



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 3116</b>		DATE: <b>3/25/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ERIC D. JENNINGS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-526-4726</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE: <b>GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COUNSEL</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>207 WEST HIGH STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65102</b>
EMAIL: <b>eric.jennings@courts.mo.gov</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/25/2026 11:31 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. AC DIENOFF</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/25/2026 12:00 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/25/2026 9:12 AM</b>	

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**HB 3116 revises venue, discovery, and receivership provisions in Missouri civil law.**

While much of the bill reflects procedural clarification, the expansion of venue in identity theft cases warrants careful consideration.

The bill permits actions to be filed in multiple counties, including the county of the victim’s residence and any county in which elements of the offense occurred. While expanded venue may improve access to courts, it also increases the risk of forum selection with only a limited connection to the underlying dispute. Venue provisions must remain consistent with due process principles requiring fundamental fairness in the selection of a forum.

The receivership provisions establish a detailed priority structure that appears consistent with existing insolvency principles, but the allocation of administrative expenses ahead of certain secured claims should be clearly understood as a policy decision affecting property interests.

For these reasons, the bill would benefit from clarification ensuring that venue provisions are applied in a manner consistent with due process and that connections to the chosen forum are substantial.

**Legislative Notice:**

The General Assembly is hereby placed on notice that HB 3116 expands venue options in certain civil actions in a manner that may give rise to due process challenges if applied in forums lacking a substantial connection to the underlying dispute. While venue is a legislative determination, application of overly broad venue provisions may be challenged as fundamentally unfair under the Fourteenth Amendment.

The bill’s receivership priority provisions reflect established principles but alter the relative priority of claims in ways that affect property interests and should be clearly understood as a policy allocation subject to judicial scrutiny in application.

This testimony is submitted to document that these concerns were identified prior to enactment and that any resulting challenges were reasonably foreseeable.

**Authorities:**  
 U.S. Const. amend. XIV.  
 U.S. Const. amend. V.

**Mo. Const. art. I, §§ 10, 26.**  
**International Shoe Co. v. Washington, 326 U.S. 310 (1945).**