



### Senator Barbara Anne Washington's 2024 Mid-Session Report

Welcome to spring, Jackson County! What a glorious time this is in and for our community. Not only are the days longer and warmer, our city made history once again on March 16 when the KC Current hosted a home match at the world's first stadium built and dedicated solely for women's professional sports. This beautiful season of renewal and hope also signals the halfway point of session and the weeklong spring break. While I'm home spending time in the city and with family, I wanted to update you on some bills that are moving closer to the legislative finish line.

The Senate sent several bills to the Missouri House of Representatives during the first half of session, two of which could negatively impact our community. Pending passage by the Legislature and voters, [Senate Joint Resolution 74](#) will raise the threshold to amend the constitution to both a majority of votes cast statewide and in five out of eight congressional districts. The "[school choice](#)" legislation, which has grown to over 167 pages in length, proposes to substantially increase the maximum tax credit cap for empowerment scholarship accounts, or vouchers. The Missouri Constitution already specifies that amendments pass when "a majority of the votes cast therein is in favor," and mandates funding for public schools, not vouchers for private institutions. I voted no on both of these measures and strongly encourage voters to educate themselves on the possible repercussions.



*Senator Washington listens to a witness testify during the hearing for SB 969.*

I'm pleased to report four of my bills gained traction before the break and were voted "do pass" by members of the Senate Progress and Development Committee. [Senate Bill 969](#), or more specifically, "Missouri Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act," will ban discrimination based on hairstyles in state funded educational institutions. The "[Cronkite New Voices Act](#)" would protect the freedom of press for student journalists. [Senate Bill 1417](#) will designate every Feb. 20 as John Donaldson Day to honor this WWI veteran and talented Negro League pitcher. Additionally, [Senate Bill 795](#) would permit tax credits for converting abandoned properties into shelters and renting to those fleeing violent domestic situations. The goal is to increase access to safe, affordable housing so survivors can restart their lives and begin to recover from trauma.

Two of my proposals were combined with other legislation before those bills advanced. The [legislation](#) to strengthen, diversify and categorize data in our state's Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Board was added to [Senate Bill 1357](#). I'm hopeful this bipartisan legislation makes it to the governor's desk to help identify causes and at-risk populations and reduce Missouri's high maternal death rates. I was pleased to add my proposal to "[raise the age](#)" to certify juveniles for trial as adults to similar public safety bills and see it passed by the Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee on Jan. 24. Unfortunately, some problematic language was added during debate on the bill, so I ultimately voted no on the perfected version of [Senate Bill 754](#).

The most rewarding part of serving in the General Assembly is seeing how bills you helped usher into law positively affect Missourians. In

2021, I worked with Sen. Nick Schroer to pass legislation to make those who committed crimes as juveniles and had served 15 years of their sentence eligible for parole. Bobby Bostic was one of the hundreds of benefactors of this new law. Convicted of being an accomplice in two armed robberies and sentenced to 241 years of prison at age 16, Mr. Bostic was finally released on parole in 2022 after 27 years of incarceration.



*Senators Schroer and Washington welcome Bobby Bostic to the chamber.*

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**MARCH 30 2024**



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Guest Speaker:  
**Malaika Woods, MD, MPH**

**Saturday, April 20**

**10:00 am - Noon**

**Sunlight Baptist Church**

**4444 Woodland Avenue  
KCMO 64110**

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**Questions?**  
Contact Angela Williams  
[awilliams34@kumc.edu](mailto:awilliams34@kumc.edu)



Mark your calendar for the annual [Public Health and Safety Fair](#) on July 13, 2024, at the Kansas City Urban Youth Academy.

# Public Health & Safety Fair

Saturday, July 13, 2024 • 10 am - 2 pm

Kansas City Urban Youth Academy • 1622 East 17th Terrace, KCMO

Health Screenings

Immunizations

Bicycle Giveaways

Smoke Detectors

Car/Booster Seats\*

\*Restrictions apply

Free Resource Exhibit Space Available!  
Register at [senate.mo.gov/Washington](https://senate.mo.gov/Washington)



Missouri State Senator  
Barbara Anne Washington



## Senator Washington's Sponsored Legislation for 2024

Bill Number	Description	Status
<a href="#">Senate Bill 793</a>	Authorizes a sales tax exemption for feminine hygiene products.	Referred to Economic Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 794</a>	Authorizes a tax credit for providing services to homeless persons.	Referred to Fiscal Oversight
<a href="#">Senate Bill 795</a>	Authorizes a tax credit for providing housing to victims of domestic violence.	Passed out of committee 2/28
<a href="#">Senate Bill 886</a>	Permits restitution payments for the innocent who were wrongfully convicted.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 887</a>	Raises the age from 12 to 14 to certify juveniles for trial as adults.	Combined with SB 754, Second read in House
<a href="#">Senate Bill 888</a>	Modifies the Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review Board	Combined with SB 1357 and passed out of committee
<a href="#">Senate Bill 968</a>	Permits family court participants to possess and use legal marijuana.	Referred to Health and Welfare
<a href="#">Senate Bill 969</a>	Missouri Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act to prohibit hair-based discrimination in state-funded educational institutions.	Passed by Progress and Development Committee
<a href="#">Senate Bill 970</a>	Authorizes a tax credit for first-time homebuyers' purchase of eligible, blighted property.	Referred to Economic Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1042</a>	Creates a "Text-to-Donate" pilot program in St. Louis and Kansas City to help reduce homelessness.	Referred to Governmental Accountability
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1043</a>	Creates a two-year pilot program for incarcerated women to have access to their children.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1044</a>	Creates the offense of unlawful possession of a firearm for minors to carry a handgun.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1099</a>	Establishes the "Cronkite New Voices Act" to protect freedom of press for student journalists.	Passed by Progress and Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1100</a>	Restricts the manufacturing and possession of assault weapons and large capacity magazines.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1101</a>	Prohibits carrying concealed firearms in public libraries.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1150</a>	Creates and modifies reporting requirements for law enforcement agencies.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1151</a>	Modifies provisions relating to use of force by law enforcement officers.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1152</a>	Modifies provisions relating to criminal records.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1194</a>	Creates provisions relating to expungement of criminal records.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1195</a>	Modifies provisions relating to earned discharge from probation.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1196</a>	Creates new provisions relating to state contracts for minority and women's business enterprises.	Referred to Governmental Accountability
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1216</a>	Creates a DWI diversion program.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1217</a>	Modifies provisions relating to the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development.	Referred to Empowering Missouri Parents and Students
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1218</a>	Creates provisions relating to parole eligibility for senior citizens who have served 30 years.	Referred to Judiciary

<a href="#">Senate Bill 1227</a>	Modifies provisions relating to terms of probation.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1228</a>	Authorizes a tax credit for the purchase of electric vehicles.	Referred to Economic Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1229</a>	Raises the age for juveniles to be certified for trial as adults.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1235</a>	Modifies provisions relating to offenses against employees of election authorities.	Referred to Local Government and Elections
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1236</a>	Modifies provisions relating to legal representation for certain court proceedings involving children.	Referred to Health and Welfare
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1237</a>	Modifies provisions relating to the offense of filing false documents.	Referred to Judiciary
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1238</a>	Enacts provisions relating to health insurance coverage of maternity services.	Referred to Insurance and Banking
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1239</a>	Establishes standards for demographic collection by certain entities.	Referred to Health and Welfare
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1240</a>	Creates a health advocate program in the Department of Health and Senior Services.	Referred to Health and Welfare
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1241</a>	Enacts provisions relating to motor vehicle sales tax payment plans.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1242</a>	Modifies provisions relating to tax increment financing.	Referred to Economic Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1243</a>	Modifies provisions relating to voter registration.	Referred to Local Government and Elections
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1380</a>	Modifies provisions relating to tax credits for improving access to foods, including urban farms and grocery stores.	Referred to Economic Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1381</a>	Designates "Fallen Firefighters Memorial Bridge" in Kansas City.	Referred to Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Safety
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1382</a>	Modifies provisions relating to community paramedics	Referred to Governmental Accountability
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1417</a>	Designates every Feb. 20 as John Donaldson Day in Missouri	Passed by Progress and Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1425</a>	Includes Class EA-esthetics and manicuring as a new classification of licensure for cosmetologists.	Referred to Governmental Accountability
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1490</a>	Establishes May 8 as "Amyloidosis Awareness Day"	Referred to Progress and Development
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1507</a>	Creates new provisions relating to digital assets.	Referred to Banking and Insurance
<a href="#">Senate Bill 1511</a>	Modifies provisions relating to the collection of delinquent property taxes.	Referred to Emerging Issues
<a href="#">Senate Concurrent Resolution 33</a>	Designates Feb. 20 as John Donaldson Day	Referred to Rules, Joint Rules, Resolution and Ethics
<a href="#">Senate Joint Resolution 65</a>	Places limits on increases of the assessment of certain properties.	Referred to General Laws
<a href="#">Senate Joint Resolution 66</a>	Authorizes a tax exemption for certain senior citizens.	Referred to General Laws
<a href="#">Senate Joint Resolution 88</a>	Modifies the statutes of limitations for civil actions based on certain sexual offenses.	Referred to Judiciary

It is an honor representing the great people of Jackson County's 9th Senatorial District. If you need assistance navigating state government or understanding the legislative process, please contact me by calling 573-751-3158 or emailing [Barbara.Washington@senate.mo.gov](mailto:Barbara.Washington@senate.mo.gov). My team is here for you!