



Capitol Report

July 23, 2021

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Dear Neighbor,

Yesterday, the Missouri Supreme Court upheld the vote by Missourians to expand Medicaid in our state. I cannot tell you how jubilant I was when receiving the news. Upon my initial screams of joy, I paused and reflected to when I was a candidate for this job, I promised you that I would work to expand Medicaid in our state, but more importantly, I promised to protect your vote and your right to vote. I see the court's ruling as a victory, not just for the working poor and uninsured; but a victory for all Missourians as the court recognized

rights of the citizens in our electoral process.

Two weeks ago, House Minority Floor Leader Crystal Quade and myself, filed a brief with the Supreme Court that challenged the position of funding as brought forth by Republican members of the House of Representatives. The House held no official position as a vote was never taken. In filing the brief, Rep. Quade and myself take the position that "circumventing the Missouri House's process signals to Missourians that unless they are represented by a member of the majority party, their voice does not matter. That is not how our democratic republic is meant to function."

In short, your vote matters. I am aghast at how the majority party takes the position of passing legislation to restrict voting rights as a way to protect elections, yet the vast majority of those elected in the majority party have shown through their actions that they do not respect the electoral process or your vote.

I thank you for your trust and support as I continue to work for the residents of the 27th District and the state of Missouri as a whole.

Yours in Service,

Rich



HEALTH CARE VICTORY!

**MISSOURI VOTED TO
EXPAND MEDICAID!**

**(AND ENSURED POLITICIANS
CAN NEVER TAKE IT AWAY!)**

On Thursday, the Missouri Supreme Court handed down a unanimous opinion stating that the Constitutional amendment to expand Medicaid is valid and adults making less than 138% of the Federal Poverty Level are, with a few exceptions (that are established in Federal law), eligible for Medicaid in Missouri. Federal Poverty Level is related to family size. So, for example, a single-person household can make up to \$17,774/year, while a family of 4 can have an annual income of up to \$39,750 and still be eligible for Medicaid.

I can't give you the details yet of when Medicaid expansion will be formally adopted. The circuit judge still has to make that determination and hand down an order. The Federal government has to approve our Medicaid program changes that are necessary to expand Medicaid. That said ...

How Do I Enroll?

First, the Supreme Court remanded the case back down to the Circuit

Court so that Judge Beetem can issue an order telling the state what to do. Once that order is issued, we may know more about any “official” state timelines for a formal enrollment process.

Having said that, ***I believe those Missourians who qualify under the rules of Medicaid expansion would be able to take advantage of an enrollment process known as “presumptive eligibility.”***

You should contact your provider or DSS and make a **request** that, in light of the MO Supreme Court ruling, that you be determined “presumptively eligible” for Medicaid services.

The guidelines for the expanded population are clear so this should be a straightforward process for providers and DSS, especially since it is already a process used for our current Medicaid system.

Some entities that are qualified to make presumptive eligibility determinations are healthcare providers such as your primary care office, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and local health clinics.

If you do not have a healthcare provider and want to enroll, please **contact my office**. I will contact DSS to help you apply.

[You can read the brief filed with the Supreme Court here](#)



Richard Brown is at State of Missouri Supreme Court.

July 12 at 2:20 PM · Jefferson City · 🌐

On Thursday, a brief was filed with the Missouri Supreme Court on behalf of Minority Leader Crystal Quade and myself, Assistant Minority Leader Richard Brown that challenges the position of the Missouri House of Representatives on the issue of Medicaid Funding for Missouri. The court notified us today that our brief has been accepted. Democrats will continue the good fight to expand Medicaid in Missouri per the will of the voter. I am pictured this afternoon standing in front of the Missouri Supreme Court Building.



👍❤️ 280

62 Comments 136 Shares

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💬 Comment

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Messenger: Democracy is at stake in Missouri's Medicaid expansion case

Jul 19, 2021

- [Tony Messenger](#)
- St. Louis Post-Dispatch
- STLToday.com

Among the thousands of words filed in legal briefs in the historic battle before the Missouri Supreme Court over the expansion of Medicaid to thousands of poor people who need it, three sentences stand out.

They are part of a brief that doesn't even argue the merits of the case, which is about whether the Missouri Legislature and Gov. Mike Parson failed to follow the state constitution, as amended by voters in August. That's when voters chose to expand Medicaid to cover about 250,000 more Missourians living in poverty.

The brief was filed by two state representatives, Crystal Quade of Springfield and Richard Brown of Kansas City. They are both Democrats. They are objecting to a brief filed by House Republicans which portends to speak for the entire House. That brief supports the Republican position that lawmakers have every right to ignore the state constitution. But the House didn't take a vote to file such a brief. Despite having supermajorities in both the House and the Senate, Republicans can't simply file a legal brief representing the position of a body whose members didn't vote on that position, the Democratic lawmakers argue.

Quade and Brown's brief concedes that if a measure in support of the Republicans' brief been put to a House vote, the Republican majority likely would have authorized it. **"But political realities do not diminish the necessity of upholding the requirement that members of the Missouri House must be afforded the opportunity to vote on these matters."**

That's the first key sentence. Here are the other two:

"This is particularly true for members of the minority party, as circumventing the Missouri House's process signals to Missourians that unless they are represented by a member of the majority party, their voice does not matter. That is not how our democratic republic is meant to function."

Indeed, this entire debate is about whether voters' voices matter; whether the constitution matters. What Republicans in the Legislature did by

refusing to expand Medicaid, as called for in the constitution, is determine that those two things — voters and the state constitution — don't matter to them. What they did, further, by filing a brief and claiming it speaks for the entire House, is decide that Democrats don't matter.

Some Republicans might find these sentiments to be just fine in our particularly divided political times. But imagine if the shoe was on the other foot. Take, for instance, the debate over the filibuster in the U.S. Senate. There, Democrats have a slim majority. Many of their priorities — protecting voting rights, passing an infrastructure bill, fixing the nation's immigration system — are stymied by the filibuster.

What if Democrats, following the lead of Missouri Republicans, just ignored the rules? Forget voting to get rid of the filibuster, just declare it dead by filing a legal brief. Pretend that whatever Majority Leader Chuck Schumer says is the official position of the Senate, despite rules, and, well, Republican votes.

It's absurd, right?

But that's the current Republican position in Missouri, that now must be unraveled by the Missouri Supreme Court. In arguments before that court, at least one of the judges seemed to point to this issue as the one that underlies all others: "How is it that we can now look back at an election on an amendment that has passed and decide that it was invalid?" asked Judge W. Brent Powell, one of the most conservative judges on the bench.

It's the question that Powell and his fellow judges must answer before poor people in Missouri will be able to access the life-saving health care voters decided they deserved. But even if the judges decide to respect the will of the voters, the Republicans who run the Legislature — and the governor who leads the bureaucracy that must carry out the health-care plan — still have to decide whether, in a democratic republic, they will respect a co-equal branch of government.

If the voters, the constitution and the Missouri Supreme Court all end up on the same side, will Missouri's elected Republicans concede that their decade-long fight against Obamacare has finally been lost for good?

More than health care for poor people is at stake.



NEW LOTTERY AIMS TO BOOST COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

With new cases of COVID-19 rising significantly in Missouri as the highly contagious delta variant spreads among the state's large unvaccinated population, Republican Gov. Mike Parson on June 21 announced a lottery with \$10,000 prizes to encourage more Missourians to become vaccinated. On the same day Parson made the announcement, the state reported nearly 3,000 new cases, its highest single-day total since January.

Over the last several weeks, Missouri has ranked among the top states in the nation in per capita new COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths, according to tracking data maintained by The New York Times.

Missouri's vaccination rate remains stagnant at about 40 percent of residents age 12 and up.

Over the next three months, the state will award \$10,000 prizes to 900 Missourians. The vaccine lottery will be open both to those who haven't yet been vaccinated, as well as those who already have. The prizes will be paid using federal coronavirus relief funds. The first drawing will be held Aug. 13, with subsequent drawings every two weeks until the final one on Oct. 8. The Missouri Lottery will oversee the drawings.

Entries will be divided into three categories: those age 18 and older who receive at least one dose of vaccine *after* July 21, those 18 and older who received at least one dose *before* July 21 and children ages 12 through 17 who receive at least one dose at any time. Vaccinated Missourians can enter the vaccine lottery at [MOPlastopsCovid.com/win](https://moplastopsCovid.com/win).

Eighty winners – 10 from each Missouri congressional district – from each of the first two categories will be randomly selected to win \$10,000 cash prizes at every drawing. Also, 20 children from the final category will be randomly chosen to receive \$10,000 educational savings accounts through the MOST 529 program administered by the State Treasurer's Office. In all, there will be 180 winners at each drawing. The vaccination status of winners will be verified prior to announcing their names.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS



I spoke at a press conference this week after the Joint Committee on Education had a hearing to discuss Critical Race Theory in Missouri schools. The only witnesses were by "invitation only" and public testimony was barred by the Committee Chair. No persons of color testified. I stated to the press, "What we heard today was oftentimes

misleading and flat-out false about what's being taught to children in Missouri schools and that was by design.”



FIFTH DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETING

Date: Monday, August 2, 2021

Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

**Location: Southeast Community Center
4201 E. 63rd St., KCMO 64130**

In-person and virtual

WITH GUEST SPEAKER(S):

Name: Robert Farmer

Title: Senior Vice-President, Urban America

Topic: Update on 63rd St. Project

Name: Officer Bryan Masterson

Title: Community Interaction Officer, KCPD Metro Patrol
Topic: KCPD report

Name: Frank Thompson

Title: Interim Director of Health Department
Topic: COVID report and vaccination opportunity

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 872-212-5076,,984046603#](#) United States, Chicago

Phone Conference ID: 984 046 603#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

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Disney PIXAR
ONWARD

July 23rd | 7:00 PM



Bethel Worship Center
10801 Ruskin Way, KCMO 64134

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR OR BLANKET



- POPCORN
- HOT DOGS
- BOUNCY HOUSE



RAIN? NO PROBLEM - WE'LL MOVE INSIDE!



Sixth District Household Hazardous Waste Collection

July 31, 2021: 8 AM - NOON

LOCATION:

- **RUSKIN HIGH SCHOOL**
7000 E 111TH ST.
KANSAS CITY, MO, 64134

Accepted items:

- Automotive products
- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- CFL light bulbs
- Fertilizers
- Flammables
- Fuels
- Hazardous Cleaners
- Hazardous Liquids
- Household Cleaners
- Lawn and Garden Products
- Paint
- Pesticides
- Photographic Chemicals
- Pool Chemicals
- Solvents
- Thinners
- Used oils

Unacceptable Items:

Appliances, Asbestos, Containers larger than 5-gallons, Explosives, Ammunition, Fireworks, Medical waste and needles, Prescription drugs, Propane bottles that are over one pound, Fire extinguishers, Butane and Freon, Tires, and Yard waste

Sponsors:



Councilmembers
McManus & Bough
Sixth District



CITY OF
KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI

PUBLIC WORKS

For more information,
contact Robert Woods
at 816-513-8442

All staff will be abiding by
social distancing policy
and masks should be worn

Jackson County, Missouri

jacksoncountycombat.com

COMBAT

2022 COMBAT Funding



August 4 - September 1: COMBAT Will Accept Applications For 2022 Funding

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jackson County COMBAT will begin accepting online applications for 2022 funding on Wednesday, August 4, 2021. The deadline to submit applications will be 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 1, 2021.

Go to jacksoncountycombat.com/2022funding for full details.

APPLICATIONS IN THREE CATEGORIES

Applications are available in three separate categories:

- Prevention (Violence & Substance Abuse)
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Law Enforcement School-Based Initiative

FUNDING FOR JACKSON COUNTY AGENCIES SERVING JACKSON COUNTY

Any organization requesting COMBAT funding must have an office in Jackson County and provide services to Jackson County residents in Jackson County.

>> jacksoncountycombat.com/2022funding

Help Spread The Word By Sharing This Message

Application Reviewers Needed

COMBAT needs reviewers to score the funding applications that will be submitted to us from agencies seeking COMBAT Prevention and Treatment funding for 2022.

The deadline to apply for a reviewer position is Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

COMPENSATION: \$75 PER APPLICATION

The compensation is \$75.00 per funding application scored. Submitted funding applications will be sent to the selected reviewers on September 21, with the reviewers' application score sheets due back

October 7.

>> APPLY TO BE A REVIEWER

jacksoncountycombat.com

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415 E. 12th Street, 9th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64106



On June 28th, I received the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. Like many people, I too was hesitant about the vaccine and the unknowns. After careful consideration and seeing no serious outbreak of COVID after the Memorial Day holiday, I felt it was best to take the

vaccine. As an elected official in the state of Missouri, I have concerns about our infection rate. The media is reporting that Missouri is a hotbed for COVID-19 Delta variant infections. I want to encourage those persons who are hesitant like I was to consider getting vaccinated.



COVID-19 Vaccine Walk-In appointments are available at our two hospital campuses (2211 Charlotte and 7900 Lee's Summit Road) 7am to 2 pm Monday through Friday. In addition, one may schedule a vaccine at www.trumed.org or by calling 816-404-CARE.

CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR RETURN!

Want to receive regular updates
on your 2018, 2019 or 2020
Individual Income Tax Return?

Give the return tracker
application a try!



After you have filed your
return, sign up here to
receive tracker email
or text notifications.

MISSOURI CORONAVIRUS

STAY INFORMED

The Pandemic aint over!



But we're getting there!

The reward has been raised to
\$30,000 for Dominic



**GREATER KANSAS CITY CRIME STOPPERS
816-474-TIPS HOTLINE**

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

FROM: Det. Kevin Boehm, Crime Stoppers Coordinator

SUBJECT: Reward Increase – 9 Year Old Dominic Young Homicide

KANSAS CITY, MO --- The Kansas City, Missouri Police Department and the Greater KC Crime Stoppers TIPS Hotline continue to seek information in the January 20, 2018 homicide of 9 year old Dominic Young Jr. at 71 Highway and Emanuel Cleaver II Blvd.

Dominic Young Jr. was apparently hit by a stray gunshot while occupying a vehicle driven by h

father and died as a result of his injuries. Dominic, his father and brother were en route to Grandview at the time. The vehicle driven by Dominic's father was hit by gunshots from other vehicles apparently engaged in a gunfight according to statements.

KCPD found a possible crime scene near the intersection where the father said the shooting happened. When the father arrived home in Grandview, Dominic was not responsive. Grandview police initially responded to the father's home and found the boy in critical condition. He was later pronounced dead at a hospital.

A number of community leaders and organizations including State Representative Richard Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McManus, former City Councilmen Scott Taylor, Scott Wagner, John Sharp; the City of KCMO and Concord Fortress of Hope Church (Pastor Ron Lindsay) have come forward to increase the existing reward in the case up to \$30,000.00. Those leaders are available for comment in regard to the case.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers Greater Kansas City TIPS Hotline at 816-474-TIPS (8477), TIPS may also be submitted electronically at www.KCcrimestoppers.com, or by downloading our NEW mobile app, P3TIPS, on Google Play or the Apple iOS stores for FREE. Information leading to an arrest and/or filing of charges could be eligible for up to \$30,000.00 in reward money. ALL INFORMATION IS ANONYMOUS.



Remain Anonymous • Receive Cash Rewards

Tips Hotline

816-474-8477

Web Tips

www.KCcrimestoppers.com

Free Mobile App

www.P3Tips.com

* A program of the KC Metropolitan Crime Commission

My office in Jefferson City is available to assist you with questions you may have about state government or legislative issues. Please call, email or write anytime. If you are unable to reach me, my assistant, Donna Gentsch is ready to help you. If you are in Jefferson City, come by my Capitol office in room 134, and introduce yourself. The door is always open and I encourage you to visit.

Please forward this email to your friends and family who want to know how what is happening in Jefferson City will impact them here at home.



Rep. Richard Brown

Assistant Minority Floor Leader

MO House of Representatives

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Room 134

Jefferson City, MO 65101

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Please don't hesitate to contact me with any feedback, questions or ideas!

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