



2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

We support:

Economic Development/Tourism

- Revising the Division of Tourism's funding formula with a baseline of the last fiscal year's appropriation and fully funding that formula. Investment in tourism supports economic growth, job creation, and tax revenue for the entire state.
- Creation of new and/or modify existing performance-based incentives to include tourism projects with significant job creation and capital investment impacts, not to exclude franchise businesses.
- Enhance incentives that support infrastructure expansion and enhancements for improvements to support the attraction of mission critical facilities to the state of Missouri.
- Performance-based incentives competitive with other states and not subject to the appropriations process.
- Protect small businesses and Missouri jobs from the impact of burdensome and costly regulations.
- Reauthorization of the Show MO Act prior to its December 31, 2029, sunset. Offering more competitive tax credits to attract film and various motion media productions to Missouri.
- Reauthorizing the Entertainment Industry Jobs Act prior to its sunset December 31, 2030

Workforce Development

- Continuing a broad-spectrum approach to upskilling and right-skilling Missouri's workforce to address labor shortages and help businesses grow.
- Increased or full funding of workforce development programs.
- Supplemental labor force support programs at the state level.
- Legislation that provides funding for state and local agencies to develop, improve and sustain new and existing obtainable housing, childcare and transportation in conjunction with public and private organizations to develop workforce.

Transportation/Infrastructure

- Interstate 44 improvements and enhancements.
- Fair and equitable distribution of state and federal funding for area expansion to substantiate future economic/community development projects.
- Sustainable funding for a comprehensive transportation system in Missouri as it impacts tourism and will allow for economic development expansion projects, as well as to simply improve roads and bridges throughout the state.
- Deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure by strategic partners that meet the needs of visitors and residents.
- Infrastructure funding based on economic impact instead of per capita. Tourism destinations in the state host many visitors and need adequate infrastructure to serve their needs.
- Broadband deployment in unserved/underserved areas to provide connectivity and aid in sustained economic vitality.
- Local flexibility for allocation and spending of state and federal project funds.
- Funding for rural industrial site development (difficult development areas/DDAs) opportunities.

Energy and Environment

- State, federal and local water quality and watershed infrastructure protection of our Ozarks streams and lakes, which are vital to our quality of place.

- Representation from the Branson Tri-Lakes region on various water and environmental commissions and committees, such as the Clean Water Commission.
- Supporting diverse energy supplies that sustain safe, reliable, and affordable power needs to meet the demands of the region.
- Consumer protection efforts that encourage safe installation and regular maintenance of distributed generation facilities to ensure fair, equitable, and safe delivery of power.

Education

- Appropriation of the necessary amount of state funding to continue to fully fund the foundation formula.
- Efforts to adequately fund all levels of education, pre-K through 12 and post-secondary.
- Continue to fully fund K-12 transportation.
- Continue to prioritize increasing salaries and wages for teachers and support staff.
- Establish resources to support enhanced safety measures in schools.
- Support for funding and enhancing programs that support mental health programs for students and families.
- Resources for supporting and funding college and career exploration programs.

Lodging

- Updating the State lodging code and inspection process.
- Statewide reclassification of extended stay properties.
- Fair and equitable sales and property tax for all nightly rental inventory.

Local Government

- Legislative efforts that do not take local control away from municipalities or health departments.
- All funds available for infrastructure from federal grant programs be allocated to municipalities for needed upgrades to sewer, water, roads, and WIFI.
- The State identifying funds to assist municipalities and taxpayers to be able to comply with upcoming requirements regarding the replacement of lead water pipes.