



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</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>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. AC "HONEST ABE" DIENOFF</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</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>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAN HUTTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-751-1712</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>STATE TAX COMMISSION</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>3701 MISSOURI BOULEVARD, SUITE 100</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</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>MELISSA THOMAS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-824-6014</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>FREEDOM PRINCIPLE</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>1400 SW FAIRFAX ROAD</b>		
CITY: <b>LEES SUMMIT</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>64083</b>
EMAIL: <b>melissaforliberty@pm.me</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 8:30 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**I support this bill and thank Representative Coleman for his help in limiting the egregious unconstitutional taxing of citizens!!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALEXANDRA WOODS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 10:29 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Statewide voters should NOT make this decision for KCPS. We should. And the district plans to vote on our local levy in April 2027. We value our public schools. They are more than a place where kids attend class – they give our kids opportunities to grow and live and they are the cornerstones of strong communities. They deserve to be fully funded and supported. Last spring, Kansas Citians voted overwhelmingly to pass the GO Bond and invest in our public schools. Politicians in Jefferson City have no place to undercut that investment. Right now, about 80% of KCPS funding comes from local funding - in part because Missouri provides the LOWEST state funding of anywhere in the country. Cutting local funding could devastate the district, leading to teacher cuts, less resources for our kids and even school closures. Kansas City kids deserve better. Providing a great education for Kansas City's kids is one of the most important things we can do. But without proper funding, schools are forced to make tough choices that ultimately cost our kids and our future as a city.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ALISON TORRES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:39 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**Defunding our schools is absolutely an awful decision. I work in a school full of incredible, bright, kind, caring, and brilliant kids who deserve the world. I also have a kindergartener who loves to learn and is thriving in his public school. By taking away the funding for our schools, you would be taking away so much from kids and their futures.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMANDA LYONS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 7:25 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I oppose taking away the right for KCPS to set its own levy rate. This would be disastrous for our city and our children. I am a teacher and familiar with our the needs of our schools. This would make it impossible to provide normal increases in teacher salaries forcing teachers who are already extremely underpaid compared to others in jobs with the same levels of education and experience. This would make it impossible for the district to afford its deferred maintenance and bond payments. Buildings will close and staff will be reduced, leading to a devastating impact on our children and community. We just saw the Kansas City voters show overwhelming support for public education investment with the passing of the bond last year. For me personally, I will get to see the children in the neighborhood where I work move out of a crumbling crumbling old building in need of constant repairs and into one that functions as it should. All children deserve adequate facilities for schooling and the only local officials can say properly what type of funding is needed to support this. I oppose the propped taxation changes you are discussing today.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMY REHAK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 7:45 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**  
**A tax levy should be voted on by the local community affected not state wide.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ANN THERESA BISCHOFF</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:04 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am a home owner and property tax paying resident of downtown KCMO, an employee of KCPS's Special Education department, and a soon to be parent of a KCPS student. Proceeding with this plan will devastate the district and it's ability to continue to serve our community. KCPS is full of hardworking staff, and students who strive to excel, despite the attempts of Jeff City to gut our funding. WE should be able to decide how we fund our schools. My job gets harder each year due to budget shortfalls, we constantly have to do more with less, but we do it. I've been with KCPS for 13 years and I fully intend to stick around for another 13 or more because I believe in this district's ability and resilience. KCMO residents showed a HUGE turnout of support in last year's GO Bond vote, the people want this district to continue to build on the growth we've made over recent years. We regained accreditation and our success is being built upon. My job is to serve some of the most vulnerable students our district proudly supports. Your job is to ensure we have the resources to continue to do this. Staff leave when salaries and other supports stagnate, others have to pick up the slack, students suffer as a result, and turnover continues. Please don't do this to us. Don't do this to MY community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CARLEY ELLEN COPTO</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 2:46 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Good afternoon. I want to submit a statement in opposition to these bills. I am a teacher in the Kansas City Public Schools and have proudly been there for 25 years. One of the unfortunate consistencies in the school system is the lack of money. Every year I spend a ton of my own money to fund such as things as classroom supplies because many of our families cannot afford to bring such basic things as pencils. I do it without anger or regret because I love my students and the job I do. Also, my district has always been able to give us some money to help make up the lack of supplies that we have. These bills will remove that but will also affect the money that we receive as teachers. It is widely known that teachers are not well paid. If this money is taken out of our budget, we will not receive any type of pay raise in the foreseeable future and with the rising cost of everything, it makes it very difficult for my family to not only sustain but it will make it almost impossible for me to be able to help my students in the way I have. I beg you, as a dedicated educator, to look at these bills and the affect they have not only on the people you service, but on the students in the schools. We desperately need to continue to receive that funding and I beg you to see it from our side. Kansas City should be able to decide how we fund the public schools, not people in Jefferson City. I know you have a heart for children and are not out to hurt them, but taking money away from the schools hurts their education, and the people who provide it. Please rethink this. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CARTER TAYLOR</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>804-517-7382</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>AFT LOCAL 691</b>		TITLE: <b>LEGISLATIVE CHAIR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>2415 AGNES AVE</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64127</b>
EMAIL: <b>legislation@aft691.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 10:05 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

The bills discussed today stand to fundamentally destroy the foundation of our state's greatest resource: the communities that exist within it. Schools are the cornerstone of any community, and the students who attend them each day deserve better than disingenuous attempts to benefit taxpayers that only stand to rob the futures of children who do not have access to the resources that would allow them to pay a private school tuition. This comes years after KCPS was granted the ability to levy taxation in an effort to rectify the grave injustices that segregation imposed upon our city, and to walk it back now only shows that there are too many in our state who will not reckon with those injustices and work with us to create new paths forward. Autonomy and local control has been the ideology of Missouri Law in all ways that matter until now, but if allowing Kansas City Public Schools to fund themselves through taxation is the line being drawn, then it stands that we can expect this gross overreach in all other realms of daily life here in the state. We stand in opposition to these bills, and I would extend a personal invitation to anyone who supports it to come to my classroom, to see how we are able to do everything with next to nothing, and to tell my students why they do not deserve the education that their teachers and the voting public of Kansas City have strived to give them up until now.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CIANA RIGGINS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:37 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**As a public school teacher, this bill should not be enacted. Cutting tax funds for our public schools would negatively impact children, their families, communities, educators and other stakeholders.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>COLE GRIFFIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Hello. My name is Cole Griffin and I am a social worker for KCPS. I am writing in opposition to HJR 111 which would decimate the funding we use to educate our KC kids in the public and charter schools. Right now, 80% of our funding comes from local sources and Missouri provides the **LOWEST STATE FUNDING** of anywhere in the country. Federal funds and grants are disappearing and the students in our district deserve the resources they need to learn how to read, write, and become the next generation of Kansas Citians. W/out it we lose teachers, mental health staff, more schools close, and children take the brunt of decisions they couldn't even vote for. Last spring, Kansas Citians voted overwhelmingly to pass the GO Bond and invest in our public schools. KC constituents are consistently adamant about funding education. Please reject HJR 111 and allow Kansas Citians to do what is best for our children.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>CORTNEY PARK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 6:58 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I am writing as a Kansas City constituent to express my opposition to HJR 111, which, like HJR 148, poses a serious risk to the stability, funding, and local control of Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS). While the mechanisms of HJR 111 may differ, the outcome is alarmingly similar: it puts KCPS at risk of catastrophic underfunding to levels our district could not survive in its current form. If passed by the legislature and approved by statewide voters, this measure would effectively cut the KCPS levy rate by more than half, returning it to the level used in the 1990s, which courts found insufficient to adequately fund our schools.

This would devastate KCPS’s operating budget and undo years of hard-won progress. The impact would be felt across the entire district, affecting both KCPS schools and charter schools within KCPS. The result would almost certainly include teacher layoffs, fewer resources for students, and potential school closures. Kansas City kids deserve better.

At its core, HJR 111 strips Kansas Citians of local control. It would allow statewide voters, many of whom have no connection to KCPS, to determine the levy rate that funds our schools. Nearly every other district in Missouri has the right to set its own levy rate by putting the question to local voters. Kansas City voters should have the same right, and the district already plans to vote on its local levy in April 2027.

Kansas City values its public schools. They are more than places where children attend class. They are cornerstones of strong communities and spaces where kids grow, learn, and thrive. Last spring, Kansas Citians demonstrated that commitment by overwhelmingly voting to pass the KCPS general obligation bond and invest in our schools. Legislators in Jefferson City should not undermine that local investment or the will of our voters.

It is also critical to note that roughly 80% of KCPS funding comes from local sources, in part because Missouri provides the lowest level of state funding for public education in the nation. Cutting local funding under these conditions would be especially damaging and irresponsible.

Providing a strong, well-funded public education for Kansas City’s children is one of the most important investments we can make in our city’s future. HJR 111 moves us in the opposite direction. I urge you to oppose this measure and to stand up for local control, educational equity, and the students and families of Kansas City.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DANIEL WIKIERA</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 9:29 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My name is Daniel Wikiera, I'm a lifelong Kansas City, Missouri resident and I have one child attending KC Public Schools with my second child set to attend next school year. I strongly oppose HJR 111. Our public schools need all the funding they can get, and the result of this bill would be a devastating decrease in funding. It's absurd that voters across the state would decide funding/taxation for KCPS. This should be decided by the people who it will impact most- Kansas City residents. Kansas Citizens spoke loudly and clearly when we overwhelmingly voted to approve GO Bonds supporting our public schools. Please let us decide what's best for our community.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DARBY SKILLERN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:55 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Teaching is already one of the most underfunded and underappreciated careers. These bills will make access to funding that much harder. Kansas Citians have just voted to pass a bond to improve our schools. Losing over 130 million dollars will mean that our Bond will no longer go to updating our schools but rather resources for the classroom. This is not what our voters asked for. Students are able to go on field trips each semester, but with loss of funding this will no longer happen. Teachers will be asked to spend more of their own money on classrooms, and with loss of funding there won't be a pay raise in anyone's future.

Saying yes to this bill is taking money away from our students future. That ain't right! KCPS relies on these funds to set our students up for a successful life.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAVID PRICE</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-797-0737</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>KANSAS CITY FEDERATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOL RELATED PERSONNEL LOCAL 691</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>12610 HOLMES ROAD</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64145</b>
EMAIL: <b>david@aft691.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 8:23 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**Kansas City recently passed a General Obligation Bond with 85% of the vote. This is a true mandate in support of public education. The parents of Kansas City have a right to fully fund their public schools and this decision should not be made by politicians in Jefferson City. Kansas City Public Schools has received full accreditation and shares a direction and vision with the families and union to make Kansas City a destination school district. This legislation will devastate the district's ability to provide necessary services and meet the needs of diverse learners in Kansas City. The Charter Schools in Kansas City will also suffer and many will not be able to function with less funds. Kansas City Public Schools plans on letting the voters in Kansas City decide on whether to increase the levy to fund teacher salaries in April of 2027. Instead of taking local control away, we should let the citizens of Kansas City decide how to fund their public schools! The Kansas City Federation of Teachers and School Related Personnel Local 691 opposes this legislation.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DEBORAH MARSELLE BREDEMEYER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 2:46 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

The children of Kansas City deserve safe, effective schools, and the teachers and guides at those schools deserve more compensation that they will ever receive. Our schools get by, but HJR 111 would put an end to that. I want to be able to vote on property tax proposals, rather than have Jefferson City politicians take away that right. My daughter attends a public school in the city that we adore. It's no frills, but she comes home excited about her days and proud to share what she's learned. The school's one extracurricular, a string instrument program, was cut last May because of district-wide budget trimming. I can provide enrichment for her outside of school, but not all parents are that lucky. By freezing property taxes indefinitely and preventing KCPS to ask for a higher levy, you are ensuring our schools stay broke, and you are bludgeoning the future of this state as a whole. Please do not advance this proposed bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DIONTE NEAL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:31 AM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**Written Testimony in Opposition to HJR 111 and HJR 148  
 House Special Committee on Property Tax Reform**

**My name is Tay Neal, and I am an educator with Kansas City Public Schools. I am submitting written testimony in strong opposition to HJR 111 and HJR 148.**

**I teach in KCPS because I believe in public education as a stabilizing force for kids, families, and neighborhoods. My students come to school carrying far more than backpacks. Many are navigating poverty, instability, trauma, and unmet basic needs. School is not just where they learn reading and writing. It is where they find consistency, safety, meals, trusted adults, and hope.**

**These bills would take away KCPS's ability to set its own levy rate, a right tied directly to our desegregation case and the specific historical harm this district has endured. That context matters. KCPS does not operate on equal footing with surrounding districts, and pretending otherwise does real damage.**

**In my classroom, resources are already tight. I work with students who need smaller class sizes, additional academic support, counseling access, and stable staff relationships. When funding is restricted, those supports disappear first. That means fewer adults in the building, fewer intervention options, and more pressure placed on classroom teachers to fill every gap.**

**Capping personal property values at 2026 levels means wages will stagnate while the cost of living continues to rise. It means asking educators to keep sacrificing financially while being told to do more, cover more roles, and manage more crises. That reality pushes good educators out of the profession and destabilizes schools that already struggle with retention.**

**The threat of defaulting on bonds is not theoretical. Building closures and consolidations would uproot students from their communities and force them into unfamiliar environments. Schools are anchors in Kansas City neighborhoods. When schools close, communities lose far more than buildings.**

**Kansas City voters made their voices clear by passing the bond. The community chose to invest in public schools and in the future of our children. These bills override that decision and shift power away from the people who live and work here to politicians in Jefferson City who do not see the day to day realities of KCPS classrooms.**

**Despite the challenges, there is meaningful work happening in KCPS. Educators are committed to their students and deeply invested in their success. These bills would undermine that progress and make an already difficult job harder.**

**Kansas City should decide how Kansas City funds its public schools. I strongly urge the committee to oppose HJR 111 and HJR 148.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>DR. JENNIFER COLLIER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-418-7616</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>		TITLE: <b>SUPERINTENDENT</b>
ADDRESS: <b>2901 TROOST AVENUE</b>		
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>64109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ELIZABETH WARWICK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 1:32 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am against HJR 111 and HJR 148. I am public school teacher from the Kansas City public schools. I spent ten years as a classroom teacher and now I serve as an instructional coach helping support teachers. If these bills pass it will be devastating to my students. In a time when we are seeing unprecedented cuts to public funding we need to hang on to every available funding source so our students get the education they deserve. Recently we passed a GO Bond with overwhelming community support showing that Kansas City cares about public ed. If these bills pass we will have to close schools, teachers will lose their jobs, and students will lose out on funding. My students are amazing people. They are smart, funny, kind, and resilient. Many of the kids in my district are in underserved communities and having well funded schools is essential to helping them succeed. We should not be playing politics with kids. Every single child in Missouri deserves to attend a well funded public school. Please **DO NOT** support these bills. Show my students and the students of Kansas City that you care about them and do not support these bills.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ELLEN FRIERSON RUCKMAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 4:01 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**Kansas City residents are the only relevant stakeholders for how we fund--or do not fund--our local schools via local tax levy. It does not make logical sense for others who do not live in the Kansas City Public School District, and whose children are or would attend this district, to have a say in how taxpayers in this district spend our own money.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>EMILY JO AKINS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:28 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I am a parent of two teens who have grown up in the KCPS system. We intentionally chose the Missouri side of state line and have trusted in KCPS with our kids. We have trusted KC and Missouri at large to make the right decisions.

There is no doubt that the rest of Kansas City is invested in KCPS - the city showed up for the bond last April with 85% support. KCPS should be responsible for these choices -- NOT legislators in Jefferson City or voters statewide.

Leave it to the people in KC!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>EMILY THORN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:14 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**As a parent of two current KCPS students and a KCPS employee for the past 7 years, I was very heartened by the bond passing which showed that we have huge support from Kansas City voters. This bill would undermine that support in such a cruel way! If KCPS loses the projected \$138 million from our operating budget it would be catastrophic for KCPS students and families. Our building, at Lincoln College Prep, like many KCPS buildings, is already overcrowded and falling apart due to deferred maintenance, the bond was meant to make the repairs and updates needed to keep our district and our student scholars competitive! Losing this amount of money from our budget would also be catastrophic for the hiring and retention of staff. If my salary stagnated, I personally would have to start looking to neighboring school districts to find more competitive pay. Please ensure that the voices of Kansas City voters are heard and that KCPS is supported!**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>FELICIA ALLEN-CASH</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 1:55 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

This will be devastating for our districts. We who live or work in the KC metro should decide how our money should be spent. Missouri already pays our teachers less than most other states. Why would we want anything that degrades our schools, students, and staff any further? KCPS deserves the bond that the people of KC voted for.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>HAVEN HERNDON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 7:43 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

My name is Haven Herndon, and I am the Lead Occupational Therapist in the Special Education Department at Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS). I am writing to express my strong opposition to HJR 111. These proposed bills would remove Kansas City Public Schools' ability to set its own levy rate, taking away local control over how we fund our schools and placing critical decisions in the hands of politicians rather than the Kansas City community.

In my role as Lead Occupational Therapist, I work directly with students with disabilities across the district and support occupational therapy services system-wide. These bills would have a direct and harmful impact on the students I serve. Many KCPS schools already lack accessible and inclusive spaces. I regularly work with students who struggle to navigate buildings that are not designed to meet their physical, sensory, or developmental needs. Inaccessible bathrooms, classrooms, playgrounds, and therapy spaces limit students' independence, safety, and ability to fully participate in their education. These barriers directly interfere with students' learning, dignity, and overall well-being.

Our students deserve schools that are accessible, inclusive, and compliant with modern standards—not facilities that create additional obstacles for children with disabilities. Without local control over funding, KCPS will have fewer options to address long-standing accessibility issues, update facilities, and invest in environments that support all learners. This loss of flexibility will disproportionately harm students receiving special education services, who rely on specialized spaces, adaptive equipment, and appropriate learning environments to make meaningful progress.

I recently earned my post-professional doctoral degree in occupational therapy. I chose to work in Kansas City Public Schools because there is a significant need for qualified, passionate professionals who are committed to serving students with complex needs. As a leader within the Special Education Department, I am deeply invested in the success of our students and staff. However, if KCPS wages stagnate due to reduced local funding authority, I—and many other highly trained professionals—will be forced to make difficult decisions about our futures. Other districts in the region are able to offer more competitive compensation, and without the ability to adjust funding locally, KCPS will continue to fall behind.

The Special Education Department already faces significant challenges in recruiting and retaining staff, including occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, special education teachers, and paraprofessionals. Without the prospect of salary growth or improved working conditions, potential employees will be less likely to apply to KCPS. This will increase vacancies, expand caseloads, and reduce the amount and quality of services students receive. These staffing

**challenges directly and negatively impact students with disabilities, delaying services and limiting individualized support.**

**When staffing shortages occur, students lose consistency and trusted providers, which can significantly disrupt progress. As the Lead Occupational Therapist, I see firsthand how high turnover and understaffing strain our departments and ultimately harm students. These bills would make it harder—not easier—to meet students' needs and fulfill our legal and ethical obligations.**

**Kansas City families, educators, and community members understand the needs of our students better than state politicians. Local control allows KCPS to respond to specific challenges such as aging infrastructure, accessibility gaps, and workforce shortages. Removing that control undermines our ability to support students—especially those with disabilities—who already face systemic barriers.**

**I strongly urge you to oppose HJR 111. Kansas City should retain the right to decide how to fund its public schools. Our students deserve accessible buildings and well-supported educators. Their education, independence, and futures depend on it.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.  
Dr. Haven Herndon, OTD, OTR/L**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JACQUELINE PORTER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:37 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**I am against this bill and what it has the potential to do to our schools, students, and teachers.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JASON HARPER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:30 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

As a parent of two KCPS students, Pre-K and 2nd, I am devastated to hear that our lawmakers are considering HJR 111 and 148. These bills would decimate the KCPS operating budget in direct opposition to the recent passage of the KCPS school bond, which was approved by 85% of the voters. My kids, and all of our kids, deserve to go to a fully funded school - a school rich with opportunities, support staff, extracurriculars, and consistency; a school free from extreme temperature, rodents and roaches, spoiled milk (all of which has been reported in just the last month). In the few years we have been a part of KCPS we have watched extreme staff turnover (losing exceptional teachers to higher paying districts), the departures, or reduced accessibility of art, music, iSpark, etc (because the funding for encore staff fluctuates so wildly year to year with funding cuts), and the last minute unknowing of whether or not there will be before and after care programming due to funding withholding and budget cuts. Our children deserve better than this. They deserve stability. They deserve high quality education. They deserve boundless opportunity. They deserve to know that our government - local, state, federal - believes in investing in their future. Where are we, truly, without education? And is it a world you want to live in? Because I can think of nothing more tragic than this continued attack on education funding. Please vote against these two bills.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JENNIFER BOYD</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 9:01 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am a Speech Language Pathologist in the KCPS School District and I am in opposition of this bill because it will decrease the amount of funding that we receive to work with our students. I provide services that many parents can not receive due to cost and they are unable to get private therapy sessions after work hours. Our district depends on the funding they receive so that we can continue to educate the whole student.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JESSICA WALLACE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 5:57 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JORDYN MONTAGUE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:47 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**These bills should not be decided by politicians. Kansas City should establish how we fund our schools. If these bills pass, our classrooms (which are already severely under resourced) will hurt even further. Salary budgets will also be cut and that reduced teachers and schools being opened. This not only hurts the students but the teachers as well having to find jobs. KCPS just passed their first bond in 50 years and if we lose those resources our district will crumble.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JULIA MCFARLAND</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 6:57 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**Kansas City should have control of its own school district - and make decisions about its funding.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JULIA STOCKELL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 9:03 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**They impact KC public schools directly & if they pass it would be bad for our schools. Basically: if they pass Missouri will open up our tax levy to be voted on statewide rather than our local community (how it should be). They could decrease our current rate in HALF.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KAREN SPADER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 3:55 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

For my special education teaching colleagues and myself, we have large caseloads who we need to provide services. Without enough help and resources, students will not receive the support that they need to access the general education curriculum. Our students are needing support, so they can graduate on time and contribute to the workforce. If our students don't become employed, crime rates will rise.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATHERINE ANDERSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:17 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**I oppose this proposed bill strongly, as this would negatively impact Kansas City Public Schools and Kansas City citizens. The passing of this bill would be detrimental to the people of Kansas City, Missouri.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KILEY LARSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 4:21 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

I oppose HJR 111.

I am a parent of a Kansas City Public Schools student. My son attends Lincoln Middle School, and my daughter will attend Lincoln next year. For my family, the stakes are straightforward: stable teachers, consistent programs, and a school our children can rely on year after year.

Strong public schools contribute to strong neighborhoods and a stable tax base. I serve on the Southmoreland Neighborhood Association; we want to attract and retain families in our Midtown Kansas City neighborhood. Families choose where to live based on school quality and stability. Well-funded schools support home values, neighborhood growth, and predictable local revenues - outcomes that benefit cities and the state alike.

Undermining KCPS funding makes that harder and weakens the long-term health of the community.

Kansas City Public Schools has already experienced the consequences of unstable and inadequate funding. Years ago, the district lost accreditation, and families felt that disruption directly. Since then, KCPS has done the hard work of rebuilding—regaining accreditation, restoring trust, and improving outcomes for students. That progress has required discipline, accountability, and sustained local investment.

HJR 111 would remove local decision-making authority over KCPS’s operating levy and replace it with a state-imposed formula. Beginning in 2027, funding growth would be limited to inflation alone, regardless of changes in enrollment, staffing needs, or the real costs of operating schools. While a CPI cap may sound reasonable in theory, it does not reflect how schools actually function or how costs accrue over time.

For parents, this kind of rigidity has real consequences. When districts cannot respond to rising costs or changing needs, the impact shows up in classrooms—larger class sizes, fewer supports, and reduced program stability. Over time, this creates a slow erosion of capacity that is difficult to reverse.

This bill also shifts control away from Kansas City families. It allows statewide voters to determine a levy that only Kansas City residents pay and rely on. Nearly every other school district in Missouri retains the ability to make local funding decisions by going directly to its own voters. Singling out Kansas City undermines local accountability and sets a concerning precedent.

Kansas City voters have shown they are willing to invest responsibly in public education. Last spring,

**they approved the KCPS GO Bond with nearly 85% support. KCPS also plans to place its levy before local voters in April 2027. That local process respects both parents and taxpayers and should be allowed to proceed.**

**I understand negotiations may be underway. Regardless of the details, any proposal that removes local control or imposes inflexible funding limits on KCPS puts students and taxpayers at risk.**

**For these reasons, I urge the committee to reject HJR 111.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>KIMBERLY WILLIAMS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 9:25 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**As an educator, I feel that while tax reform is often discussed in terms of finances and fairness, it is critical to recognize that changes to property taxation have direct and lasting consequences for public education and the community.**

**We just passed a bond in Kansas City to help support the District with new school buildings and major renovations to other buildings. Is this reform going to help or hinder our District?**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KRISTY PLATTNER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:13 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My child has been served as a Multiple Disabilities IEP student. The district wonderfully covered and worked with Children’s Center for the Visually Impaired where she was educated in an exemplary environment tailored to students with her needs. One of seven of these schools exist in the country and KCPS support kept CCVI open so my child could thrive. We sadly did not opt for KCPS for Kindergarten simply because of support resources needed and the lack of options for my daughter. I am very excited to see the newest elementary school and enroll her there for a campus more inclusive to her. The diversity of the district is a strength!! Changes to our tax structure will likely impact students and most directly my child the most as she needs so much support and invested staff for her to attend school. The sped dept in kcps is already struggling and you will reduce its potential by further eroding pay to teachers, student services and facilities! The diversity of students from disabled to country of origin and economic classes makes kcps great. We can utilize these differences to cultivate such a strong community and reducing any forward projection sends a clear message to families **DEPENDENT** on public school. And its they don’t matter. Those who can afford million dollar homes owe the community similar taxes to help east kc students.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LAURA ZINK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 10:41 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I oppose HJR 111 because this proposal would trigger catastrophic underfunding, threatening Kansas City Public School District's ability to operate as it does today. It shifts control of the KCPS levy rate from Kansas City voters to voters statewide, even though nearly every other Missouri district can set its own rate through a local vote. Kansas City should have the same right. If enacted, the levy rate would be cut in half—reverting to 1990s levels that courts have already deemed inadequate. This would reduce the operating budget by more than 50 percent, devastating KCPS and reversing hard-won progress. Both KCPS schools and charter schools within the district would be affected.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LEAH ANDERSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 1:10 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

I am a teacher in the Kansas City Public School district. We are so excited that the people in our district just voted in favor of a bond! This bond allows for much needed renovations across the district and for the building of two new elementary schools. I currently work in one of the schools that is going to close and move to a new building. It is of the utmost important that we do not default on these bonds because of a cap on taxation. Our students deserve to go to a school with central heat and air, a school that matches their growth and potential as learners and human beings. Taking money away from our district means that teacher wage increases will stall. If this happens, I will have to look for another job. I am a single mom and I must provide for my children. The people of Kansas City should be in control of where their tax money goes, not leaders in Jefferson City who have no personal investment in our neighborhoods and schools. I challenge you to come and meet our incredible kids and staff. Look into the eyes of who you will be defunding if you take away KCPS's right to control our levy rate.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LESLIE TENJACK</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 6:21 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

Our three children are long-time students in Kansas City Public Schools and these proposals would hurt our already grossly underfunded schools and be detrimental for the education and well being of children in the urban core. Residents of KC should make decisions determining funding for our schools, not the Missouri legislature. My family values our public schools and cares about families that live in the city. We should not have to move to the suburbs to give our children a good education. This is completely ridiculous. Without proper funding, schools are forced to make impossible choices that ultimately cost our kids and our future as a city.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LYNNE YARNEVICH</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 7:28 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

KCPS should make local funding decisions for KCPS; the Missouri legislature should stay out of our levy and not compromise funding for our schools. These proposals would put our schools at risk of catastrophic underfunding to levels our district could not survive in its current form. Right now, about 80% of KCPS funding comes from local funding - in part because Missouri provides the LOWEST state funding of anywhere in the country. Cutting local funding could devastate the district, leading to teacher cuts, less resources for our kids and even school closures. Kansas City kids deserve better.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MALORIE DEEKEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 7:54 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I am a teacher in Kansas City, Missouri. I am writing to express my strong opposition to this bill and the harmful impact it would have on Kansas City students, families, and schools.

This bill would allow our local tax levy to be cut in half and, even more concerning, would remove local control by opening Kansas City's tax levy to a statewide vote. Decisions about Kansas City schools should be made by the people who live, work, and raise children here. Not voters from across the state who are not directly affected by the outcomes.

As a teacher, I see firsthand how critical local funding is for our students. Our tax levy supports essential services, classroom resources, staff positions, and programs that directly impact student learning and well-being. Reducing this funding would disproportionately harm Kansas City children, many of whom already face systemic challenges.

Kansas City students deserve stability, investment, and a voice in decisions that shape their education. Stripping our community of the ability to determine our own funding undermines both local democracy and the educational opportunities of our students.

I urge lawmakers to listen to educators, families. Our children, our schools, and our community deserve better.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARCI BROWN-TURLIN, ED. S.</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:34 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

As a School Psychologist with Kansas City Public Schools and a resident of Kansas City, MO I oppose any measure that limits educational funding and ultimately harms our children. I have already worked with 75 of our most vulnerable early learners (ages two to five years) this 2025-26 school year and it's only February. Teachers need resources to meet the growing needs of our children, who will be our future leaders! Stagnation of salaries limits spending and reducing the ability to attract new employees and families to our area. Kansas Citians clearly stated their support of education in Kansas City with their overwhelming support of the recent bond issue. Do not punish Kansas Citians by taking away our right to decide how we fund our public schools.

Most sincerely,



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARIA DICKSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 8:49 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

We value our public schools. They are more than a place where kids attend class – they give our kids opportunities to grow and live and they are the cornerstones of strong communities. They deserve to be fully funded and supported. Last spring, Kansas Citians voted overwhelmingly to pass the GO Bond and invest in our public schools. Politicians in Jefferson City have no place to undercut that investment.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARY WHITE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 5:43 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My name is Mary White. I live in Kansas City and I also work in the educational system in Kansas City for Kansas City Public Schools. I have been a teacher in this district for 13 years now. If this bill were to pass, my district, my school, my classroom, my students, and my neighborhood would be affected negatively. This would force schools to close, forcing more students in schools that are already busting at the seams, making classrooms sizes unbearable for teachers and learners. We think the educational gap is bad now, if this bill were to pass, we will NEVER be able to close that gap. We will see more students failing further and further behind, students dropping out therefore graduation rates tanking. This bill would take away even more funding for education making it that much harder on teachers. Teachers are already pretty much funding their own classrooms, this would cause that to be even more higher. This bill will force more and more teachers out of the educational system and the shortage would be so much worse than it is now. Schools are already struggling with resources, this would create an even bigger issues, making it so much harder for teachers to do their everyday job. Please consider what you are trying to do and how u affective it will be and detrimental to all.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MELANNIE LEVINE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 10:30 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**Written Testimony in Opposition to HJR 111 and HJR 148  
 House Special Interim Committee on Property Tax Reform  
 February 3, 2026**

**My name is Melannie Levine, and I am a parent in the Kansas City Public Schools district. I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition to HJR 111 and HJR 148.**

**I moved my family from Olathe to Kansas City, Missouri, specifically so my children could attend Académie Lafayette, a public charter school within KCPS. I made this choice intentionally. I wanted my children to learn French, to engage with global perspectives, and to have the world brought to them through a high-quality public education. KCPS — including its charter schools — made that possible.**

**These proposals threaten the very foundation of that choice.**

**HJR 111 and HJR 148 would cut KCPS’s operating budget by more than half and shift decision-making power away from Kansas City voters to statewide voters who do not live here, do not send their children to our schools, and do not bear the direct consequences of these decisions. That is fundamentally anti-democratic.**

**Kansas City voters deserve the same right as nearly every other district in Missouri: the right to determine our own school levy. KCPS already plans to bring the levy to voters locally in April 2027. The Missouri legislature should not override that process or strip local authority.**

**Last spring, Kansas Citians voted overwhelmingly to pass the GO Bond and invest in our public schools. That investment reflected our shared belief that strong public schools — including charter schools serving KCPS families — are essential to the health and future of our city. Legislators in Jefferson City should not undercut that commitment.**

**Approximately 80% of KCPS funding comes from local sources, in part because Missouri provides the lowest level of state education funding in the country. Cutting local funding would have devastating consequences: teacher layoffs, fewer resources for students, and potentially school closures. These impacts would be felt across both KCPS-run schools and charter schools within the district.**

**Public schools are more than buildings. They are community anchors. For families like mine, KCPS represents opportunity, inclusion, and preparation for a global future.**

**I chose Kansas City because I believe in this district. I invest in it. My children invest in it every day. Decisions about KCPS funding should be made by Kansas Citizens — not by legislators in Jefferson City or voters statewide.**

**I respectfully urge this committee to not advance HJR 111 or HJR 148 and to protect local control, stable funding, and the future of Kansas City's public schools.**

**Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MELISSA VELAZQUEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 10:16 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My name is Melissa Velazquez and I am a parent of two teenagers in the Kansas City Public School district. The public schools in Kansas City are the foundation of our city’s future and our state’s growth. KCPS has successfully fought many uphill battles to overcome decades of disinvestment and lapsed accreditation through the power of excellent faculty and staff, engaged parents ,and a resilient student body. The Kansas City community cares deeply about our schools and has built momentum for funding public education, as proven by our recent collective action to pass a GO Bond with public vote in 2025. My husband and I moved across the state line from Kansas when I was pregnant with my first child, excited by the community, neighborhoods and, yes, even the unique education opportunities in KCPS schools in Missouri. Both of our children have spent their entire education in KCPS, growing into bilingual, high achieving, and diversely talented leaders. While we heard the encouragement to move back to the “Kansas side” for “better schools”, we have never regretted our decision and actively recruit young families to KCPS’ vibrant community. This is the type of community that is essential to attract and keep families in Missouri. This is the kind of community that should not be stifled by state decisions that restrict local funding. Kansas Citians like me have said loud and clear at the ballot box and in their active participation in school well-being that we want to fund our schools. We cannot afford to lose the quality IB programs, diverse teaching staff, gifted programs, STEM, music education that has just recently been scaled to more grades and schools, ELL supports, and foreign language skills our kids benefit from to lead our city’s future. We need your support to ensure that legislation protects and supports our local efforts, not undercuts our revenue. I am asking you to protect local decisions on tax levies to fund education and ensure that our community’s future is not sent back in time to undo, though state decisions and bills such as HJR 111 and 148, the local momentum for quality education in Kansas City that equals thriving community where businesses and families want to grow.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICAH MARTIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 4:12 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

Removing the constitutional amendment will only harm the Kansas City Public School District. KCPS has been making great strides over the last several years. There is still a long road to go. Reduction in funding will cause the district to take several steps backwards. We are in the process of building new schools and updating older ones. Please come tour our buildings and see for yourself. Allowing KCPS to receive less funding means closure of buildings, reduction of staff, and the end of many programs, sports and activities. Teachers will not be able to get a cost of living raise. To hold an entire school district back on funding is a calculated move to make them fail.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAELA WILLMORE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:                  ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 7:32 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**The district already doesn't have enough resources for our students or our salaries. Please don't change anything that would financially hurt the district.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MOLLY FLEMING</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:13 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

My name is Molly Fleming. I'm a 5th generation Missourian and proud public school parent. I write in opposition to HJR 111 and any legislation that seeks to put the KCPS levy to a statewide vote. This policy is disconnected from the actual needs of Kansas City voters and taxpayers, an insult to how local school funding decisions should be made -- locally -- and could devastate our school district's finances.

I have two awesome kids. They're in first grade at a Kansas City public school that we love with phenomenal teachers, a beautiful community, and hundreds of tough little souls working their hardest to learn to read and sum and THINK every day. The budget for our district is already tight, and a sudden shift in our levy could be catastrophic to our finances -- potentially halving available resources for teachers, books, and supplies. KCPS has made so much progress -- we are seeing growing enrollment, increased test scores, and historic community support (marked most notably by 85% support for our GO bond in April 2024, our first since 1967). Any move by the legislature that could undermine that progress with uncertainty or a cut to public school funds could be catastrophic. Let Kansas Citians make the decisions for KCPS. Please table HJR 111 and let us proceed with our local levy vote in April 2027 as planned.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>NATALIE N MILLARD</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 8:51 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

As a parent of two KCPS students, Pre-K and 2nd, I am devastated to hear that our lawmakers are considering HJR 111 and 148. These bills would decimate the KCPS operating budget in direct opposition to the recent passage of the KCPS school bond, which was approved by 85% of the voters. My kids, and all of our kids, deserve to go to a fully funded school - a school rich with opportunities, support staff, extracurriculars, and consistency; a school free from extreme temperature, rodents and roaches, spoiled milk (all of which has been reported in just the last month). In the few years we have been a part of KCPS we have watched extreme staff turnover (losing exceptional teachers to higher paying districts), the departures, or reduced accessibility of art, music, iSpark, etc (because the funding for encore staff fluctuates so wildly year to year with funding cuts), and the last minute unknowing of whether or not there will be before and after care programming due to funding withholding and budget cuts. Our children deserve better than this. They deserve stability. They deserve high quality education. They deserve boundless opportunity. They deserve to know that our government - local, state, federal - believes in investing in their future. Where are we, truly, without education? And is it a world you want to live in? Because I can think of nothing more tragic than this continued attack on education funding. Please vote against these two bills.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>NINA GELLER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 8:27 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

To whom it may concern,

I am a middle school public school teacher at Foreign Language Academy (FLA) in Kansas City Public Schools, and have been for the last three and a half years. I am also a proud member of AFT 691. It has come to my attention that this bill has the potential to eliminate my job, and devastate the bond that Kansas City voters worked so hard to ensure better facilities for teaching in. The bond for FLA would update infrastructure such as the HVAC heating/cooling system. Since I started teaching here in 2022, FLA has had several days where my classroom exceeded 80 degrees Fahrenheit, because of issues with the cooling system. Students last year walked around with blankets because our school then cooled to 60 degrees, and my classroom has been heated to under 68 degrees, what is normally considered room temperature. Improvements to this will not only improve the energy efficiency of FLA, but will also become a safer learning environment that keeps students as active participants in our educational system, rather than disrupted because of hazardous learning environment. Furthermore, I moved here from another state to take this job. I do not wish my school closing to be the reason why I am looking for another job, which should be considered a failure of the state of Missouri. These bills harm not only us as educators, but the students and communities we serve. If FLA or other Kansas City Public Schools are no longer an option (because this bill slashes funding), then where will these students go? Furthermore, where does the staff go? A mass exodus of staff and students, because of tax reform done in this way, is shameful.

Respectfully,  
 a concerned educator



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARA JACKAWAY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 1:53 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am a parent of a Kansas City Public Schools student, and I am writing with concerns about HJR 111 and its potential impact on predictable funding for KCPS.

**Key points:**

**Revenue uncertainty:** HJR 111 would allow statewide voters to set limits on local school levies. For KCPS, this could cut operating revenue by more than half, based on historical levy levels. This is not tied to student enrollment or actual costs, but to a statewide tax policy decision.

**Impact on services:** Such a reduction would directly affect staffing, transportation, special education, and essential operations, placing high-need, low-income students at risk.

**Funding stability matters:** Districts, urban or rural, cannot plan responsibly if revenue fluctuates based on market-driven tax limits rather than actual service needs. KCPS already operates at the lower end of metro levy rates; further cuts would create an unmanageable gap compared with surrounding districts.

**Purpose of existing levy framework:**

KCPS has operated under a court-mandated levy structure since 1995, ratified by Missouri voters in 1998 (Article X, Section 11(g)).

This framework provides predictable revenue for long-term contracts, staffing, facilities, and essential services. HJR 111 would undermine decades of structured fiscal planning.

**Why this matters for tax policy:**

Removing predictable revenue through a statewide vote would retroactively change the rules for a district that relies on stable funding to operate efficiently.

It would create a funding cliff, destabilize operations, and disproportionately affect students with the greatest needs.

This is not about expansion or local preference; it is about maintaining the minimum resources

necessary for safe, functioning schools in a high-need district.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to oppose HJR 111 and prevent it from advancing.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Sara Jackaway  
Parent, Kansas City Public Schools



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<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>2/1/2026 8:12 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

House Joint Resolution 111 is presented as a limited, Kansas City-specific cleanup provision, but in substance it operates as a constitutionally sanctioned revenue floor that bypasses the core voter-approval protections embedded in Article X.

While framed as “maintaining” property tax revenue, HJR 111 authorizes an automatic levy reset tied to CPI growth beginning in 2027, without requiring a contemporaneous vote of the people. This mechanism functions as a built-in tax increase by formula, not by consent. That approach is fundamentally inconsistent with the purpose of the Hancock Amendment, which was adopted to ensure that increases in taxation occur transparently and only with voter approval—not through technical recalibration.

The resolution also creates constitutional asymmetry by granting one school district a revenue-stabilization mechanism that others do not receive, while embedding the adjustment directly into the Constitution rather than addressing the issue through statute.

If revenue maintenance tied to inflation is sound policy, it should be debated and applied uniformly through general law—not carved into the Constitution for a single district.

Further, the official ballot summary materially understates the effect of the proposal. Voters are told this measure merely allows Kansas City Public Schools to “maintain” revenue while moving under Article X protections, without disclosure that the amendment authorizes CPI-based revenue growth without a direct vote.

That omission deprives voters of the information necessary to make an informed constitutional decision.

The Constitution should not be used to ratify exceptions to voter consent, even for sympathetic or historically complex circumstances.

Once a formula-based revenue guarantee is constitutionalized, it ceases to be an exception and becomes a precedent.

For these reasons, HJR 111 should be rejected.

**Footnotes:**

**Missourians for Tax Justice Educ. Project v. Holden, 959 S.W.2d 100, 103–05 (Mo. banc 1997).**  
**(Hancock Amendment requires meaningful voter control over tax increases.)**

**Keller v. Marion County Ambulance Dist., 820 S.W.2d 301, 304–06 (Mo. banc 1991).**

**(Revenue-neutral or formula-based mechanisms cannot be used to evade voter approval.)**

**Mo. Const. art. X, §§ 16–24 (Hancock Amendment).**

**(Adopted to restrain automatic revenue growth driven by valuation or inflation absent voter consent.)**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH ISRAEL</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 9:12 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**We already struggle for resources and time in schools. Our community is failing into devastating homelessness, drug addiction and crime. We need to prioritize funding our schools to bring up the city.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SHANA LONG</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>		TITLE: <b>CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>2901 TROOST AVENUE</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SHAWN REID</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 1:44 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**As a Kansas Citian and native Missourian, I am strongly in opposition to the idea of removing local control of tax rates and levies from Kansas City residents.**

**One of the reasons we have stayed residents of Kansas City is because of the schools, and stripping away the local school board's ability to set its own tax levy would be devastating; if returned to the rate established under Article X, section 22 of the MO Constitution, the schools our children and friends love and are thriving inside of would suffer.**

**The Kansas City public school system has made tremendous progress in the past few decades. Stripping away our voice and giving it to the entire state is unnecessary and could strip away our progress and opportunities.**

**I urge our Congress to let Kansas City maintain local control of our tax rates.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>STEPHEN HIMES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 11:22 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I am a charter school parent, and deeply involved in charter school and school-choice governance. This bill would not only gut the finances of KCPS, but would devastate Kehoe's school-choice agenda. Nine charter schools, partnered with KCPS, won with an 85% approval for bonds to rebuild our schools --including money for charter schools that have little access to capital. By limiting Kansas City's ability to control its own levy, the main impact would be on the schools of choice with the KCEPS. At this point in our history, this has absolutely nothing to do with a desegregation or some sort of "woke" agenda. As someone who was a chief of staff for a ranking state legislator, I will tell you: This bill will punish those of us who have fought for our charter schools, and who see KCPS as our partner in school reform and school choice because our community voted for a bond. I also worked for a private school in Kansas City for 12 years, in no universe will private education replace what this bill will do to public schools of choice. Your bill will devastate the Missouri Public Charter School Commission's portfolios of schools.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUMMER BECKER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/2/2026 10:57 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

My comment from HJR 148 also apply here.

I oppose this bill and ask that you do not pass it out of committee. This proposal would defund Kansas City Public Schools—while leaving every other district in Jackson County and across the state fully funded. I can see no legitimate public benefit to singling out one community’s children, families, and educators for harm while protecting all others. Such unequal treatment is vindictive in effect and unjust in practice.

The predictable result of this bill is not savings, but instability. Severely reducing funding to Kansas City’s public and charter schools will almost certainly invite legal challenges. Missouri taxpayers will then be forced to pay court costs, legal fees, and administrative expenses—money that would be far better spent in classrooms educating children. This bill risks repeating a cycle we have seen before: disinvestment followed by litigation, followed by higher long-term costs to the public.

Beyond the legal consequences, the educational and economic impacts are profound. An undereducated workforce and unreliable schools impose long-term costs on communities that far exceed any short-term budgetary reduction. Businesses will struggle to hire, social services are strained, and the entire metro will suffer.

This bill harms teachers, students, and parents in Kansas City alone, while neighboring districts remain whole. That disparity makes no sense from an economic, moral, or educational standpoint. As a Missouri voter and Kansas Citian, I believe our state should be investing more in public education, not less.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>SUSAN L MARTINEZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 6:45 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I have been a public school teacher for over 25 years, the past 11 in KCPS. I am an alumni of KCPS, and my grown children are also KCPS alumni and I live in the community where I work. Public schools are the lifeblood of our country. They provide invaluable resources that help build and form our communities. They provide safe learning spaces for children to not only grow their minds, but also to learn how to be caring and intelligent contributors in our communities. Tax levy's play a vital role in sustaining these resources. We need to provide for our students and to recruit and retain high quality teachers and principals. I believe that building stronger communities builds stronger cities and a better world.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 111</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Special Committee on Property Tax Reform</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>TIM MCFARLAND</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2026 3:44 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		

**We want to decide how our schools are funded!**