

2022 Legislative Review



State Senator
Brian Williams

Brian Williams

Proudly Serving
District 14



Legislative Achievements

History in the Making

It seems surreal I was sworn in over four years ago to represent our community in the Missouri Senate. I remember that day vividly, and the gravity and historical significance of being the first Black male senator to be elected since 1998 still keeps me grounded and focused. I also never lose sight that I am the first Black man to represent St. Louis County and am among only 22 African Americans who have had a desk in the Senate chamber. The responsibility is great, and the honor is extraordinary. Being your voice in Jefferson City is one of the most rewarding challenges of my life. Thank you for entrusting me to build on this legacy and inspire the next generation to aim high.



Holocaust Education Week

Legislation I sponsored this year to designate a Holocaust Education Week and develop a curriculum framework for a pilot program in schools was amended onto the passed Senate Bill 681. With the governor's signature, the pilot program will begin next year in 25 schools, with the hopes of expanding it to all school districts by 2025. Helping our children understand the significance of "never again" is an integral part of putting an end to systemic racism.

Sickle Cell Patients

During my first legislative session, I was proud to pass legislation to exclude patients receiving treatment for sickle cell disease from initial opioid prescription limitations. At the time, Missouri law limited certain opioid prescriptions to a seven-day supply. While that limit was intended to mitigate the opioid epidemic plaguing our communities, it often left those suffering from chronic pain, like sickle cell disease, without their needed medications. Thanks to help from my constituents and colleagues, my Senate Bill 450 was amended onto Senate Bill 514 and signed by the governor in July of 2019.

ABLE Accounts

Another success from 2019 was modifying the ABLE Act through my sponsored Senate Bill 426. ABLE accounts are tax-free savings accounts for Missourians with special needs. This money can be used to pay for disability-related services, without the threat of losing federal needs-based benefits. My bill was added to Senate Bill 230, which became law in 2019, adding another layer of protection for some of our state's most vulnerable people.

Police Reform Legislation



One of my proudest accomplishments as a senator is the passage of comprehensive police reform legislation. Signed into law in 2021, Senate Bill 53 & 60 banned the use of chokeholds, established one of the country's strongest use-of-force databases and shortened the time to request a record expungement after a person completes their sentence. During debate on the measure, I was able to add a provision that helps free the wrongfully convicted, which was instrumental in the release of Kevin Strickland, an innocent man who served 40 years in prison.

Investing in our Community



Proudly Serving North St. Louis County



Making our community a better place to live, work and raise a family is my top priority. Pending the governor's approval, the budget for Fiscal Year 2023 allocates \$98 million for North St. Louis County projects. Thanks to all who helped me advocate for this unprecedented funding and reach one of the goals I set when I ran for office.

University of Missouri-St. Louis



\$40 million

The University of Missouri-St Louis will receive \$40 million in funding to construct the "Campus of the Future," a 35-acre multi-purpose business and workforce district which will produce high-paying, in-demand jobs and provide other critical services.

Research and Development



Tax Credits

As a founding member of the new Legislative Tech Caucus, I was proud to amend my Senate Bill 688 on to the passed House Bill 2400. Authorizing tax credits on qualified research expenses will help small businesses develop new, innovative products.

\$15 million

Funding grants for the innovative manufacturing of active pharmaceutical ingredients and semiconductors.

\$6 million

Funding to abate, demolish and repurpose the 142-acre Jamestown Mall area into viable real estate for businesses.

\$23 million

Funding to construct a regional training facility in St. Louis County for law enforcement and fire department personnel.

\$7 million

Funding for transit assistance and public transit agencies to provide regularly scheduled and wide-ranging transit services.

\$400,000

Funding for Operation Restart/ Youth Build Works to help underserved youth, ages 18-24, obtain life skills and good jobs.

SENATOR BRIAN WILLIAMS

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**Don't forget to vote
in the upcoming elections!**

For information about the elections or to register to vote, visit the websites below.

sos.mo.gov

stlouiscountymo.gov

Helpful Resources for the 14th Senatorial District

Our state government offers a wide array of resources and services to benefit families, veterans, senior citizens and others. As your state senator, I am honored to help connect members of our community with these valuable resources. Please reach out if I can provide additional information or assistance by calling 573-751-4106 or emailing Brian.Williams@senate.mo.gov.



Official Missouri State Website

Missouri's official state website offers a clearinghouse of information regarding businesses, jobseekers, taxes, elections, road conditions and more.
mo.gov



Parents & Student Resources

Parents and students can access information about early childhood education, after-school programs, anti-bullying policies, school counseling and career options.
dese.mo.gov • 573-751-4212



Family Support Services

The Missouri Department of Social Services works in conjunction with community partners and other agencies to protect children and provide services to families.
dss.mo.gov • 855-373-4636



Veterans & Military Resources

The Missouri Veterans Commission offers a variety of resources regarding programs and services for veterans, current military service members and their families.
mvc.dps.mo.gov • 573-751-3779



Behavioral Health Resources

The Division of Behavioral Health connects individuals and families with the help they need for behavioral health, substance use, treatment and recovery support services.
dmh.mo.gov • 800-575-7480



Senior Citizens Resources

The Department of Health's Missouri Senior Legal Helpline connects older adults and their caregivers with information and resources about legal issues.
health.mo.gov • 800-235-5503