police departments will qualify.

This bill doubles down on a failed model that seeks to improve the image of policing rather than substantively reimagining public safety. Trust is not built through curated interactions but through accountability, justice, and shifting resources away from punitive systems and into community well-being. I urge you to reject this bill and instead pursue legislation that invests directly in our communities, not in tax breaks for funding police public relations.



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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: 2/3/2026 11:45 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: 2/2/2026 12:17 PM	

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House Bill 3097 creates a 100% transferable tax credit for contributions to vaguely defined “youth police initiatives” operating in “urban areas,” with minimal statutory guardrails, no performance standards, and no meaningful accountability mechanisms.

While framed as a community-trust effort, the bill functions in practice as a public subsidy pipeline with insufficient oversight and constitutionally questionable structure.

First, the bill authorizes a dollar-for-dollar tax credit, effectively converting private donations into public expenditures without the budgetary transparency, audit controls, or appropriation discipline required of direct state funding.

A 100% credit is not an incentive—it is a reimbursement, and one that bypasses the General Assembly’s core fiscal responsibilities.

Second, the definition of “eligible entity” is remarkably thin. The bill does not require demonstrated effectiveness, evidence-based programming, independent evaluation, conflict-of-interest disclosures, or geographic equity beyond the Census Bureau’s generic “urban area” designation.

This invites selective benefit, political favoritism, and inconsistent application, particularly when paired with transferable credits.

Third, allowing tax credits to be transferred, sold, or assigned further detaches the program from its stated public purpose.

Transferability transforms the credit into a marketable financial instrument, weakening any nexus between the donor, the program, and the claimed public benefit.

Fourth, the bill places gatekeeping authority in the Department of Public Safety without clear statutory standards governing inclusion, removal, or review of eligible entities.

That delegation risks arbitrary administration and raises separation-of-powers concerns when coupled with nonseverable rulemaking provisions.

Finally, HB 3097 selectively subsidizes police-adjacent initiatives while excluding other evidence-based youth interventions addressing violence prevention, education, housing stability, or mental health.

The result is policy distortion by tax code, not neutral public investment.

If the General Assembly wishes to fund youth engagement or trust-building initiatives, it should do so directly, transparently, and with measurable outcomes—not through a transferable tax credit scheme that obscures costs and accountability.

For these reasons, HB 3097 should be rejected.

Footnotes:

Missouri Municipal League v. State, 932 S.W.2d 400, 403 (Mo. banc 1996).

(Tax credits function as public expenditures and are subject to constitutional scrutiny.)

Mo. Const. art. III, § 36; art. IV, § 28.

(Legislative control over appropriations and fiscal accountability.)

State ex rel. Mo. Pub. Serv. Comm'n v. Fraas, 627 S.W.2d 882, 885 (Mo. banc 1982).

(Unbounded delegation without adequate standards is constitutionally suspect.)

Kansas City v. State, 468 S.W.3d 803, 814 (Mo. banc 2015).

(Public funds must be expended for a clear public purpose with sufficient safeguards.)

United States v. Carlton, 512 U.S. 26, 30–31 (1994).

(Tax benefits implicate reliance and fairness concerns when structured without limits.)