



Governor's Council on Disability

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Issue 1, January 8, 2021

Welcome to Issue 1 of the Legislative Update.

- The weekly Legislative Update provides information on disability related bills. For more details on a specific bill, please click on the bill number.
- If there has been action on a bill in the current week, the status is listed in red.
- To learn more about the legislative process consider attending the [Legislative Education Project](#) training or watching our online modules and videos.
- Please contact our office (Laura.Mueth@oa.mo.gov) if you need a different format.
- Past issues are online at [Legislative Updates](#).
- Access to individual bill information is available on the Missouri Senate's website at [Bill Search](#)
- A glossary of legislative terms can be found at the Missouri House of Representatives [Legislative Terms](#)
- Most of the summaries are prepared by the Research Staff of the Missouri House of Representatives and Missouri Senate and are used by permission.

Note: When "incapacitated," "handicapped," etc. appear in a bill description, it reflects the terminology of the legislation, not the Governor's Council on Disability.

Abbreviations

HB	House of Representatives
Bill	
HA	House Amendment
HS.....	House Substitute
HR	House Resolution
HJR.....	House Joint Resolution
HCS.....	House Committee Substitute
SB	Senate Bill
SCS	Senate Committee Substitute
SA.....	Senate Amendment
SS	Senate Substitute
SR.....	Senate Resolution
SJR.....	Senate Joint Resolution
CCR.....	Conference Committee Report
CCS.....	Conference Committee Substitute

Bills are listed in the following categories:

- [Assistive Technology](#)
- [Crime](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Funding/Tax Relief](#)
- [Health Care and Personal Assistance](#)
- [Legal Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- [Mental Health](#)
- [Olmstead](#)
- [Safety/Prevention](#)
- [Services for people with Disabilities](#)
- [Other](#)
- [Appropriations](#)

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

No pending bills

CRIME

[HB 501](#) [Schroer](#)

Criminalizes the disclosure of medical marijuana patients' information to unauthorized parties

This bill prohibits information from the statewide medical marijuana list or any information regarding individual applicants or identification card holders from being disclosed to the federal government or any unauthorized third party. The prohibition applies to state agencies and state employees. Violations are a Class E felony.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 546](#) [Hicks](#)

Allows certain marijuana-related offenses and violations to be expunged if the offenses or violations occurred in Missouri prior to the issuance of a patient identification card

This bill requires that prior marijuana convictions be expunged for individuals who have a medical marijuana ID card. The bill specifies dates by which the convictions must be expunged by the courts where the convictions occurred. Individuals must file petitions with the courts to be granted a hearing regarding the expungement.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

EDUCATION

[HB 64](#) [Pike](#)

Modifies provisions relating to the cost of serving high-needs students

This bill states the calculation of the expenditure per average daily attendance won't include high need special education reimbursements for any school district with 500 students or less.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 108](#) [Bangert](#)

Requires school districts to provide instruction in cursive writing

This bill requires school districts to provide cursive writing instruction to students so students are able to create readable documents using cursive writing by the end of fifth grade. Students must pass a proficiency test on reading and writing cursive.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 119](#) [Mackey](#)

Modifies provisions relating to seclusion and restraint policies in public schools

This bill requires each school district, charter school, and publicly contracted private provider to update its seclusion and restraint policy before July 1, 2022. The policy will include reserving the use of restraint and seclusion for situations or conditions in which there is imminent danger of physical harm to self or others. The student must be removed from restraint or seclusion once it is determined the imminent danger no longer exists. All staff who use restraint and seclusion must complete mandatory training on the techniques used by the district, charter school, or provider on an annual basis. The restraint and seclusion policy must be reviewed annually. Each time restraint or seclusion is used monitoring by a staff member is required. A report must be completed for each incident. The bill specifies what must be included in the report. Copies of all reports will be given to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Parents must be notified within one hour of the end of the school day on which restraint or seclusion is used with their child. The bill details what must be included in the notice and includes provisions prohibiting retaliation by school or provider personnel. The Department of Elementary Education will maintain all reports in their data system and make them available in the comprehensive data system as well as update the model policy on restraint and seclusion.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 228 Basye

Permits recording of IEP or Section 504 meetings by a student's parent or legal guardian

This bill prevents any school district or charter school from prohibiting a parent or guardian from recording any meeting held under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973). Districts may not require parents to provide more than 24 hours notice in order to record any of these meetings. The recording is the property of the parent or guardian. No school district employee shall face adverse employment actions for reporting violations.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 303 Wiemann

Establishes transfer procedures to nonresident districts for students in public schools

This bill creates the Public School Choice Act. It allows a student to attend school in a district where he/she is not a resident beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Each school district's school board will adopt application acceptance and rejection standards. It allows nonresident school districts to enter into transportation agreements with parents of students who have an IEP in which transportation is a related service. School districts will determine the number of transfer of students it is willing to receive.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 304 Kelley

Enacts requirements relating to suicide prevention education and information

This act requires that beginning in the 2022-2023 school year the practicing teacher assistance program may offer and include at least two hours of suicide prevention in-service training for all practicing teachers in MO school districts. All principals, teachers, and licensed educators may attend annual training or review suicide prevention materials. Training attendance will count for two professional development hours. The MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may develop training materials or provide districts with materials from a third party. Beginning July 1, 2022, all public schools and charter schools serving students in grades seven to twelve, and all institutions of higher education that issue student identification cards shall be required to print on either side of the identification card the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Such schools may also print the number for the Crisis Text Line and a local suicide prevention telephone number. Institutions of higher education may also include the phone number of campus police or security, or the local law enforcement authority's phone number. If any public school, charter school, or institution of higher education has a supply of unissued student identification cards that do not comply with this act, the school shall issue such student identification cards until the supply is depleted. This act shall apply to a student identification card issued for the first time to a student, and to any student identification card issued to replace a damaged or lost student identification card.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 312 Kelley

Requires each local school district and charter school to have on file a policy for reading success plans for certain students

This bill requires each local school district and charter school to have on file a policy for reading success plans for students in kindergarten through fourth grade. It should be aligned with guidelines developed by the MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The bill states what the guidelines should include. It states when reading assessments should be given and states any student who has an IEP or 504 plan for reading issues should have a reading success plan. Reading success plans will be offered to any student in the above mentioned grades who has a reading deficiency, is at risk for dyslexia, or has dyslexia. The bill outlines what will be included in the plan and when other interventions should occur. The bill requires the State Board of Education to align literacy and reading instruction course work for teacher education programs in early childhood, kindergarten through fifth grade elementary teacher certification, middle school communication arts, high school communication arts, and all reading and special education certificates to include certain components. A reading instruction advisory council is established.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 322 Basye

Allows for the opening of recovery charter high schools

This bill allows recovery charter high schools to be opened in Kansas City and sets requirements for the schools. Admission is limited to students recovering from substance use disorders, substance use dependency, and co-occurring disorders such as anxiety, depression, and ADHD.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 368 Gregory

Requires each local school district and charter school to have on file a policy for reading success plans for certain students

This bill requires each school district and charter school will have a policy regarding reading success plans for students in kindergarten through 4th grade. The policies will align with guidelines established by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The bill specifies what will be included in individual plans and when assessments will be conducted. This includes offering a reading success plan for any students with reading deficiencies or dyslexia and when students will be referred for IEP evaluations. It also specifies that reading intervention must occur beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. It also includes provisions for informing parents and guardians.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 387 Bailey

Modifies provisions relating to seclusion and restraint policies in public schools

This bill requires that school districts, charter schools, and publicly contracted private providers not use any mechanical, physical, or prone restraint techniques that meets the criteria in the bill beginning July 1, 2022. All written policies will be updated before July 1, 2022 to prohibit use of restraint techniques which meet the criteria. It also requires each school district, charter school, and publicly contracted private provider to update its seclusion and restraint policy before July 1, 2022. The policy will include reserving the use of restraint and seclusion for situations or conditions in which there is imminent danger of physical harm to self or others. The student must be removed from restraint or seclusion once it is determined the imminent danger no longer exists. All staff who use restraint and seclusion must complete mandatory training on the techniques used by the district, charter school, or provider on an annual basis. The restraint and seclusion policy must be reviewed annually. Each time restraint or seclusion is used monitoring by a staff member is required. A report must be completed for each incident. The bill specifies what must be included in the report. Copies of all reports will be given to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Parents must be notified within one hour of the end of the school day on which restraint or seclusion is used with their child. The bill details what must be included in the notice and includes provisions prohibiting retaliation by school or provider personnel. The Department of Elementary Education will maintain all reports in their data system and make them available in the comprehensive data system as well as update the model policy on restraint and seclusion.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 437 Appelbaum

Enacts requirements relating to suicide prevention education and information

This act requires that beginning in the 2022-2023 school year the practicing teacher assistance program may offer and include at least two hours of suicide prevention in-service training for all practicing teachers in MO

school districts. All principals, teachers, and licensed educators may attend annual training or review suicide prevention materials. Training attendance will count for two professional development hours. The MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may develop training materials or provide districts with materials from a third-party. Beginning July 1, 2022, all public schools and charter schools serving students in grades seven to twelve, and all institutions of higher education that issue student identification cards shall be required to print on either side of the identification card the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Such schools may also print the number for the Crisis Text Line and a local suicide prevention telephone number. Institutions of higher education may also include the phone number of campus police or security, or the local law enforcement authority's phone number. If any public school, charter school, or institution of higher education has a supply of unissued student identification cards that do not comply with this act, the school shall issue such student identification cards until the supply is depleted. This act shall apply to a student identification card issued for the first time to a student, and to any student identification card issued to replace a damaged or lost student identification card.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 458](#) [Dogan](#)

Establishes new procedures for annexation of school districts to special school districts

This bill requires school districts which want to annex in to an adjacent special school district to establish a special school district within their boundaries. The recently established special school district can then follow the annexation procedures specified in the bill.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 465](#) [Pike](#)

Enacts requirements relating to suicide prevention education and information

This bill states that beginning with the 2021-2022 school year the youth suicide awareness and prevention professional development received by licensed educators will include at least one unit on stress management strategies for students and faculty.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 510](#) [Hill](#)

Establishes alternative instruction delivery systems for virtual instructional programs in public schools and charter schools

This bill establishes the Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program. The bill requires all public schools to adopt policies regarding virtual instructional courses. It allows school districts to implement short-term distance learning plans that provide distance learning which is accessible to all students. It specifies the types of circumstances under which distance learning plans can be used. Instances can include students who are unable to attend school in-person due to extended medical issues. School districts are required to provide internet connectivity and devices free of charge to students who don't have access to the internet or necessary devices.

Alternate methods must be established if schools don't have the funds to provide these materials. Each district will establish a working group comprised of community stakeholders for developing a distance learning plan.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 543 Pollitt

Establishes transfer procedures to nonresident districts for students in public schools

This bill creates a public school open enrollment program. It allows a student to attend school in a district where he/she is not a resident beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Each participating school district's school board will adopt application acceptance and rejection standards. It allows nonresident school districts to enter into transportation agreements with parents of students who have an IEP in which transportation is a related service. School districts will determine the number of transfer of students it is willing to receive.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 581 Riggs

Establishes the "21st-Century Missouri Education Task Force"

This bill creates the Twenty-first Century Education Taskforce. The membership will include an individual who represents children with disabilities including autism spectrum disorder. The taskforce will evaluate the condition of the public school system, study education models and workforce development efforts, evaluate current and future education funding, make recommendations regarding funding, workforce development, and the use of technology and artificial intelligence. The taskforce will create a report for the general assembly.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 729 O'Donnell

Establishes and modifies alternative educational options for students in elementary and secondary education programs

This bill establishes and modifies a few alternative education options for kindergarten through twelfth grade students. The options included in the bill are the MO Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program, charter schools, MO course access and virtual school program. The MO Empowerment Scholarships Account section mentions being able to use the funds for educational therapies from practitioners, paraprofessionals, and aides.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 743 Wiemann

Requires trauma-informed schools to keep incident records and provide notice of certain incidents

This bill requires trauma-informed schools to keep a record of each incident in which a child is removed from a classroom during or following an outburst by another child and to keep a record of each incident in which a child is present in the classroom during or following the outburst of another child. The schools are also required to inform

parents/guardians by telephone, letter, or email within forty-eight hours that their child was removed from the classroom.

Status: 1/8/21 Second Read (H)

SB 54 **O'Laughlin**

Requires each local school district and charter school to have a policy for reading success plans for certain pupils in grades kindergarten through fourth grade

This act modifies current law regarding reading success plans, formerly known as reading intervention programs. Each local school district and charter school shall have on file a policy for reading success plans for any pupils of the district in grades kindergarten through four, rather than through grade three. Each policy shall be aligned with the guidelines developed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for reading intervention plans. Authority to develop guidelines to assist school districts and charter schools in formulating policies for reading intervention plans is transferred from the State Board of Education to the Department. Any guidelines for instruction shall meet the needs of the student by ensuring that instruction is explicit and systematic and diagnostic, and based on certain elements set forth in the act. The guidelines shall emphasize that frequent assessments are necessary to measure student progress. Each local school district and charter school is required to include individual and small group reading development activities in an individual pupil's reading success plan. The plan shall be developed after consultation with the pupil's parent or legal guardian. Under current law, such provisions are not mandatory. Under this act, each school district and charter school shall administer a reading assessment or set of assessments to each student within the first 30 days of school for grades one through four, and by January 31 for kindergarten, unless a student has been determined in the previous school year to be reading at grade level or above. School districts and charter schools shall reading deficiency, and to students receiving services under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 whose services plan includes an element addressing reading. This act repeals the requirement that school districts and charter schools design a reading success plan for the student's fourth-grade year if the student's third-grade reading assessment determines the student is reading below second-grade level. The provision is replaced with a requirement that school districts and charter schools offer a reading success plan to each K-4 student who exhibits a reading deficiency that has been identified as being at risk for dyslexia in the statewide dyslexia screening requirement, or has a formal diagnosis of dyslexia. The reading success plan shall be provided in addition to the core reading instruction provided to all students, and shall meet criteria set forth in the act. Any K-4 student who exhibits a deficiency in reading at any time, based upon local or statewide screening assessments, shall receive an individual reading success plan no later than 45 days after the identification of the deficiency. Such plan shall be created by the teacher and other pertinent school personnel, along with the parent or legal guardian, and shall describe the evidence-based reading improvement services the student shall receive. The reading success plan shall specify if a student was found to be at risk for dyslexia in the statewide dyslexia screening requirement or if the student has a formal diagnosis of dyslexia. Under this act, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, students who are not reading at grade level by the end of the second grade shall receive appropriate reading intervention to remedy the student's specific reading deficiency. Each school district and charter school shall conduct a review of student reading success plans for all students who are not reading at grade level by the end

of the second grade, and shall address additional support services needed to remedy the areas of deficiency. School districts and charter schools shall provide improvement and support services set forth in the act. School districts and charter schools are required, under this act, to provide reading intervention for any student not reading proficient or above on a local or statewide third-grade reading assessment in the child's third-grade year, or at proficient or above in the child's subsequent grade level starting in the fourth grade, and who has a reading success plan, and shall meet certain criteria set forth in the act. Under current law, each student for whom a reading success plan has been designed shall be given another reading assessment to be administered within 45 days of the end of the student's fourth-grade year. If such student is determined to be reading below third-grade level, the student shall be required to attend summer school. This act repeals such requirement, and instead requires such student to be referred for an evaluation for an IEP plan and the district shall provide appropriate intensive structured literacy instruction on an individualized basis. If the student does not qualify for an IEP, the student shall continue to receive appropriate, intensive structured literacy instruction on an individualized basis until the student is reading at grade level. The mandatory process of additional reading intervention for reading support outside the regular school day and school year shall cease at the end of the sixth grade. If the student is still not reading at grade level upon completion of the sixth grade, the school district and charter school shall continue to provide a reading success plan to be implemented during the regular school day until such time as the student is reading at grade level, or upon graduation from high school. Appropriate documentation of a student's reading success plan shall be provided to an enrolling district within 10 school days of a student's transfer to a public or charter school. This act repeals the provision requiring the permanent record of students determined to be reading below the fifth-grade level at the end of sixth grade to carry a notation that the student has not met minimal reading standards, and the requirement that such notation shall stay on the record until such standards are met. Each school district and charter school is required to offer summer school reading instruction to any student with a reading success plan. Districts may fulfill the requirement through cooperative arrangements with neighboring districts. The parent or legal guardian of any student who exhibits a deficiency in reading shall be notified in writing no later than 30 school days after identification of the deficiency. The written notification shall meet certain requirements set forth in the act. This act requires the board of each school district and charter school to post, by September 1 of each year, by building, the number and percentage of all students in grades 3-8 scoring at each proficiency level on the English language arts statewide assessment; by building, the number and percentage of all students in grades 3-8 in each demographic category scoring proficiency level on the English language arts statewide assessment; by district, the number and percentage of all students in grades 3-8 scoring at each proficiency level on the English language arts statewide assessment; and by district, the number and percentage of all students in grades 3-8 in each demographic category scoring at each proficiency level on the English language arts statewide assessment. The Department is also required to report the information in a state-level summary to the State Board of Education, the public, the Governor, and the Joint Committee on Education by October 1 of each year. This act permits the State Board of Education to recommend that institutions of higher education and the Department align with literacy and reading instruction course work with knowledge and practice standards from the Center for Effective Reading Instruction.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 134](#) **[O'Laughlin](#)**

Permits recording certain meetings by a student's parent or legal guardian

Under this act, no school district or charter school shall prohibit a parent or legal guardian of a student from audio recording any meeting held under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), or the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any audio recording made by a parent or legal guardian shall be the property of the parent or guardian, and shall not be considered to be a public record. School districts and charter schools shall not require parents to notify the school district or charter school of such parent's intent to record a meeting more than 24 hours in advance. No school district or charter school employee who reports any violation of this act shall be subject to discharge, retaliation, or any other adverse employment action for making such report.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 187](#) **[Beck](#)**

Requires school district nurses to develop individualized healthcare plans for students with epilepsy or seizure disorders

This act establishes "Will's Law," requiring individualized health care plans to be developed by school district nurses in consultation with a student's parent or guardian and appropriate medical professionals that address procedural guidelines and specific directions for particular emergency situations relating to the student's epilepsy or seizure disorder. Plans are to be updated at the beginning of each school year and as necessary. Notice must be given to any school employee that may interact with the student, including symptoms of the epilepsy or seizure disorder and any medical and treatment issues that may affect the educational process. All school employees must be trained every two years in the care of students with epilepsy and seizure disorders. Training shall include an online or in-person course of instruction approved by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. School personnel shall obtain a release from a student's parent to authorizing the sharing of medical information with other school employees as necessary. This act protects school employees from being held liable for any good faith act or omission while performing their duties. This act contains an emergency clause.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 259](#) **[O'Laughlin](#)**

Provides that recovery charter high schools may be operated in Kansas City for students in recovery from substance use disorder or dependency

Under this act, a recovery charter high school may be operated in an urban school district containing most or all of Kansas City. This act defines a "recovery charter high school" as a charter school for students in grades nine through twelve who are in recovery from substance use disorder or dependency. Such charter school must educate all available eligible students who are in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders such as anxiety, depression, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); must meet state requirements for awarding a high school diploma; and must support students in working a strong

program of recovery. A recovery charter high school shall enroll all pupils in the district in which it operates; nonresident pupils eligible to attend a district's school under an urban voluntary transfer program; nonresident pupils who transfer from an unaccredited district; and any nonresident pupil, who is in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders. Admission shall be limited to pupils who are in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders. A recovery charter high school may enroll students residing in a state other than Missouri, provided such student is in recovery from substance use disorder, substance dependency, or co-occurring disorders set forth in the act. This act grants the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education the authority to enter into agreements with other states to develop a reciprocity agreement for students seeking to attend a recovery charter high school in Missouri. The out-of-state student's district of residence shall pay to the recovery charter high school an annual amount equal to 105% of the previous year's per pupil expenditure in Missouri, and the student shall not be included in Missouri's count of average daily attendance. If an out-of-state student resides in a state that is not subject to a reciprocity agreement, such student may attend a recovery charter high school provided such student pays to the school 105% of the previous year's per pupil expenditure in Missouri. Under this act, if a recovery charter high school that has not declared itself as a local educational agency has one or more nonresident pupils, the nonresident pupils shall not be counted for purposes of determining state aid. Each school district that has one or more of its resident pupils attending such a charter school shall pay to the charter school, for each such pupil, 100% of its average per-pupil expenditure, excluding interest payments and grants. If a recovery charter high school that has declared itself a local educational agency has one or more nonresident pupils, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall reimburse such charter school an amount set forth in the act. Upon notice of the charter school's declaration of local educational agency status, the Department shall reduce the payment made to the school district in which the charter school is located by the amount set forth in the act, and pay such amount directly to the charter school. This act also permits charter schools to receive payments from school districts.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

SB 304 **Eslinger**

Modifies provisions relating to literacy and reading instruction in elementary and secondary education

This act modifies provisions regarding literacy instruction. Under this act, the State Board of Education shall align literacy and reading instruction coursework for teacher education programs and all reading and special education certificates shall include training as outlined in the act. The State Board of Education, in collaboration with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education and the Commissioner's Advisory Council established by the act, shall develop a plan to establish a comprehensive system of services for reading instruction. The act changes the term "reading intervention plans" to "reading success plans" throughout the act and applies provisions regarding such plans to charter schools. The development of guidelines for formulating policies for such plans is changed from the State Board of Education to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Each school district and charter school shall provide training on the administration and analysis of results of reading assessments to all kindergarten through fifth grade teachers and any other personnel who provide literacy

instruction. The act repeals current provisions regarding school intervention plans and creates requirements for school districts and charter schools to develop and implement a reading success plan for students in grades kindergarten through fifth who exhibit a reading deficiency, as defined in the act. If a student has not already been determined to be reading at or above grade level in the current or previous year, the act requires each school district or charter school to administer a reading assessment within the first 45 days of school for grades one through five and by January 31st for kindergarten. A reading success plan shall provide for additional targeted reading instruction that occurs in addition to the core reading instruction provided to all students in the general education classroom. The act sets forth methods for identification of students who need such a plan. The plan shall be developed by the student's teacher and other pertinent school personnel and in consultation with the parent or legal guardian. The reading intervention instruction and strategies provided under the reading success plan are outlined in the act. School districts and charter schools shall continue to address reading deficiencies for a student in grades six through twelve who exhibits a reading deficiency for such time as the deficiency in reading ability creates a barrier to the student's success in school. The act provides that a school district or charter school may, rather than shall, offer summer school reading instruction to any student with a reading success plan. The act further repeals a provision regarding retention of students that fail to attend summer school. Finally, the act requires the Commissioner of Education to establish a literacy advisory council, with a membership as set forth in the act, to identify and recommend improvements to literacy instruction and policy.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

SB 352 **Koenig**

Establishes a grievance process for parents and guardians of elementary and secondary school students

Under this act, a parent or guardian may file with the school board a formal objection to any school policy, practice, or procedure which applies to the parent, guardian, or his or her child, including instructional materials or methods not required by state law. Within thirty days of receipt of the objection, the school board shall issue a response denying the parent's objection or describing an implementation plan to immediately exempt the child from the policy, practice, or procedure. Parents and guardians may appeal a school board's denial by filing such appeal with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education within fifteen days of the issuance of the denial. A parent or guardian shall be awarded one thousand five hundred dollars or the total amount of the parent or guardian's contributions to local property taxes in the preceding year, whichever is greater, if the school district fails to show by clear and convincing evidence that it responded as required by the act. Such award shall only be used for the child's educational expenses.

Status: 1/7/20 First Read (S)

EMPLOYMENT

HB 115 **Walsh Moore**

Requires state agencies to support competitive integrated employment for persons with disabilities

This act creates the “Missouri Employment First Act” which requires all state agencies providing employment services or services and supports to individuals with disabilities to implement an employment first policy by considering competitive, integrated employment as the first priority and preferred outcome and to create a memorandum of understanding regarding collaboration. All agencies are to provide specific information stated in the act to all individuals with disabilities of working age. All agencies are to ensure all individuals receive the opportunity to explore education and training options. It also requires partnerships to be established with certain types of private agencies and employers. It requires certain information to be discussed with youth and parents/guardians annually. The bill does not take away supported or sheltered employment when those are the most appropriate options. It also does not remove benefits for those who are unable to be employed. The act does not require a hiring preference. Agencies must work together to ensure policies and procedures promote competitive, integrated employment as the preferred outcome and share data as appropriate to track implementation. Agencies are encouraged to adopt measurable goals and outcomes to promote progress assessment.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 116](#) [Walsh Moore](#)

Requires the Office of Administration to submit a certain report to the General Assembly

This bill requires the Office of Administration to submit a yearly report to the General Assembly regarding the state’s progress with the Missouri as a Model Employer Initiative. It should include information regarding the number of employees who self-disclose disabilities, an explanation of any disparities, specific efforts related to recruitment, hiring, advancement, and retention of employees with disabilities, and best, promising, and emerging practices in several areas.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 484](#) [Hicks](#)

Adds provisions relating to occupational diseases diagnosed in first responders

This bill classifies post-traumatic stress disorder as an occupational disease for workers’ compensation if it is diagnosed in a first responder during his/her service and the individual has no prior history of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 559](#) [Schroer](#)

Creates new provisions relating to occupational diseases diagnosed in first responders

This bill classifies post-traumatic stress disorder as an occupational disease for workers’ compensation if it is diagnosed in a first responder during his/her service and the individual has no prior history of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 726 **Smith**

Modifies provisions relating to the state minimum wage rate

This bill reduces the state minimum wage beginning January 1, 2022.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 753 **Sander**

Provides for an alternate lower minimum wage for "probationary employees"

This bill allows an employer to pay every probationary employee (employed for twenty-eight or fewer calendar days) a wage which is a \$1.00 lower than the traditional minimum wage beginning January 1, 2022 with the exception of covered interstate commerce positions.

Status: 1/8/21 Second Read (H)

SB 102 **Eigel**

Creates new provisions governing occupational diseases diagnosed in first responders

This act creates new provisions relating to occupational diseases for first responders under workers' compensation laws. Specifically, if, preceding the date of injury or death, an employee who is on active duty as a first responder is diagnosed with a mental impairment and such person was not previously diagnosed such an impairment, then the impairment shall presumptively be considered an occupational disease and shall be presumed to have arisen out of and in the course of employment. This presumption may be rebutted by the employer or insurer. One or more compensable mental impairment claims arising out of a single accident shall constitute a single injury. Furthermore, a mental impairment shall not be considered an occupational disease if it results from a disciplinary action, work evaluation, job transfer, layoff, demotion, promotion, termination, retirement, or similar action taken in good faith by the employer.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

SB 339 **Luetkemeyer**

Creates new provisions relating to occupational diseases diagnosed in certain first responders

Under this act, certain first responders are presumed to have an occupational disease arising out of and in the course of employment as a first responder if they contract: Any infectious disease, disease of the lungs or respiratory tract, disease of the heart or cardiovascular system including, but not limited to, disease of the blood or bone marrow, hypotension, and hypertension, or disease of the body systems or organs from carcinoma. This presumption may be rebutted by the employer if the employer provides reasonable medical evidence that the first responder was not free of the disease prior to beginning employment. Additionally, psychological stress and mental disorders in certain first responders shall be presumed to be occupational diseases that were contracted in the course and scope of employment if the psychological stress or mental disorder requires medical services or results in physical or mental disability and has been diagnosed by a psychiatrist or psychologist. This presumption may be rebutted.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

FUNDING/TAX RELIEF

[HB 264](#) [Merideth](#)

Directs unclaimed lottery prizes to go to after school programs for high-need children

This bill directs unclaimed lottery prizes to go to the After School Special Fund. The money in the Fund will be used to supplement the educational resources of after-school academic programs. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will give priority to programs where at least 80% of the children in the program have high need IEPs or the program is in a geographic high need area.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 433](#) [Appelbaum](#)

Modifies provisions relating to the MO HealthNet fraud reimbursement fund

This bill allows money in the MO HealthNet fraud reimbursement fund to be used to employ additional full-time Department of Social Services staff.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 540](#) [Fitzwater](#)

Establishes the "Show Me A Brighter Future Scholarship Program"

This bill establishes the "Show Me a Brighter Future Scholarship Act" within the Treasurer's office. The Act allows individuals to contribute to the fund for students to receive scholarships to attend public schools in a district where they do not reside or to attend private schools. Contributors receive a tax credit. Every parent of program students will be provided with information regarding private school special education services. This will include instruction methods and qualifications of teachers and other personnel providing special education services. The scholarship grants can be used to pay for special education services. The bill specifies the amount that can be given to students who have an IEP.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 717](#) [Rowland](#)

Modifies provisions relating to the "circuit breaker" tax credits

This bill changes the maximum upper limit for the "circuit breaker" (senior citizen property tax credit) to \$34,500 beginning January 1, 2022. The maximum upper limit for individuals who have owned and occupied the residence for the calendar year increases to \$40,000 beginning January 1, 2022.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 727](#) [Smith](#)

Authorizes an income tax deduction for certain teachers and paraprofessionals

This bill allows kindergarten through twelfth grade teachers and paraprofessionals to claim a tax deduction for a portion of their income beginning January 1, 2022. The requirements and amounts are specified in the bill.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 728](#) [Smith](#)

Modifies provisions relating to reimbursement allowance taxes

This bill extends the sunset on the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations, Pharmacy, and Intermediate Care Facility for the Intellectually Disabled federal reimbursement allowances to September 30, 2023.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HJR 3](#) [Dinkins](#)

Proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Missouri relating to a property tax exemption for certain disabled veterans

This joint resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to exempt all veterans with a 100% service-connected disability from paying property taxes.

Status: 1/7/20 Second Read (H)

[HJR 4](#) [Terry](#)

Reduces property tax assessments on senior citizens and disabled persons by fifty percent

This joint resolution states that beginning January 1, 2023 property owned by individuals who are entitled to receive disability benefits under federal or state law will be assessed at 50% of the value at which it would otherwise be assessed.

Status: 1/7/20 Second Read (H)

[HJR 10](#) [Gray](#)

Proposes a constitutional amendment granting property tax exemptions to certain disabled veterans

This joint resolution proposes amending the constitution to state that beginning January 1, 2023 veterans who have a disability rating of at least 30% will be exempt from property taxes based on the chart in the resolution. The exemption amount increases as the disability rating increases.

Status: 1/7/20 Second Read (H)

[SB 1](#) [Hegeman](#)

Extends the sunset on certain health care provider federal reimbursement allowances

This act extends the sunsets from September 30, 2021, to September 30, 2023, for the Ground Ambulance, Nursing Facility, Medicaid Managed Care Organization, Hospital, Pharmacy, and Intermediate Care Facility for the Intellectually Disabled Federal Reimbursement Allowances.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

SB 23 Koenig

Establishes the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program

This act establishes the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program. For all fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2022, a taxpayer may make a qualifying contribution to an educational assistance organization and claim a tax credit equal to 85% of the amount of the contribution. The amount of the tax credit claimed shall not exceed 50% of the taxpayer's state tax liability for the tax year for which the credit is claimed, and a taxpayer may carry the credit forward to any of the next four tax years. Tax credits authorized under the program may not be transferred, sold, or assigned, and are not refundable. The annual cumulative amount of tax credits that may be allocated shall not exceed \$50 million. The State Treasurer shall establish a procedure to allocate the tax credits to the educational assistance organizations on a first come, first served basis. An educational assistance organization shall meet certain requirements set forth in the act, including notifying the State Treasurer of its intent to provide scholarship accounts; being a 501(c)(3) organization; providing a receipt to taxpayers for contributions; ensuring that funds are used as specified in the act; distributing scholarship payments four times per year in an amount not to exceed the state adequacy target; carry forward no more than 25% of the revenue from contributions into the following fiscal year; providing the State Treasurer, upon request, with criminal background checks on all employees and board members; annually administer either the state achievement tests or nationally norm-referenced tests and provide such results to the parents of participating students and to the State Treasurer; conduct an annual parental satisfaction survey; and demonstrate financial accountability and viability, as described in the act. Each educational assistance organization shall publicly report to the State Treasurer, by June first annually, the name and address of the organization, the total number and dollar amount of contributions during the previous calendar year, and the total number and dollar amount of scholarship accounts opened during the previous calendar year. The State Treasurer shall provide standardized forms for program participants, and shall require a taxpayer to provide a copy of such receipt if claiming a tax credit under the program. The State Treasurer or State Auditor may conduct an investigation of any educational assistance organization if it possesses evidence of fraud. In addition, the State Treasurer may bar an educational assistance organization from participating if the organization has failed to comply with program requirements. The State Treasurer shall issue a report on the state of the program five years after it goes into effect, including information regarding the finances of the educational assistance organization, and educational outcomes of qualified students.

The provisions of the Missouri Sunset Act shall not apply to the program.

A student is eligible to receive funds in a Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Account if he or she is identified as having a disability as set forth in the act, is a child of a parent in active military service, is a ward of the state, or can certify that he or she has been bullied. A high school student may be eligible to receive funds, if he or she is enrolled in a vocational education program at his or her high school or at an area vocational school, or in any job training or educational program offered by a labor organization. A qualified student shall also have attended a public school under circumstances set forth in the act or be eligible to begin kindergarten. A parent of a qualified student shall only use the money in the account for certain expenses related to the qualified student's education, as described in the act. The parent of a qualified student shall sign an agreement with an educational assistance organization to enroll the qualified student in a qualified school to receive an education for the student in certain subjects; not enroll the student, other than a student that is in the custody of the state, in a school operated by the qualified student's district of residence or in a charter school; release the district of residence from the obligation of educating the student while the student is enrolled in the program; use the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Account money for only specified purposes; and not use the funds for consumable education supplies or tuition at a private school located outside of the state. The scholarship

accounts are renewable on an annual basis upon request of the parent of a qualified student. A qualified student shall remain eligible for renewal until the student completes high school. If a qualified student withdraws from the program by enrolling in a school other than a qualified school, or is disqualified from the program for violations specified in the act, the scholarship account shall be closed and any remaining funds shall be returned to the educational assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified students. When a student withdraws from the program, the responsibility for providing an education for that student transfers back to the student's district of residence. The funds remaining in the scholarship account at the end of a school year shall remain in the account for the following school year. Any funds remaining in the account after graduation shall be returned to the educational assistance organization for redistribution to other qualified students. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the educational assistance organization shall conduct or contract for an annual audit of accounts to ensure compliance. A parent may be disqualified from program participation if the State Treasurer determines that the parent is found to have committed an intentional program violation. The State Treasurer may refer cases of substantial misuse of moneys to the Attorney General. A person commits a Class A misdemeanor if he or she is found to have knowingly used moneys for any purposes other than those set forth in the act.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 85](#) [Hegeman](#)

Modifies provisions relating to low-income housing tax credits

This act places an aggregate cap on the amount of state low-income housing tax credits that may be authorized in a fiscal year. Such cap shall be 70% of the amount of federal low-income housing tax credits allocated to the state. This act also reduces the limit on tax credits authorized for projects financed through tax-exempt bonds from \$6 million to \$4 million. To the extent that such limit is not reached in a fiscal year, the amount not authorized may, for such fiscal year only, be added to the amount of tax credits that may be authorized for projects not financed through tax-exempt bond issuance.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

HEALTH CARE/PERSONAL ASSISTANCE

[HB 37](#) [Pollock](#)

Modifies provisions relating to immunizations

This bill discusses religious exemptions for school immunization. One section states that children under 18 must not be denied life-saving treatment or surgery due to not being immunized if the appropriate paperwork has been completed.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 329](#) [Ingle](#)

Requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to promulgate regulations consistent with CDC guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain

This bill requires that before December 31, 2021 the Department of Health and Senior Services develop rules and regulations for tapering off of opioids for chronic pain which are consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. It specifies what should be included.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 344](#) [Kelley](#)

Creates provisions relating to prescription drug costs

This bill specifies insulin cost-sharing amounts for a health insurance enrollee will be calculated on a price that is reduced by the amount which equals 100% of the rebate amount that will or has been received for dispensing or administering the drug.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 370](#) [Christofanelli](#)

Creates provisions relating to the dispensing of HIV preexposure and postexposure prophylaxis

This bill allows pharmacists to dispense HIV pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis as long as they meet training requirements and ensure particular requirements are met with the patient prior to dispensing. The pharmacist is required to notify the patient's health care provider and to document in the pharmacy system.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 401](#) [Ingle](#)

Creates provisions relating to epinephrine auto-injectors

This bill requires health insurance to offer coverage for epinephrine auto-injectors prescribed to children under 19 years old if prescribed by a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or assistant physician.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 438](#) [Appelbaum](#)

Requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to promulgate regulations consistent with CDC guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain

This bill requires that before December 31, 2021 the Department of Health and Senior Services develop rules and regulations for tapering off of opioids for chronic pain which are consistent with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. It specifies what should be included.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 516](#) [Shaul](#)

Establishes Missouri as a member of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

This bill establishes MO as a member of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The Compact allows for greater portability of medical licenses and ensures patient safety.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 536 Kelley

Modifies provisions relating to the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to seek a waiver of the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The approved waiver would mean having inmate status would not someone ineligible for MO HealthNet

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 582 Riggs

Establishes the "21st Century Missouri Patient Education Task Force"

This bill creates the Twenty-first Century Patient Education Taskforce. A MO HealthNet representative will be designated to serve on the taskforce. The taskforce will evaluate the condition of the patient education system, study successful patient education, and study the funding required for a successful patient education program. It will make recommendations on how to improve the patient education system to improve health care delivery and outcomes. The taskforce will create a report for the general assembly.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 751 Stephens

Modifies provisions for step therapy

This bill requires that clinical review criteria for step therapy programs include certain things. It requires health insurance companies to provide patients and health care providers with the ability to request an exception to the step therapy protocol determination. It states when an exception determination will be granted. It also states when an override will be granted.

Status: 1/8/21 Second Read (H)

SB 79 Razer

Authorizes pharmacists to dispense medications for HIV preexposure and postexposure prophylaxis provided that the pharmacist has completed a training program

This act allows a pharmacist to dispense medication for HIV preexposure prophylaxis and HIV postexposure prophylaxis provided that the pharmacist had completed a training program. For medication for HIV preexposure prophylaxis, the pharmacist must document that the patient tested negative for HIV, the patient does not report any signs or symptoms of acute HIV infection, and the patient is not taking any contraindicated medications. For medication for HIV postexposure prophylaxis, the pharmacist must determine that the exposure occurred within the previous 72 hours, the patient meets the guidelines for the medication, and the patient is willing to undergo HIV testing. The pharmacist must provide counseling about the use of the

medication, advise the patient that he or she must see a primary care physician to receive additional prescriptions, and notify the patient's primary care provider or provide a list of providers. The pharmacist may supply up to a 30-day supply of the medication every two years, unless the medication has been prescribed by the patient's primary care provider.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 103](#) [Eigel](#)

Modifies reimbursement for MO HealthNet hospital outpatient services

This act changes the MO HealthNet reimbursement for hospital outpatient services from 80% of the lesser of reasonable costs or customary charges for such services to 50% of the comparable Medicare reimbursement rate for such services.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 112](#) [Arthur](#)

Enacts provisions relating to prescription drug costs

This act requires health benefit plan enrollees' deductible payment or coinsurance amount for prescription insulin drugs to be calculated at the point of sale, and based on a price that is reduced by an amount equal to at least 100% of all rebates received, or to be received, in connection with the dispensing or administration of the drug. The act shall not require a health carrier or its agents to reveal information regarding the actual amount of rebates a carrier receives on a product, manufacturer, or pharmacy-specific basis. The act also provides confidentiality protections, as specified in the act, which the carriers shall follow as well as impose on any third party that performs health care or administrative services on behalf of the carrier and may receive or have access to rebate information. This act contains a severability clause.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 121](#) [White](#)

Modifies provisions relating to MO HealthNet managed care organizations

This act adds MO HealthNet managed care organizations to the definition of a "health maintenance organization" and plans offered to MO HealthNet participants by such managed care organizations to the definition of "health maintenance organization plans" in the statutes regulating health maintenance organization operations in the state.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 224](#) [Onder](#)

Requires certain MO HealthNet participants to comply with work and community engagement requirements

This act requires the Department of Social Services to apply for a waiver and any necessary state plan amendments to implement work and community engagement requirements for certain MO HealthNet

participants by January 1, 2022. Participants ages 19 to 64 shall complete at least 80 hours a month of any combination of specified work, education, job search, child care, and volunteer services. The Department shall provide reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, who are not otherwise exempt from the work and community engagement requirements under this act, to ensure that the participants are able to comply with the requirements, including exemptions, modifications of hours, and the provision of necessary support services. MO HealthNet participants who shall not be required to comply with the provisions of this act include: (1) those under 19 and over 64; (2) those who are medically frail, as defined in the act, including those with certain disabilities; (3) those who are pregnant or caring for a child under one year of age; (4) those who are primary caregivers of a dependent child under the age of six or a dependent adult; and (5) those who are also participants of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and are exempt from work requirements under those programs. The Department may permit further exemptions in areas of high unemployment, limited economies or educational opportunities, lack of public transportation, or for good cause, as defined in this act.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 264](#) [Arthur](#)

Relating to prescription insulin drugs

This act prohibits health benefit plans from imposing cost-sharing, as defined in the act, on an enrollee in excess of \$30 per 30-day supply of a prescription insulin drug. The act applies to health benefit plans delivered, issued, continued, or renewed in the state on or after January 1, 2022.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 300](#) [Bernskoetter](#)

Adopts the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

This act adopts the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The Compact allows a physician who meets certain eligibility requirements to receive an expedited license to practice in all states that are members of the Compact. The Compact requires physicians to designate a member state as the state of principal license based on criteria described in the Compact. The Compact includes application procedures for the expedited license. Under these procedures, the Missouri Board for Registration of the Healing Arts and similar boards in other states shall verify or deny each applicant's eligibility to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission established under the Compact. Such member boards shall conduct criminal background checks as part of verifying eligibility. Each state shall have authority over appeals of their respective eligibility determinations, and an expedited license shall be valid under the terms and for such a period as a normal license in the state. A physician may renew his or her expedited license through procedures described in the Compact. The Compact establishes a confidential database of all physicians who have been granted an expedited license or who have applied for an expedited license, for the purpose of allowing member states to report disciplinary or investigatory information.

Member states may participate in joint investigations of physicians with other member states, and any disciplinary action taken by one member state may subject the physician to discipline with other member states. If a physician's license is revoked, surrendered, or relinquished in one state, it shall automatically be placed on the same status in the other member states. The Compact establishes the "Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission" to act as a corporate and joint agency of the member states and to oversee and maintain administration of the Compact. The Compact describes the organization, powers, and duties of the Interstate Commission, including the power to collect annual assessments from member states. The Compact outlines procedures for enforcement of the Compact, for addressing default by a member state, and for resolving disputes between member states. The Compact will only be effective once seven states have adopted the Compact. The Compact outlines the procedure to withdraw from the Compact. Should the withdrawal or default of member states reduce the membership of the Compact to one, the Compact shall dissolve. The Compact supersedes all other laws that conflict with provisions of the Compact.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 329](#) [Rowden](#)

Enacts provisions relating to federal regulation of private health insurance

This act specifies that if a provision of a federal law, rule, or regulation relating to the availability or pricing of, or the coverages or scope of coverages provided by, private health insurance in this state is overturned or rendered unenforceable by a federal court, the provision shall remain in effect with regard to policies insuring residents of this state until such time as the General Assembly specifically provides otherwise. This act applies only to federal provisions applicable to health carriers and in effect on January 1, 2021. For purposes of a market conduct examination by the Department of Commerce and Insurance, a violation of federal law, rule, or regulation remaining in effect under the act shall be deemed a violation of state law. This act contains an emergency clause.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

LEGAL RIGHTS/RESPONSIBILITIES

[HB 134](#) [Mackey](#)

Creates provisions relating to customer access to restrooms

This bill requires places of public accommodations which do not have public restrooms to allow customers who have a documented medical condition which requires immediate restroom access to use employee restrooms. Refusing to allow restroom access is a misdemeanor.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 275](#) [Hannegan](#)

Modifies provisions relating to unlawful discriminatory practices

This bill adds any unfair treatment based on a person's presumed or assumed disability to the definition of discrimination in housing no matter if the presumption or assumption is correct. It defines motivating factor as

“the factor that actually played a role in the adverse action or decision and had a determinative influence on the action or decision.”

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 324 Young

Requires election authorities to make available at least one electronic voting machine per polling location for blind or visually impaired voters at an election in order to comply with federal law

This bill requires that each election authority with more than 350,000 residents have at least one electronic voting machine per polling place available for use by individuals with disabilities during statewide, general assembly, and local elections. Election authorities with fewer than 350,000 residents must have one electronic voting machine available for use by individuals with disabilities during statewide, general assembly, and local elections. Any costs accrued for the additional use of the machines during these elections will be paid by the state but are subject to appropriations. This bill does not require that voters must use the machines.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 375 Gunby

Establishes certain rental protections for persons diagnosed with PTSD

This bill allows individuals who have been diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to be protected from tenancy denials, evictions, and lease violations on the basis of the PTSD or as a result of the PTSD. It also specifies circumstances in which the tenant will not be liable for rent.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 413 Price IV

Creates civil rights for homeless persons

This bill creates a bill of rights for those who are homeless. It establishes that someone cannot have access, rights, or privileges denied because he/she is homeless. The rights include using public spaces, equal treatment by municipal and state agencies, not facing discrimination in employment or emergency medical care, voting including registering and proving identity via documentation personal property privacy, and personal information disclosure and confidentiality. The bill also discusses what type of awards can be granted if violations occur.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 414 Price IV

Creates provisions for automatic voter registration

This bill instructs the Secretary of State’s office to establish a process to conduct automatic voter registration. This will include obtaining a list from the Department of Revenue of individuals with driver’s licenses and developing recommendations for local election authorities. These recommendations will be checked for eligibility

by local election authorities. Local election authorities will send postcards to an individual giving he/she an opportunity to decline being registered and placed on the list. After one month all names with unreturned postcards will be added to the list. Any time a postcard is received the name is removed from the list.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 415 Price IV

Creates provisions for early voting

This bill establishes early voting in MO for all federal and state elections. Voters can cast ballots by mail and in person without providing an excuse. The bill states when early voting will be available, how election judges are selected, and how locations are selected.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 416 Price IV

Requires election authorities to make available at least one electronic voting machine per polling location for disabled voters at an election in order to comply with federal law

This bill requires that each election authority with more than 350,000 residents have at least one electronic voting machine per polling place available for use by individuals with disabilities during statewide, general assembly, and local elections. Election authorities with fewer than 350,000 residents must have one electronic voting machine available for use by individuals with disabilities during statewide, general assembly, and local elections. Any costs accrued for the additional use of the machines during these elections will be paid by the state but are subject to appropriations. This bill does not require that voters must use the machines.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 423 Proudie

Requires election authorities to make available at least one electronic voting machine per polling location for disabled voters at an election in order to comply with federal law

This bill requires that each election authority with more than 350,000 residents have at least one electronic voting machine per polling place available for use by individuals with disabilities during statewide, general assembly, and local elections. Election authorities with fewer than 350,000 residents must have one electronic voting machine available for use by individuals with disabilities during statewide, general assembly, and local elections. Any costs accrued for the additional use of the machines during these elections will be paid by the state but are subject to appropriations. This bill does not require that voters must use the machines.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 466 Price IV

Prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of home address status

This bill prohibits discrimination based on whether someone has or does not have a physical home address or the willingness to disclose the information in employment.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 485 Hicks

Provides that placement of a child in an adoptive home shall not be delayed or denied on the basis that a prospective adoptive parent has a medical marijuana card or works in the medical marijuana industry

This bill states adoption will not be delayed or denied based on an adoptive parent possessing a medical marijuana card or working in the medical marijuana industry.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 641 Merideth

Modifies provisions relating to voter registration, absentee ballots, and elections

This bill allows citizens to register to vote before the day of an election or on the day of an election. An individual must be registered before casting a ballot. Registration can be completed via an online system, at a polling place in the citizen's jurisdiction, or at any location established by the Secretary of State. The bill allows all eligible voters to vote by absentee ballot. The bill allows voters to provide an email address on the absentee ballot application if they wish to be contacted regarding issues with their ballots. It changes the deadline for receipt of allowable absentee ballots by election authorities to those received within seven days if postmarked by election day. Subject to appropriations, the Secretary of State is required to provide an online absentee ballot tracking system. Anyone who votes an absentee ballot by mail will be able to register to use the system to track his/her ballot. The bill establishes a process for automatic voter registration.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 656 Stevens

Modifies provisions for absentee voting

This bill allows everyone eligible to vote to cast an absentee ballot. Each absentee ballot application must state whether the individual is incapacitated or confined due to illness or physical disability or is a person primarily responsible for the physical care of someone who meets the definition. Notarization of any absentee ballots submitted by individuals meeting either criteria mentioned above is not required.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 738 Rone

Modifies several provisions relating to elections

This bill makes several changes to election statutes. Only one is discussed here. The bill allows touch screen direct-recording vote-counting machines to be used by voters with disabilities for as long as the machines are functional but requires that they not be replaced. Replacements will be paper ballot marking devices designed to assist voters.

Status: 1/8/21 Second Read (H)

HJR 19 Young

Removes the restriction on persons judged incapacitated being able to vote

This joint resolution removes the restriction on individuals who have guardians, have been determined to have mental incapacity by a court or who have been involuntarily confined by a court to a mental institution being able to vote.

Status: 1/7/20 Second Read (H)

SB 14 Onder

Modifies provisions governing the form of identification required to vote

Under current law, any person seeking to vote in a public election must provide a certain form of identification, provided that any person lacking such identification can vote without such a form of identification through the execution of a statement under the penalty of perjury averring, among other things, that the person is who they say they are. This act repeals the provision allowing persons to vote through execution of the statement under penalty of perjury. The act additionally creates new provisions governing the use of provisional ballots in the case of persons who do not possess the proper form of identification in order to vote. The act repeals a provision requiring the Secretary of State to provide advance notice of the identification requirements for voting in elections as well as a provision requiring all costs associated with the implementation of the voter identification law to be reimbursed from the general revenue by an appropriation for that purpose.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

SB 282 Hegeman

Modifies provisions relating to elections

This act modifies various provisions relating to elections.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Under current law, any person seeking to cast an absentee ballot must provide an excuse. This act provides that any person may cast an absentee ballot in person at a place determined by the election authority without stating a reason.

MAIL-IN VOTING

The act repeals a provision of law that expired in 2020 allowing for mail-in voting.

VOTER IDENTIFICATION

The act also modifies provisions governing forms of identification required to vote. Under current law, any person seeking to vote in a public election must provide a certain form of identification, provided that any person lacking such identification can vote without such a form of identification through the execution of a

statement under the penalty of perjury averring, among other things, that the person is who they say they are. This act repeals the provision allowing persons to vote through execution of the statement under penalty of perjury. The act additionally creates new provisions governing the use of provisional ballots in the case of persons who do not possess the proper form of identification in order to vote. The act repeals a provision requiring the Secretary of State to provide advance notice of the identification requirements for voting in elections as well as a provision requiring all costs associated with the implementation of the voter identification law to be reimbursed from the general revenue by an appropriation for that purpose.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 357](#) [Washington](#)

Modifies provisions relating to medical marijuana program participants in family court matters

Under this act, a family court shall not prohibit a family court participant from participating in the state's medical marijuana program, including as a term or condition of successful completion of the family court program. A participant with a valid medical marijuana certification shall not be in violation of the terms or conditions of the family court on the basis of his or her participation in the medical marijuana program. Finally, the status and conduct of a qualified patient acting in accordance with the constitutional provisions relating to medical marijuana shall not, by itself, be used to restrict or abridge custodial or parental rights to minor children in a family or juvenile court proceeding.

Status: 1/7/20 First Read (S)

MENTAL HEALTH

[HB 364](#) [Gregory](#)

Modifies provisions relating to antipsychotic drugs

This bill ensures that no access restrictions for individual antipsychotic medications are implemented which prevent availability. The MO HealthNet Division will issue a provider update at least twice a year to outline treatment and utilization principles for providers. MO HealthNet participants will be allowed to continue using medications on which they are stable or that they have utilized successfully in the past if new policies or clinical changes are made.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 383](#) [Kidd](#)

Modifies provisions relating to insurance coverage for mental health conditions

This bill does not allow insurances to impose a limit on the scope or duration of treatments which aren't expressed numerically for mental health benefits. It specifies what these include.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 537 **Kelley**

Modifies provisions relating to MO HealthNet coverage of mental health services

This bill requires MO HealthNet to cover all mental health services provided in psychiatric facilities' residential programs. The Department of Social Services will seek a waiver of the Institutions for Mental Disease Exclusion from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to provide coverage.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

SB 80 **Razer**

Modifies provisions relating to insurance coverage for mental health conditions

This act specifies that all health benefit plans, rather than health benefit plans that do not otherwise provide for management of care under the plan or that do not provide for the same degree of management of care for all health conditions, may provide coverage for treatment of mental health conditions through a managed care organization provided the health benefit plan is in compliance with certain rules set by the Department of Commerce and Insurance. The act repeals a provision requiring coverage for chemical dependency treatment to comply with certain statutes relating to individual coverage for alcoholism and chemical dependency, and repeals a provision making those statutes applicable to group policies. Under the act, no health benefit plan shall impose a nonquantitative treatment limitation, as defined in the act, with respect to mental health condition benefits of any classification unless the standards are applied no more stringently to mental health condition benefits than to medical or surgical benefits in the same classification.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

SB 122 **White**

Modifies provisions relating to the discharge of certain committed persons

Currently, the court shall dismiss criminal charges without prejudice against certain individuals accused of committing an offense who have been committed to the Director of the Department of Mental Health for lack of mental fitness to proceed and for whom a court finds that there is no substantial probability that the accused will be mentally fit to proceed in the reasonably foreseeable future. Under this act, once the charges have been dismissed, the accused shall remain in the custody of the Department until the Department determines it is appropriate that the accused be placed in the community, including that the accused is not likely to be dangerous to others while living in the community. The Department shall ensure that a discharge plan is developed and provided to the accused's guardian. The Department shall arrange for follow-up monitoring for all persons discharged to the community under this provision who were charged with specified dangerous crimes and shall arrange for reviews and visits with the person at least monthly. If the person was charged with an offense other than one of the specified dangerous crimes, the discharge plan shall identify if follow-up monitoring is necessary. The Department shall identify the facilities, programs, or specialized services operated or funded by the Department that shall provide the necessary levels of care and treatment to the person in the geographical areas where he or she is released. Prior to discharge, the Department shall notify the prosecuting or circuit attorney of the jurisdiction where the accused was found to lack mental fitness to proceed.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

SB 173 White

Modifies provisions relating to antipsychotic drugs for MO HealthNet participants

Currently, no restrictions to access shall be imposed that preclude the availability of any individual atypical antipsychotic monotherapy for the treatment of certain disorders in MO HealthNet participants. Under this act, no such restrictions shall be imposed for any individual antipsychotic medication. Additionally, this act modifies current law regarding the MO HealthNet Division's requirements to issue a provider update regarding cost considerations when enumerating treatment and utilization principles, as well as repeals language regarding the Division's adherence to certain principles when implementing new policies and clinical edits for antipsychotic drugs.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

OLMSTEAD

No pending bills

SAFETY/PREVENTION

HB 103 Pollitt

Prohibits the use of a hand-held wireless communication device within a school zone

This act prohibits the use of cell phones to make or receive calls, text messages, and emails when operating a vehicle in a school zone unless hands-free operation or voice recognition technology are being used.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 110 Bangert

Prohibits anyone from using a hand-held electronic wireless communication device while driving a non-commercial motor vehicle unless the device is equipped for hands-free operation and is being used in that manner

This bill prohibits all drivers from making or taking part in a phone call while driving unless hands-free operation is being used.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 241 Porter

Prohibits the use of hand-held wireless communication devices by drivers of any age

This bill prohibits all drivers from sending, reading, or writing a text or email on a hand-held cell phone.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HB 258](#) **[Evans](#)**

Prohibits the use of a hand-held wireless communications device for texting by drivers of any age

This bill prohibits all drivers from sending, reading, or writing a text or email on a hand-held cell phone.

Status: **1/7/21 Second Read** (H)

SERVICES**[HB 117](#)** **[Walsh Moore](#)**

Modifies provisions relating to blind pensions

This bill removes the requirement that notices sent to applicants or recipients of blind pension be sent via certified mail.

Status: **1/7/21 Second Read** (H)

[HB 270](#) **[Quade](#)**

Creates a grant program for behavior crisis care centers

This bill requires that, if money is appropriated, the MO Department of Mental Health establish a behavioral crisis grant program to assist nonprofits in creating or maintaining programs providing support to individuals who are experiencing behavioral crises. The bill defines behavior crisis, specifies nonprofit eligibility criteria for the grant, and processes for establishing the grant.

Status: **1/7/21 Second Read** (H)

[HB 367](#) **[Gregory](#)**

Modifies provisions relating to the scope of practice for physical therapists

This bill allows physical therapists to perform evaluations and initial treatments on patients without a prescription or referral from a health care provider. It also allows physical therapists to provide education, screening, or consultations and to develop fitness and wellness programs without a prescription or referral. Physical therapists will provide appropriate health care referrals when someone's medical condition is beyond the scope of physical therapy or the patient does not improve after 10 visits or 21 business days. It requires physical therapists to consult with appropriate health care providers regarding progress of referred patients and need for continued therapy after 10 visits or 21 business days and every thirty days.

Status: **1/7/21 Second Read** (H)

[HB 486](#) **[Hicks](#)**

Requires the department of health and senior services to establish a statewide medical marijuana lodging establishment licensing system

This bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish a medical marijuana lodging licensing system to allow individuals with a medical marijuana card to consume medical marijuana in lodging and residential dwelling rentals in MO. The Department will maintain a list of all licensed establishments. The bill specifies what the individual establishments must do once licensed.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 542 Shields

Establishes the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact

This bill establishes the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact to facilitate interstate practice of Occupational Therapy with the goal of improving access to services. It provides for the mutual recognition of licenses held by occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants in compact member states.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 551 Derges

Modifies provisions relating to continuing education requirements for certain professionals

This bill allows dentists, dental hygienists, assistant physicians, physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, optometrists, and psychologists to receive licensure continuing education credits for volunteer work performed within their scope of practice at a nonprofit organization.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 632 Roberts

Creates provisions relating to end-of-life care homes

This bill requires all end-of-life care homes to be registered with the Department of Health and Senior Services and outlines a registration process. The bill instructs that the individual's hospice provider will be responsible for directing and implementing a plan of care. An attending physician or the hospice medical director will direct health care supervision. The bill requires providers, staff and volunteers to be familiar with and recognize situations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation and situations in which serious physical harm may occur. These situations are to be reported to the Department of Health and Senior Services and will be investigated. Grievance procedures must be established.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

SB 177 Brown

Modifies provisions relating to home health licensing

Current law limits licensed home health agencies to those that provide two or more home health services at the residence of a patient according to a physician's written and signed plan of treatment. This act permits such licensed entities to provide treatment according to written plans signed by physicians, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, or physician assistants.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

[SB 330](#) **[Burlison](#)**

Adopts the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact

This act adopts the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact. The Compact allows eligible occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants licensed in member states to practice in other member states, subject to the requirements and limitations described in the Compact. The Compact establishes procedures for a licensee to apply for a new home state license in a member state of primary residence based on their licensure in another member state. Active-duty military personnel and their spouses shall retain home state licensure during the period of active duty service without having to maintain residency. Under the Compact, only a home state may take adverse action on the home state license, while remote member states may take adverse action against the licensee's privilege to practice in the remote state. The Compact provides procedures for how member states shall coordinate in various aspects of adverse actions and investigations. The Compact establishes the Occupational Therapy Compact Commission as a joint public agency to implement and administer the Compact. The Commission may collect an annual assessment on member states or impose fees on other parties to cover its costs. The Compact creates qualified immunity from suit and liability for agents of the Commission for negligent misconduct within the scope of the agents' work with the Commission. Such agents shall also be entitled to representation and indemnity in civil actions for such misconduct. Under the Compact, the Commission shall develop a data system containing information on all licensees related to licensure, adverse actions, and investigations. Member states shall report certain information, as described in the Compact, to the Commission for use in the data system. Legislatures of member states may reject any rule promulgated by the Commission by a majority of such legislatures enacting a statute or resolution. The Compact provides procedures for oversight, dispute resolution, and enforcement of the Compact, including procedures for default and termination of membership. The Commission may also sue a member state in federal court to enforce compliance with the Compact, its rules, and its bylaws. The Compact shall become effective upon its enactment in at least ten states. The Compact supersedes all other laws that conflict with provisions of the Compact to the extent of the conflict.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

OTHER**[HB 265](#)** **[Merideth](#)**

Specifies that the Secretary of State will create a website and allow citizens of Missouri to electronically sign ballot measures that are approved for circulation

This bill requires the Secretary of State to create a website which allows MO citizens to electronically sign initiative and referendum petitions. Citizens will have the option to sign manually or electronically and are not required to use the electronic method. The bill specifies requirements which must be met for an electronic signature to be valid. The Secretary of State will mail a postcard to a voter who signs electronically. The bill specifies what will be included on the postcard.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 404 **Aldridge**

Designates April as Limb Loss Awareness Month

This bill designates April as Limb Loss Awareness Month and encourages citizens to participate in activities regarding limb loss and limb difference.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 422 **Proudie**

Establishes provisions relating to civil actions for abuse, bullying, or neglect of certain persons with disabilities

This bill requires that civil actions for injuries related to abuse, bullying or neglect of people with disabilities under age 18 be begun within 37 years after the individual turns 18 years old or 7 years from when the causal relationship between the injury and the abuse, bullying, or neglect was discovered. Civil actions for injuries related to abuse, bullying, or neglect of people with disabilities age 18 and older must be begun within 7 years of the causal relationship being discovered.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 550 **Derges**

Modifies provisions relating to assistant physicians

This bill establishes a procedure for assistant physicians to obtain licensure as a physician.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 569 **Basye**

Establishes a special license plate for cancer awareness

This bill allows for the development of a cancer awareness license plate. Individuals who pay \$25 to support the Department of Health and Senior Services cancer awareness efforts can be issued the license plates.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 640 **Morse**

Designates June as "Myasthenia Gravis Awareness Month"

This bill designates June as Myasthenia Gravis Awareness Month. Citizens are encouraged to engage in activities and events to raise awareness of the disease.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

HB 702 **Merideth**

Creates provisions relating to the caps on the number of licenses granted to medical marijuana facilities

This bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to issue a license to any cultivation facility, infused products manufacturing facility, or dispensary facility applicants that meet the minimum requirements

in accordance with part of the MO Constitution relating to easing or lifting limits on license numbers to meet demand.

Status: 1/7/21 Second Read (H)

[HCR 6](#) [Stevens](#)

Designates September of each year as "Opioid and Heroin Awareness Month."

This concurrent resolution designates September as Opioid and Heroin Awareness Month in MO.

Status: 1/8/21 Second Read (H)

[SB 13](#) [Onder](#)

Establishes "Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month" in Missouri

This act establishes the month of May each year as "Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month" in Missouri.

Status: 1/6/20 First Read (S)

APPROPRIATIONS

No pending bills