



2017 COLUMBIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD



COLUMBIA
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

*Engaging Business
for Community Excellence*

UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ACCREDITED



INTRODUCTION



The Columbia Chamber of Commerce consistently hosts candidate forums for state and local races.

The Chamber has a vigorous process to form and create legislative priorities. This process begins during the summer prior to the legislative session. The Government Affairs Committee invites community partners and our local elected officials to outline their objectives and priorities for the next legislative session. The committee also reviews recommendations from the Chamber's other 11 committees submitting and discussing proposals culminating with the November meeting dedicated to deliberating each proposal for consideration of inclusion in the recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval.

The Columbia Chamber's legislative agenda and priorities were approved by the Board of Directors at their November 2016 meeting. The agenda and priorities were then released to the general public and our local delegation at the 2017 Legislative Reception held in January 2017.

The Columbia Chamber of Commerce does not endorse candidates. The data generated through the vote-tracking process is used to identify areas of agreement between the business community and our local state legislators. It is intended to highlight opportunities for the Chamber to advocate for public policy, to lead our community, drive commerce in our region and advance community and regional collaborations, thereby enhancing the quality of where we live, learn, work and play.

2017 COLUMBIA/BOONE COUNTY DELEGATION



State Senator Caleb Rowden
Republican
District 19 – Boone and Cooper Counties
Elected to the Senate: 2016
Phone: (573) 751-3937
Email: caleb.rowden@senate.mo.gov



State Representative Cheri Toalson Reisch
Republican
District 44 – Boone and Randolph Counties
Elected to the House: 2016
Phone: (573) 751-1169
Email: Cheri.Toalson-Reisch@house.mo.gov



State Representative
Kip Kendrick
Democrat
District 45 – City of Columbia and Boone County
Elected to the House: 2014, 2016



State Representative Martha Stevens
Democrat
District 46 – City of Columbia and Boone County
Elected to the House: 2016
Phone: (573) 751-9753
Email: Martha.Stevens@house.mo.gov



State Representative
Chuck Basye
Republican
District 47 – Boone, Howard, Cooper and Randolph Counties
Elected to the House: 2014, 2016



State Representative Sara Walsh
Republican
District 50 – Cole, Cooper, Boone and Moniteau Counties
Elected to the House: 2016
Phone: (573) 751-2134
Email: Sara.Walsh@house.mo.gov

COLUMBIA 

BOARD OF REALTORS®

2017 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

The Scorecard is not intended to grade our local delegation, it is meant to highlight where each legislator stood on the Columbia Chamber of Commerce’s 2016 Legislative Agenda. There we certainly bright spots and disappointments with the passage and failure of priorities important to the Chamber. We were pleased to stand up for the University of Missouri and see important ethics changes made. We were disappointed to not see transportation funding see a more robust debate. Despite what appears to be a challenging future with lagging state revenues, the Columbia Chamber of Commerce will continue to work our community partners to enhance the quality of where we live, learn, work and play.

DISTRICT	LEGISLATOR	SB 66	SB 105	SB 369	HB 2	HB 4	HB 90	HB 93	HB 153	HCR 47
19	Rep. Caleb Rowden	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Rep. Cheri Toalson Reisch	✓	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A*
45	Rep. Kip Kendrick	X	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
46	Rep. Martha Stevens	X	N/A	N/A	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓
47	Rep. Chuck Basye	A*	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Rep. Sara Walsh	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

- ✓ - VOTED IN SUPPORT OF COLUMBIA CHAMBER POSITION
- X - VOTED IN OPPOSITION TO COLUMBIA CHAMBER POSITION
- N/P - WAS NOT PRESENT WHEN VOTE OCCURRED
- A* - ABSENT WITH LEAVE
- N/A - BILL NOT VOTED ON BY LEGISLATIVE CHAMBER
- * - NOT IN OFFICE DURING VOTE

2017 KEY LEGISLATION



U.S. Senator Roy Blunt talks with Chamber members at the Lunch with a Leader event.

Senate Bill 66 – Sponsored by Senator Schatz

This bill will help safeguard the employer-funded workers' compensation system from frivolous benefits claims and excessive litigation. These changes will be implemented by raising the standard of proof in workers' compensation discrimination suits and it establishes a fair, logical endpoint for temporary workers' compensation benefits. Senate Bill 66 was signed by Governor Greitens on July 5, 2017 and will be enacted beginning January 1, 2018.

Chamber Legislative Priority

Support employers against any frivolous claims by aligning Missouri employment law to federal.

Recorded Vote:

(Senate) Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed, MO Senate Journal, Page 1540, May 10, 2017

(House) Third Read and Passed, MO House Journal, Pages 1582-1583, April 18, 2017

Senate Bill 105 – Sponsored by Senator Wallingford

This act creates the Missouri Main Street Fairness Act. It Requires the Department of

Revenue to enter into the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement. It would simplify and modernize sales and use tax administration to substantially reduce the burden of tax compliance for all sellers and for all types of commerce. In furtherance of the streamlined sales and use tax agreement, the director of the department of revenue may act jointly with other states that are members of the streamlined sales and use tax agreement to establish standards for certification of a certified service provider and certified automated system and establish performance standards for multistate sellers.

The Senate Ways and Means Committee voted the Senate Committee substitute do pass on February 28, 2017. Unfortunately, Senate Bill 105 received no further consideration.

Chamber Legislative Priority

Help level the playing field between local retailers and their out-of-state competitors when it comes to use or sales taxes on internet and catalogue purchases. This will be implemented by all state and local sales taxes to have the same bases.

Recorded Vote:

(Senate) No Recorded Floor Vote

(House) No Recorded Floor Vote

Senate Bill 369 – Sponsored by Senator Rowden

Modifies criminal background checks of school bus drivers to include those drivers employed by municipalities or any other entity under contract with a school district. The criminal background check shall be conducted pursuant to state laws on criminal record review if a school bus driver is employed by a municipality. The act also authorizes any school board in the state of Missouri to contract with any municipality for transporting school children.

Chamber Legislative Priority

This bill allows public school districts the ability to enter into transportation pilot programs to create cost savings and encourage partnerships within their local communities.



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University of Missouri Political
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Members come out to events like the Legislative Reception to hear and show their support for the local delegation.

Recorded Vote:

(Senate) No Recorded Floor Vote

(House) No Recorded Floor Vote

House Bill 2 – Sponsored by Representative Fitzpatrick

Appropriates money for the expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the State Board of Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the several divisions and programs thereof to be expended only as provided in Article IV, Section 28 of the Constitution of Missouri. Transferring money among certain funds for the period beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30th, 2018. Budget writers chose to fully fund the state's K-12 foundation formula, which also triggers additional state investment in early childhood education.

Chamber Legislative Priorities

Fund pre-K through 12 public education above FY '16 appropriation to ensure Missouri's educational system is competitive and capable of effectively preparing tomorrow's workforce.



A panel talks about economic trends in Columbia and the region at the Economic outlook Conference.

Recorded Vote:

(Senate) Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed, MO Senate Journal, Pages 1324-1325, May 4, 2017

(House) Third Read and Passed, MO House Journal, Page 2170, May 4, 2017

House Bill 4 – Sponsored by Representative Fitzpatrick

Appropriates money for the expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the Department of Revenue and Department of Transportation. The bill will transfer money among certain funds for the period beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. The Columbia Chamber of Commerce was able to secure \$2.5 million appropriation in FY18 for the Columbia Regional Airport Terminal Project. House Bill 4 was signed by Governor Greitens on June 30, 2017. Securing a State Appropriation will allow the City of Columbia to seek federal investment.

Chamber Legislative Priority

Support \$10 million appropriation for FY 18 to fund Columbia Regional Airport Terminal Project.



The Columbia Chamber of Commerce brings decision makers, like Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, to talk directly with members about topics that impact their businesses

Recorded Vote:
 (Senate) Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed, MO Senate Journal, Pages 1327-1328, May 4, 2017
 (House) Third Read and Passed, MO House Journal, Pages 2173-2174, May 4, 2017

House Bill 90 – Sponsored by Representative Rehder

Add seven new sections relating to the narcotics control act

with penalty provisions to amend chapter 195, RSMo. Some of the provisions of the bill include: requiring dispensers to electronically submit specified information to the department within 24 hours, requires all submitted prescription information to be confidential with specific expectations, allows the release of non-personal information for educational purposes, and more. The new sections will be known as 195.450, 195.453, 195.456, 195.459, 195.462, 195.465, and 195.468. The Missouri House and Senate each pass a version of House Bill 90 but is not able to reconcile the differences to enable final votes in each chamber.

Chamber Legislative Priority

Enact a statewide prescription drug monitoring program that lowers workforce drug abuse and insurance costs for employers.

Recorded Vote:
 (Senate) Third Read and Passed with Amendments, MO Senate Journal, Page 876, April 13, 2017
 (House) Third Read and Passed, MO House Journal, Pages 1278-1279, April 3, 2017

House Bill 93 – Sponsored by Representative Lauer

This bill provides that financial assistance, through the Missouri Works Training Program, may be provided to an association of most of qualified companies organized to provide common training to the association members' employees. Establishes four adult high schools in the state for about 500,000 adult Missourians who don't have school diplomas

making it hard for them to get a job. House Bill 93 was signed by Governor Greitens on July 5, 2017.

Chamber Legislative Priority

Increase state funding to match federal workforce training dollars to remain competitive and meet expanding employment needs. Examine creating a set aside of the statewide workforce training money for smaller employers to meet local and regional needs.

Recorded Vote:

(Senate) Third Read and Passed, MO Senate Journal, Page 1532, May 9, 2017

(House) Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed, MO House Journal, Pages 2631-2632, May 11, 2017

House Bill 153 – Sponsored by Representative Corlew

This bill will provide the same high standards for trial evidence that are currently required in federal courts and 40 other states. Called the Daubert standard, it ensures that only evidence deemed relevant, reliable and provided by qualified individuals will be admitted as expert testimony. Expert witnesses are very influential in shaping the outcome of cases. Under the Daubert standard, the judge serves a critical role making sure an expert witness meets certain basic criteria.

Chamber Federation Agenda

Ensure more credibility in Missouri's legal proceedings by requiring the same high standards for trial evidence that is required in federal courts and other states.

Recorded Vote:

(Senate) Third Read and Passed, MO Senate Journal, Pages 512-513, March 15, 2017

(House) Third Read and Passed, MO House Journal, Page 492, February 2, 2017

HCR 47 – Sponsored by Representative Corlew

Creates the 21st Century Missouri Transportation System Task Force. The task force will be responsible for evaluating and making recommendations regarding the conditions of the Missouri transportation system.

Chamber Legislative Priority

Support a sustainable funding plan for a comprehensive transportation system to better support Missouri's economic growth. Including a focus of advocating on rebuilding Interstate 70.

Recorded Vote:

(Senate) Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed, MO Senate Journal, Page 1540, May 10, 2017

(House) Third Read and Passed, MO House Journal, Pages 1582-1583, April 18, 2017



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