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Capitol Report

May 14, 2021

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*Dear Neighbor,*

I don't have the words to accurately describe my feelings as the first regular session of the 101st General Assembly has come to an end. Our governor has made the decision to discontinue the federal unemployment benefits in our state as well as withdrawing the state's application to the federal government to expand Medicaid.

**Too many Missourians are still out of work due to the pandemic. It is cruel to deny the additional benefits that have been afforded to workers nationwide by the federal government.** Although the federal portion of unemployment benefits will end in our state, the state portion of unemployment benefits are still available to those persons who are actively seeking employment.

**Tens of thousands of Missourians will suffer needlessly when our state has more than enough money to fund Medicaid expansion because of the CARES Act funding the state of Missouri has received from the federal government.** I have been fighting to

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protect what you voted for when you voted to expand Medicaid. I have asked my GOP colleagues, "Why am I fighting for the will of the people in your districts that voted to expand Medicaid when you won't support or respect their votes?"

Sadly, **58% of Missouri voters approved Medicaid expansion last August** and I believe the Medicaid issue will have to be decided by Missouri courts. I will continue to vote and fight for you as your representative in Jefferson City.

*Yours in Service,*

*Rich*

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#### House Legislative Dashboard





## On last day, Missouri Legislature approves college athlete earnings, higher tuition, sales tax on online retailers

[Jack Suntrup](#), [Kurt Erickson](#), [Maria Benevento](#)  
[stltoday.com](#)

JEFFERSON CITY — With the Senate stalled over a disagreement about birth control, the Missouri House moved swiftly to put the final touches on the legislative session Friday.

As the clock ticked toward 6 p.m. — the constitutionally mandated deadline for the General Assembly to adjourn for the year — a fight over whether the state's Medicaid system should fund certain types of contraception had brought action in the Senate to a halt.

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At about 2 p.m., Senate Minority Leader John Rizzo, D-Independence, moved the Senate adjourn until May 19 — after [the constitutionally mandated 6 p.m. Friday](#) cut-off for considering bills, ensuring the Senate could not take any more action this legislative session.

Guns also remained on the agenda after the Senate sent the “Second Amendment Preservation Act” to the House Thursday night. The lower chamber was expected to give the measure final approval on Friday, sending the bill to Gov. Mike Parson.

The measure declares invalid federal actions deemed to infringe on an individual’s Second Amendment right to bear arms, and makes local police departments liable for \$50,000 if an employee violates the statute.

Waiving the forced repayment of millions of dollars in unemployment benefits paid by the state in error was also pending.

Even with the unresolved issues, legislators had already propelled numerous priorities to Parson, including a prescription drug monitoring database, a 12.5-cent increase to the state’s gasoline tax, and a criminal justice reform package that limits respiratory chokeholds and allows prosecutors to revisit past questionable convictions.

[Continue Reading](#)

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## Missouri governor scuttles Medicaid expansion after lawmakers provide no money

[Kurt Erickson  
stltoday.com](https://www.stltoday.com)

JEFFERSON CITY — Republican Gov. Mike Parson Thursday formally withdrew the state's application to expand Medicaid to 275,000 low-income adults, citing the lack of funding provided by the GOP-controlled Legislature.

The move, which is expected to draw a lawsuit, came less than a week after the Legislature sent him a spending plan that stripped the \$1.9 billion he had sought for the voter-approved expansion of Mo HealthNet.

The governor sided with lawmakers in saying the ballot initiative endorsed by voters in August 2020 didn't provide a funding



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source to expand the government-funded health insurance program beginning on July 1.

“Although I was never in support of MO HealthNet expansion, I always said that I would uphold the ballot amendment if it passed.

The majority of Missouri voters supported it, and we included funds for the expansion in our budget proposal,” Parson said. “However, without a revenue source or funding authority from the General Assembly, we are unable to proceed with the expansion at this time and must withdraw our state plan amendments to ensure Missouri’s existing MO HealthNet program remains solvent.”

The move drew a swift rebuke from supporters of the expansion, which would apply to adults ages 18-64 who earn less than \$18,000 per year.

“By backtracking on implementation of Medicaid expansion, Governor Parson is breaking his promise to the people of this state and violating his oath to uphold the Missouri Constitution,” said House Minority Leader Crystal Quade, D-Springfield. “Whatever reputation he once had for respecting the law is gone forever, and he is just another politician whose word can’t be trusted. Medicaid expansion will still happen as the constitution requires, but because of the governor’s dishonorable action, it will take a court order to do it.”

[Continue Reading](#)

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## Missouri ending all federal pandemic-related unemployment benefits in June

BY KAITLYN SCHALLHORN  
themissouritimes.com

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Gov. Mike Parson moved to cut federal pandemic-related unemployment benefits Tuesday, arguing the move would encourage more Missourians to get back into the workforce.

Missouri will phase-out of the six programs by June 12.

“From conversations with business owners across the state, we know that they are struggling not because of COVID-19 but because of labor shortages resulting from these excessive federal unemployment programs,” Parson said. “While these benefits provided supplementary financial assistance during the height of COVID-19, they were intended to be temporary, and their continuation has instead worsened the workforce

issues we are facing. It's time that we end these programs that have ultimately incentivized people to stay out of the workforce."

The six programs are:

- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance
- Emergency Unemployment Relief for Government Entities and Nonprofit Organizations
  - Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation
  - Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation
- 100 Percent Reimbursement of Short-Time Compensation Benefit Costs Paid Under State Law
  - Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation

Parson said there were 221,266 unfilled jobs in Missouri with the unemployment rate hovering at 4.2 percent.

The \$300 weekly federal unemployment supplement was extended through September earlier this year as part of President Joe Biden's sweeping \$1.9 trillion relief package. A U.S. Census survey conducted in March found that about 4.2 million Americans weren't working — not because of the stimulus money, but because of fear of getting or spreading COVID-19.

More than 8,200 Missourians filed initial unemployment claims for the week ending on May 1. The previous week saw more than 12,400 initial claims, according to the Department of Labor.

More than half of Missourians who filed for unemployment in 2020 were new filers, Director Anna Hui has said. Monthly initial claims increased to more than 300,000 in 2020; in 2019, that number was less than 50,000.

The first major spike came during the week of March 21, 2020, which saw 42,207 filings — more than 10 times the prior week. Weekly initial claims then remained above 90,000 for three weeks in a row. The increase coincided with quarantine and stay-at-home orders that shuttered businesses and left workers in multiple industries without jobs.

"The unemployment system is designed to provide a temporary safety net as workers look to reenter the job market," Hui said Tuesday. "Leaving the



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level of benefits artificially high would prevent a return to full employment in our state.”

Parson joins a growing list of Republican governors moving to phase out the programs, including those from Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi, Montana, and South Carolina. Montana will issue one-time checks of \$1,200 to individuals who rejoin the workforce; Parson said that option was not on the table for Missourians.

Without opting out, the \$300-week federal payments were set to expire in September.

Federal unemployment benefits are also the subject of legislative debate this session as lawmakers have worked to adequately address the accidental overpayment of benefits issued to Missourians during the pandemic. Approximately \$150 million in overpayments — of both state and federal funds — were sent to about 46,000 Missourians. Of the overpayments, approximately \$40 million came from the state and \$108 million from federal funds, a Department of Labor spokeswoman told The Missouri Times.

“The governor has consistently failed to meet the needs of Missourians since this pandemic began,” U.S. Congresswoman Cori Bush said. “He failed to address COVID-19 as infections rose. He failed to institute a mask mandate even though the science shows masks are effective in saving lives. He failed to equitably distribute the vaccine, abandoning Black and brown communities that have been hit hardest by this pandemic, from St. Louis to Kansas City. Every step of the way, Gov. Parson has failed the people of Missouri — and today’s announcement is yet another massive failure that will put the lives and livelihoods of regular, everyday people at risk.”

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# GETTING BENEFITS



No, unemployment benefits  
aren't the problem

Analysis by [Anneken Tappe](#), CNN Business

Updated 8:19 AM ET, Tue May 11, 2021

New York (CNN Business)America's job market is in a weird spot: it's still millions of jobs short of where it was before the pandemic, but businesses complain they can't find staff. Opponents of enhanced unemployment benefits during Covid say the

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government aid is so cushy, the jobless don't want to return to work.

On the surface, that argument has some merit.

The jobless benefits Congress bolstered at the start of the pandemic have been extended until September. Now, though, people are getting vaccinated and employers want their laid-off employees to come back. That should be a recipe for success. Yet the [pace of job growth came in at a disappointing](#) 266,000 in April, far less than analysts expected.

For critics of the pandemic-era jobless aid, the connection here is obvious: Benefits are making life too comfortable for the unemployed to go out and find a job.

But it's not that simple.

The money to fund these benefits has already been allocated by Congress and is out of the door. What's more important now is that Americans — jobless or not — spend the cash in their wallets to help the nation along on its road to recovery. The [US economy runs on consumer spending](#) and every dollar in every wallets counts.

While pundits are arguing, Americans are on the same page. Consumer confidence is soaring, [retail sales jumped in March](#) and [gross domestic product](#) — the broadest measure of economic activity — is on pace for a super-strong 11% annual growth rate this quarter, according to the [Atlanta Fed](#).

[Continue Reading](#)

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## Parson threatens veto of police chokehold ban over unrelated subpoena issue

- [Kurt Erickson](#)
- [stltoday.com](#)

JEFFERSON CITY — A move to ban police from using chokeholds in Missouri is in limbo after Gov. Mike Parson threatened to veto the legislation over a separate provision in the sweeping package of law enforcement reforms moving through the Legislature.

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At issue is a proposal backed by House Speaker [Rob Vescovo](#), R-Arnold, to give General Assembly leaders the ability to issue subpoenas requiring people to testify before a committee.

Under that provision, a person who fails to appear or fails to produce required documents could be prosecuted.

Opponents, including Parson, said that gives the legislative branch too much power.

The subpoena language is [part of a bill that includes the chokehold ban](#), reforms to unlicensed religious boarding schools and an initiative that would provide feminine hygiene products like tampons to female prison inmates.

Sen. [Brian Williams](#), D-University City, who sponsored the chokehold ban in the wake of the murder of George Floyd by former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin, said he is concerned the impasse could scuttle his main priority of the legislative session, which ends Friday.

States throughout the country have worked to clarify laws on police use of force in recent years, spurred by the deaths of Black victims at the hands of police.

Williams, one of five Black members of the Senate, also is supporting a provision in the overall bill that would bar police from having sexual relations with detainees.

Concern about the threat of a Parson veto surfaced Tuesday as a joint committee of Senate and House members met to review a final draft of the package with the clock ticking down on the annual spring session.

Sen. [Tony Luetkemeyer](#), R-Parkville, who is the chairman of the conference committee on Senate Bill 53, said he stripped the subpoena power provision from the final version because of the governor's objections.

"We're still working through that issue," Luetkemeyer said.

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But House members on the panel said they would not support the proposal if it did not include that element, forcing Luetkemeyer to postpone further consideration of the overall bill until Wednesday.

Rep. [Lane Roberts](#), R-Joplin, said including the added investigatory powers for lawmakers was necessary, primarily based on the widespread support the legislation received earlier in the House.

“If the governor is inclined to veto the entire bill ... I think that’s a decision for him to make,” Roberts said.

Other Republican House members agreed the bill shouldn’t move forward without the legislative power issue attached.

“It really is a non-starter for me as well,” said Rep. [Justin Hill](#), R-Lake Saint Louis.

Williams also said the provision should be kept in the bill because of the bipartisan nature of the House vote. It moved out of the House on a 138-11 vote on May 5.

“This is about us coming together and working toward a comprehensive package of issues that are important to us,” Williams said.

Senate Minority Leader [John Rizzo](#), D-Independence, said he was not a “big fan” of the General Assembly provision, but urged members of the committee to find a resolution in order to preserve other parts of the bill.

Parson and the House have locked horns over the chamber’s use of a special oversight committee to investigate issues ranging from the state’s medical marijuana program to the Department of Social Services.

In numerous instances, House members have accused the administration of failing to comply with requests from lawmakers for information, spurring them to seek additional power to punish witnesses who do not comply with their probes.

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“That is a total power overreach,” Parson told reporters Tuesday. “I just feel it’s a total power grab. Most definitely, if it makes my desk, whatever its on, it will be vetoed.”

The tug-of-war between the two branches reaches back further than Parson, a Republican.

In 2009, for example, a Missouri Senate committee investigating a scandal over dangerous levels of E. coli bacteria in the Lake of the Ozarks [considered using subpoena power](#) to force the administration of Democrat Gov. Jay Nixon to answer questions and produce documents.

Before that, the last time a Senate committee used subpoenas — which are more common in Congress — was 1990 when a committee investigated corruption in the state’s surplus property division.

The legislation is [Senate Bill 53](#).



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# Missouri is the only state not to monitor prescriptions. A bill to change that passed

[BY JEANNE KUANG](#)

[kansascity.com](http://kansascity.com)

MAY 11, 2021 04:40 PM  
JEFFERSON CITY

Missouri may soon become the last state in the nation to create a statewide prescription drug monitoring program after [eight years of failed attempts](#).

Lawmakers on Tuesday sent a bill to Gov. Mike Parson's desk to create a system that allows doctors and pharmacists to track opioid prescriptions in an effort to prevent abuse. Parson has been supportive of the program, which is in place in all 49 other states.

It passed the House 91 to 64 after clearing the Senate, a traditional roadblock for the measure, earlier this year.

"We're 20 years later in this epidemic," said bill sponsor Sen. "Holly Rehder, a Sikeston Republican who has been open about her family's experiences with opioid addiction. "Now that we know these narcotics are more addicting for some people than for others, now that we know these things, to allow our physicians and medical professionals to have more information, it's just really ".important to turn this epidemic around

In the absence of a statewide program, many counties have opted into a PDMP operated by St. Louis County that now covers more than 80% of Missouri's population. The statewide program would replace it and the bill includes provisions to clear the database every three years.

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**TAX FILING DEADLINE EXTENDED!**  
Monday, **MAY** 17th

# TAX DAY 2021

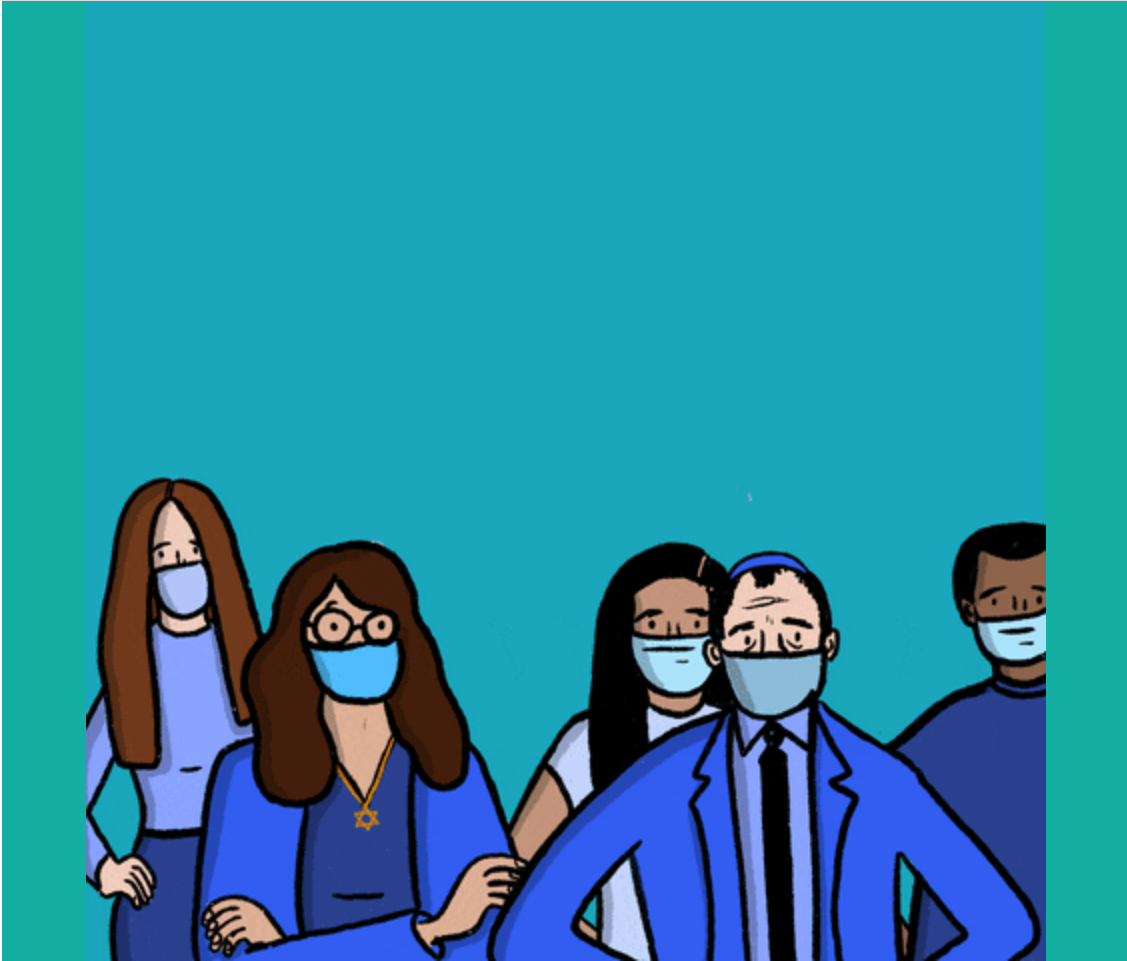
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return, sign up here to  
receive tracker email  
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## Missouri Republicans want special session on voting and election changes

[Kurt Erickson  
stltoday.com](https://www.stltoday.com)

JEFFERSON CITY — Frustrated by Senate inaction, Republicans in the Missouri House are calling for a special session on election reform.

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Members of the House Elections and Elected Officials Committee sent Gov. Mike Parson a letter Wednesday asking him to order members back to the Capitol over the summer to finish work on changes to voting laws.

“I have made it a priority since day one to support legislation that continues to ensure Missouri’s elections remain fair, transparent and trustworthy. Unfortunately, Senate leadership has held up these important issues,” said Rep. Dan Shaul, R-Imperial, who chairs the committee.

Although the Senate could still take up the issue before Friday’s adjournment deadline, the decision by the House likely signals an end to a Republican push to add voting restrictions to state law.

Similar attempts in other states by Republican-controlled Legislatures drew public outcry from corporate leaders and voting rights activists, who said the changes could disenfranchise voters and suppress turnout.

House Democrats, Black Caucus leadership and advocates have argued the GOP effort to change election laws could have a disproportionate negative effect on racial minorities.

But Republicans in Missouri said the effort is necessary to protect elections, even though Republican Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft said the 2020 election went off without a hitch.

In the letter signed by GOP members of the election committee, Shaul said he was attempting to head off any potential problems with voter fraud.

“While I am incredibly confident in the way our elections were conducted in Missouri, my colleagues and I remain committed to ensuring Missouri continues to be the gold standard for election security nationwide,” he wrote.

Among the proposed changes was a bid to make it illegal to send out absentee ballot applications unless voters specifically request them.

The House also advanced legislation that said only citizens older than 18 can vote in the state.

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Opponents have argued the measure is redundant and meant to confuse voters or stoke anti-immigrant fears.

The Missouri Constitution says “all citizens of the United States” who are older than 18 and reside in the proper area are eligible to vote, with some exceptions. The proposal would make a one-word change to say “only citizens of the United States” can vote.

A separate proposal would prevent judges from editing ballot language if it is misleading or inaccurate. Another bill would change the initiative petition process, including raising filing fees for initiative petitions.

Two other proposals would change the primary election process in the state, one by restricting participation to registered party members, the other by eliminating presidential primaries entirely.

Currently, Missourians of any party, or no party, can choose which party’s ballot they would like in a primary election.

That means they could select an opposing party ballot and vote for the candidate they consider the weakest or the closest to their views, even if they intend to vote against that candidate in the general election.

Opponents of eliminating the presidential primary have argued it would make it more difficult for the average person to be involved with selecting a candidate.

But, wrote Shaul, “In hearing from hundreds of constituents from across the state, it remains clear the Missourians continue to support common sense legislation to ensure the security of election.”





## BILL LIFTS TUITION CAP, PROTECTS COLLEGE ATHLETES' RIGHTS

Lawmakers granted final passage on May 14 to legislation that would eliminate a statutory cap limiting how much Missouri's public colleges and universities can increase tuition each year. The bill, which includes various provisions relating to higher education, also would guarantee the right of college athletes in Missouri to financially benefit from their names and likenesses, NCAA rules to the contrary notwithstanding.

House Bill 297 would eliminate the tuition cap as of July 1, 2022. The cap has been in state law since 2007. Because current state funding for higher education is at about the same level as it was two decades ago, the bill's supporters say colleges and universities need the ability to enact higher tuition to generate revenue. Opponents of lifting the cap argue that instead of shifting the financial burden to students and their families through higher tuition, lawmakers should instead bolster higher education spending.

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The provision allowing college athletes to profit from their names and likenesses follows a national trend of pushing back on NCAA rules that prohibit athletes from profiting in any way from their participation in college sports, despite the fact that college sports is a multibillion business that provides substantial revenue to schools and enables coaches and athletic department officials to demand hefty salaries.

The House of Representatives voted 145-8 in favor of the bill following a 23-9-1 vote in the Senate a day earlier. Before being transformed into an omnibus higher education bill, HB 297 originally was limited to creating a statewide educational mission in visual and performing arts, computer science and cybersecurity for Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau.



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**Archie Welch, a longtime Kansas City political advisor visited Jefferson City recently. He was recognized for his**

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**contributions with a resolution from the House of Representatives.**

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**REAL ID**  
New deadline: October 1, 2021  
Will you be ready? [Click here to learn more.](#)

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## Where can vaccinated Americans travel? Here's a list of countries as the world reopens

**BY SIMONE JASPER**  
[kansascity.com](https://www.kansascity.com)

MAY 10, 2021 03:34 PM

As more Americans are getting vaccinated against COVID-19, some travelers are gearing up for new adventures abroad.

If you want to visit an international destination, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends [taking your trip](#) when [you're fully vaccinated](#). That means you should leave at least two weeks after getting the single-shot Johnson & Johnson dose or the second shot of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

But the coronavirus remains a risk, so health officials still recommend wearing a mask, practicing social distancing and

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washing your hands frequently during your trip. Also, the U.S. government has an [online tool](#) that shows risk levels for traveling to each nation.

As [more countries welcome back tourists](#), a growing list is letting in people who show proof of getting a COVID-19 shot. And others are allowing tourists to come once they provide proof of testing negative for the virus.

So where can you go once you're fully vaccinated? Here's what to know.

### WHERE CAN I GO?

Here's a list of some countries that are welcoming vaccinated travelers, the U.S. State Department website and news outlets said as of Monday, May 10.

- **The Bahamas** is allowing visitors to forgo a testing requirement if they show [proof of vaccination](#) and fill out an online Travel Health Visa application.
- **Belize** is allowing people to show a vaccination card or a negative COVID-19 test for entry, McClatchy News reported.
- **Cyprus**, a country in the Mediterranean Sea, is allowing visitors to [share vaccination documents](#) through the Cyprus Flight Pass tool. Travelers who have gotten their vaccines may also be asked to take a random COVID-19 test.
- **Ecuador** is letting [international travelers show a vaccine card](#) or a negative COVID-19 test. Children under 2 years old don't have to meet those requirements.
- **Georgia**, a nation wedged between Europe and Asia, is welcoming air travelers who have completed their [COVID-19 vaccine series](#). U.S. residents without vaccines may also enter, as long as they have only traveled through certain countries and received negative coronavirus test results.
- **Greece** is opening its doors to visitors who finished [getting their recommended shots](#) at least two weeks prior to their

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trips. Other travelers are required to show a negative COVID-19 test.

- **Grenada**, an island country in the Caribbean, is allowing people who have been vaccinated to arrive and go into quarantine for 48 hours while officials wait for COVID-19 test results.
- **Guatemala** is requiring travelers older than 10 to either be fully vaccinated, present a negative COVID-19 test result or show they recovered from the coronavirus no more than three months ago.
  - **Iceland** is welcoming tourists who have been fully vaccinated.
- **Montenegro**, a mountainous Balkan country, is allowing tourists to enter if they have been vaccinated within seven days or show officials their COVID-19 test results.
- **Nepal** is requiring travelers to show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test. The country will also ask for a visa or letter to the tourism board, hotel information, travel insurance and an Online International Travel Arrival Form.
  - **The Seychelles**, a series of islands off Africa's eastern coast, is allowing vaccinated travelers to visit if they provide a negative COVID-19 test from the past 72 hours, Travel + Leisure reported last week.

#### WHAT IF I'M NOT VACCINATED?

If you haven't gotten your shot, some countries still allow you to enter with COVID-19 testing or quarantine requirements.

Those include Bolivia, Brazil and South Korea, CNN reported this month.

And in some countries, such as Thailand, having a coronavirus vaccine will reduce the time travelers have to spend in quarantine according to the news outlet.

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& RESOURCE PORTAL  
FOR VETERANS & MILITARY**

[veteranbenefits.mo.gov](http://veteranbenefits.mo.gov)



# Financial Support for Missouri Renters Impacted by COVID-19.



**Struggling to pay rent or utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic? Missouri State Assistance For Housing Relief (SAFHR) may be able to help – learn more and find out how to apply!**

SAFHR for Renters is an assistance program administered by the Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC), funded by the federal government COVID stimulus package.

## What help does SAFHR for Renters provide?

- Provides rent and utility assistance for eligible Missouri residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Covers up to a total of 12 months of rent and utility bills, back to April 2020 and for up to 3 months in the future.
- Utilities include gas, electric, water, sewage/waste water, fuel (propane, wood, etc.) and trash.
- Money is paid directly to landlord or utility company.

## Am I eligible for SAFHR for Renters?

- You must be a **resident of the state of Missouri**, and a **renter at your current or previous address**.
- At least one member of your household **must be financially impacted** – directly or indirectly – **as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic**. This could mean someone in your household has lost a job, had reduced pay, or incurred significant COVID-related expenses. You must be at risk of losing your housing or having your utilities shut off due to this financial hardship.
- Your **income must not exceed 80% of your Area Median Income (AMI)**. This is determined by your county and your household size. You can determine if you meet the income requirements by viewing the SAFHR income ranges worksheet at [mohousingresources.com/safhr](https://mohousingresources.com/safhr)



**Financial assistance  
is here. Apply now!**

Apply online at  
[mohousingresources.com/safhr](https://mohousingresources.com/safhr)

Applications are open now!\*

If you can not apply online or  
need help with your application,  
please call 833-541-1599  
or email: [mo.safhr@mhdc.com](mailto:mo.safhr@mhdc.com)

\* Application period expected to be open until Sept 2022.

Click [here](#) for more information





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Iman Eldeib (left) and Neveen Ayesh (center) visited with me this week at the capitol. I appreciate the support from my friends in the Muslim community.



## Missouri lawmakers vote to keep lottery winners secret

Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY — The identity of Missouri Lottery winners could be kept secret under legislation sent to Gov. Mike Parson that would reverse the state's current policy and run contrary to national norms.

The bill, which received final approval Wednesday in the Senate, would make it a misdemeanor crime for the lottery or its contractors to publicize the identity of lottery winners, unless the winners ask for their names to be made known. The bill previously passed the House.

The North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries says all but a few states require the names and cities of winners

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to be made public. The intent is “to assure the public that there are real winners,” the association says on its website.

The Missouri Lottery said winners’ names and hometowns currently are considered public records. Publishing winners’ identities “is necessary to ensure the integrity of the Lottery’s games,” it says on its website.

Under the legislation, winners still could provide written authorization for their names, addresses and other information to be publicized. But the publicity form could only be provided upon the request of the lottery winner and not be offered unsolicited by the lottery.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

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

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[mostopscovid](https://www.mostopscovid.com)

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**The Pandemic aint over!**

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But we're getting there!

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

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

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FROM: Det. Kevin Boehm, Crime Stoppers Coordinator**

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**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 his 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](http://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.**

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**Tips Hotline**

**816-474-8477**

**Web Tips**

**[www.KCcrimestoppers.com](http://www.KCcrimestoppers.com)**

**Free Mobile App**

**[www.P3Tips.com](http://www.P3Tips.com)**

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\* A program of the KC Metropolitan Crime Commission

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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 Gentzsch 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.](#)



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## **Rep. Richard Brown**

Assistant Minority Floor Leader

MO House of Representatives

201 West Capitol Avenue

Room 134

Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone

573-751-7639

Email:

[richard.brown@house.mo.gov](mailto:richard.brown@house.mo.gov)

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any feedback,

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