



ADVOCACY 101

Missouri

John Bardgett & Associates

Governmental Affairs Consultant



Missouri General Assembly

- **Senate**, 34 total members
 - 24 Republicans, 9 Democrats and 1 vacancy
 - Senate.mo.gov
- **House of Representatives**, 163 total members
 - 115 Republicans, 47 Democrats and 1 vacancy
 - House.mo.gov
- **Term limits**
 - Senators: 4 year term with 8 year term limit
 - Representatives: 2 year term with 8 year term limit

Missouri Governor

- Leader of the Executive Branch with a responsibility for enforcing and administering the laws.
- **Veto** – Governor may veto any bill, other than an appropriations bill, in its entirety. The vetoed bill is returned to the General Assembly for reconsideration. If the Governor neither vetoes nor signs a bill it becomes law without his signature.
- **Line item veto** – Governor may reduce any appropriation amount or may veto specific lines in an appropriation bill.
- **Supplemental or emergency appropriations** – Governor may request funding annually. The General Assembly cannot add items to the bill, but may change amounts or delete items.
- **Withholds** – Governor may withhold any funding line items at any time during a fiscal year if revenues fall below projections.

Making a Law

- Laws are made by the passage of a bill
- Bills may be introduced in the House or Senate
 - Introduction of a bill
 - Committee Assignment
 - Public Hearing
 - Executive Session
 - Perfection
 - Third Reading
 - Conference
 - Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed



Get Involved, Be an Advocate

- Get yourself prepared
 - Bio
 - Support or Oppose
- Be grateful for the elected officials time
- Speak with honesty and include factual data
 - Talking points
- Personalize the issue to a local level
 - Share a story
- Leave literature and contact information
- Follow-up with a thank you

Questions?



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