

# MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT LEGISLATIVE REPORT #3 2012 SESSION

[Senate Bill List](#)      [House Bill List](#)  
[Senate Committees](#)      [House Committees](#)  
[Senate Members](#)      [House Members](#)

**\*Items in red are new.**

### BUDGET

The governor delivered his state of the State address. Legislative priorities were mixed in his speech heavily, but details on the budget were thin. The budget gap he needed to fill was \$500M plus, and did so primarily through cuts to higher education institutions cuts and efficiencies in the Medicaid budget, including reduced payments to Medicaid managed care companies.

***The Governor's proposal eliminates the \$200,000 firefighter training passed last year. The governor withheld the money, and is now making the withhold permanent.***

The Governor spoke of the tornado relief in Joplin, threw the fiscal conservatives an unexpected gift by proclaiming "Missourians don't want a handout. Missourians don't want a bailout", and furthered his point by noting the reduction of 4,100 state workers from the payroll.

His jumpstart job program consists of;

- One, grow more auto supplier jobs in Missouri;
- Two, sell more Missouri-made goods overseas;
- Three, prepare more workers for high-tech careers;
- Four, train and hire more veterans;
- Five, jumpstart innovation in science and technology;
- Six, target high-growth industries;
- Seven, create jobs in rural communities.

**No mention of the healthcare exchange This was “priority” week. The workers comp bills, addressing employer liability, occupational disease and the broke second injury fund. This bill will get voted out this week, and likely debated on the floor.**

Last week the House and Senate heard bills designed to place *AUTOMATIC* sunsets on administrative rules and regulations. In addition, it expands the role of the petition process, allowing for greater opportunity to challenge all existing administrative rules and regulations. While this sounds like an interesting way to force changes to bad regulation, it also would overwhelm the administrative agencies so much that any new approvals would grind to a halt for years, as well as tossing good regulation. Last year the House passed the bill and the senate liked the concept, but was not sure that was the way to clean out the administrative rules that were out of date. We suspect significant debate on this bill.

## **FSA PRIORITIES**

None of our bills have been filed as of yet. Similar to last year with only 2 or 3 exceptions we will be in a reactive mode, especially with the probable continued retrenchment due to the adverse budget figures.

## **HOUSE BILLS OF INTETEST**

[HB 1029 Flanigan](#) Authorizes the Oversight Division of the Committee on Legislative Research to conduct program evaluations involving budget transparency and accountability

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Referred to House Committee on House-Budget

[HB 1040 Hinson](#) Adds department of transportation emergency response vehicles and motorist assistance vehicles to "emergency vehicle" classification of section 304.022

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Read a second time

[HB 1056 Lant](#) Authorizes a surcharge for offsetting emergency services costs in McDonald County. (This bill is gaining strong opposition from the tourism community.)

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1089 White](#) Eliminates the prevailing wage in Missouri

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Read second time. **See HB 1176**

[HB 1108 Lauer](#) Requires a telecommunications company to provide caller location information in certain emergency situations.

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1114 Weter](#) Requires Taney County to appoint an emergency services board for administering central dispatching of emergency services

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1121 Kander](#) Changes the laws regarding the filing of a financial interest statement with the Missouri Ethics Commission.

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1148 Gatschenberger](#) Prohibits the use of hand-held electronic wireless communications devices while driving, unless such devices are equipped for hands-free operation and are being used in such manner.

**Bill History:** 01-05-12 H Read second time

[HB 1176 Schoeller](#) Exempts certain construction work done for a school district or a county, city, town, or village from the prevailing wage if it is in a disaster area.

**Bill History: These bills were heard in committee this week, and will likely be voted out this coming week and make it to the floor for debate.**

[HB 1198 Fisher](#) Changes the laws regarding prevailing wages.

**Bill History: See HB 1176.**

[HB 1210 Gatschenberger](#) Authorizes a claim clearinghouse to process and verify a request for an offset of an income tax refund and lottery winnings to satisfy an outstanding debt for ambulance services an individual received.

**Bill History:** referred to local government. **This will be heard this week.**

[HB 1224 Brattin](#) Requires all employers and business entities to enroll and actively participate in a federal work authorization program and imposes stricter penalties for employing unauthorized aliens.

**Bill History:**

### **NEW HOUSE BILLS**

[HB 1291 Nance](#) **Requires a person conducting a home inspection to be licensed by the Division of Professional Registration within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration.**

**Bill History: Introduced**

[HB 1301 McCaherty](#) **Changes the requirements for licensure as an emergency medical technician for honorably discharged veterans.**

**Bill History: Introduced**

### **SENATE BILLS OF INTEREST**

[SB 497 - Munzlinger](#) - Increases the penalties for the crimes of trespassing and false impersonation and creates the crime of impersonating a public servant

**Bill History:** referred to Senate Judiciary

[SB 540 - Chappelle-Nadal](#) - Bars discriminatory employers from receiving public works contracts and requires employers to provide cause to terminated employees

**Bill History: referred to senate small business**

[SB 568 - Parson](#) - Expands Missouri's Move Over Law to include vehicles operated by Transportation Department employees

**Bill History:**

[SB 572 - Dempsey](#) - Modifies the law relating to workers' compensation. It also addresses employer liability, occupational disease and the broken second injury fund.

**BILL HISTORY:** Will be voted out this week and be debated. **There is no consensus on the language of this bill from the republican caucus, although there is among the business groups. 01-17-12 S Voted do pass as substitute from committee on Senate-Small Bus./Insurance/Industry**

[SB592 – Lager-Modifies the law relating to the Missouri Human Rights Act and employment discrimination](#)

This is a pro-business, pro-employer bill that is once again a top priority for Senator Lager, as well as, both House and Senate Republican leadership. This bill is a major component of the highly publicized “Business Climate Coalition” legislative package advanced by Missouri’s leading business groups and advocates.

This bill plugs some holes the court made in the whistleblower law with a decision involving the Enterprise Leasing Company. The governor vetoed this bill last year because the bill included a broader. Proponents argue that this bill levels the litigation “playing field” for employers and curbs relatively recent overreaching by pro-plaintiff, Missouri judges that have extended worker’s rights beyond that established even by federal civil rights laws.

**Bill History: On the floor for debate. No changes in the bill. Same bill was vetoed by the governor last year.**

## **NEW SENATE BILLS**

[SB 642 Wasson](#) **Increases penalties for moving violations and traffic offenses occurring within an active emergency zone.**

**Bill History: Introduced**

[SB 646 Engler](#) **Makes the results of certain types of field tests for controlled substances admissible as evidence in certain preliminary hearings and applications for arrest warrants.**

**Bill History: Introduced**

[SB 651 Schaefer](#) **Creates a home inspector licensing board and procedures for licensing home inspectors.**

**Bill History: Introduced**

[SB 652 Lager](#) **Prohibits a political subdivision from restricting a firefighter from engaging in certain political activities.**

**Bill History: Introduced**

[SB 668](#) **Lembke** Requires the collector in St. Louis County to mail resident taxpayers a statement of the property taxes the taxpayer owes by October 20th.

**Bill History: Introduced**