



# Deb Lavender

House of Representatives District HD-098

Democrat

Contact: (573) 751-4392

201 W Capitol Ave, Jefferson City, MO 65101



View Online

This legislator voted constitutionally on **17%** of the votes shown below.

### CPH: Estimated cost per household.

★ Pro-liberty

✗ Anti-liberty

? Did not Vote

CPH

Vote

**1. SB751 Enforcing Federal Drug Pricing Mandates** (passed 133 to 18 on 5/17/2024). Ensures pharmaceutical manufacturers comply with the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program. **Yes** ✗

**2. SJR78 Free, Fair, and Secure Elections** (passed 97 to 43 on 5/17/2024). Proposes to amend the Missouri Constitution to provide a U.S. citizenship voting requirement; specifies that all elections shall be by "paper ballot" or "mechanical methods prescribed by law;" and restricts ranked-choice voting (RCV) to only nonpartisan municipal elections in cities that had a previous ordinance in effect. **No** ✗

**3. HB2619 Ban on State-Sponsored DEI Initiatives** (passed 102 to 47 on 5/8/2024). Prohibits state departments from spending money on "diversity, equity, and inclusion" initiatives. **No** ✗

**4. SJR74 'Rule of Law' for the Missouri Constitution** (passed 102 to 49 on 4/25/2024). Would, if approved by the voters, require that any amendments to the Missouri Constitution receive a majority of votes cast both statewide and in a majority of congressional districts. **No** ✗

**5. HB2634 Prohibiting Taxpayer-Funded Abortion** (emergency clause defeated without two-thirds vote 106 to 50 on 4/24/2024). Specifies that no public funds will be expended to any abortion facility, or affiliate thereof, including Medicaid providers. **No** ✗

**6. SB727 Expanding Government-Run Education** **\$185** **No** ★ (passed 82 to 69 on 4/18/2024). Raises the minimum salary for public school teachers by 60 percent, and increases the annual refundable tax credits allocated to Missouri's ESA program from \$50 million to \$75 million.



MISSOURI LEGISLATIVE

# SCORECARD

BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Rep. Deb Lavender

Lifetime Score: 17%

MO Scorecard 2024

2024 Regular Session Score

The Legislative Scorecard is a nationwide educational program of The John Birch Society. Its purpose is to create an informed electorate on how state legislators are voting. The Scorecard is nonpartisan; it does not promote any candidate or political party. Bills are selected for their constitutional implications and cost to the taxpayers.

**Please share this Scorecard in your district to inform people about your legislator's record on key votes.**

U.S. Constitution, Amendment I --- 11 C.F.R. §114(4)(c)(4) --- 616 F.2d 45 (2d Cir. 1980)

The following scorecard lists several key votes in the Missouri General Assembly in 2024 and ranks state representatives and senators based on their fidelity to (U.S.) constitutional and limited-government principles.



### Get Alerts

Scan to view and subscribe to legislative action alerts.

### The Constitution

Learn more about the U.S. Constitution and our founding principles.



# Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

---

## 1. Enforcing Federal Drug Pricing Mandates

SB751 ensures compliance with Section 340B of the Public Health Service Act, which requires pharmaceutical manufacturers participating in Medicaid to sell drugs at discounted prices.

Medicaid, along with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is not authorized under Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution, as neither health care nor social welfare is the legitimate object of government. Government-subsidized health care or drug mandates are financed by immoral and anti-constitutional forms of taxation that violate the Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment. The General Assembly should act instead to nullify all unconstitutional federal laws and end reckless economic incentives.

## 2. Free, Fair, and Secure Elections

SJR78 proposes to amend the Missouri Constitution to provide a U.S. citizenship voting requirement; specifies that all elections shall be by “paper ballot” or “mechanical methods;” and restricts ranked-choice voting (RCV).

The American people alone retain the “right of Representation in the Legislature.” In addition, the complicated multi-round method of RCV weakens election integrity by allowing a candidate to potentially win without genuine support from a plurality of voters, causing voter disenfranchisement and potentially denying voters the ability to select the one and only candidate of their choice. Missouri should exercise its authority under the U.S. Constitution to implement free, fair, and secure elections, thereby ensuring equal protection of “the right of citizens of the United States to vote.”

## 3. Ban on State-Sponsored DEI Initiatives

HB2619 prohibits state departments from spending money on “diversity, equity, and inclusion” (DEI) initiatives.

The DEI movement promotes divisive myths and false historical narratives propagated by critical race theorists, feminists, LGBTQIA+ activists and others who wish to restrict liberty of conscience, freedom of association, and private property. Its Marxist goal is to alter or destroy the American way of life through a ‘long march through the institutions.’ It seeks to impose conformity on citizens and end all opposition to the welfare state. Justice in the hands of ‘social justice’ warriors seeking parity in every aspect of life will only lead to tyranny. Our Constitution was written to promote the “general Welfare” of all Americans by means of securing each person’s “unalienable Rights.”

## 4. 'Rule of Law' for the Missouri Constitution

SJR74 would, if approved by the voters, require that any amendments to the Missouri Constitution receive a majority of votes cast both statewide and in a majority of congressional districts.

Constitutional amendments in Missouri should not be proposed by popular initiatives subject to simple majority votes. The current threshold of only more than 50 percent of votes cast statewide is an insufficient safeguard for protecting the rights and liberties of Missourians—in every part of the state—from the “dangers of democracy” or a “tyranny of the majority.” Article IV, Section 4, of the U.S. Constitution, expressly guarantees to “every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government,” which implies government limited to the ‘rule of law,’ as opposed to mere unchecked ‘majority rule.’

## 5. Prohibiting Taxpayer-Funded Abortion

HB2634 specifies that no public funds will be expended to any abortion facility, or affiliate thereof, including Medicaid providers.

The care of human life—not its destruction—is the greatest responsibility of government. No person has a right to kill a preborn child using the pretext of “reproductive health services,” let alone tax their neighbor to pay for it. Missouri ought to not only forbid abortion entirely, upholding the sanctity of life for every person. The right to life is the most fundamental, God-given, and “unalienable” right protected by the Fifth and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

## 6. Expanding Government-Run Education

SB727, among other provisions, increases the minimum salary for public school teachers from \$25,000 to \$40,000, and expands the maximum amount of annual refundable tax credits allocated to the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program from \$50 million to \$75 million.

Education is not the role of government. A child's education is the responsibility of his or her family. Moreover, not only does this bill provide a massive and unwarranted 'pay raise' for certain public-school teachers and allow homeschool families to be further entangled with government regulations, but Missouri's ESA program involves the parents of “qualified students,” such as those with “limited English proficiency” or who are eligible for “free or reduced-price lunch,” being given “priority” distribution of government funds to pay for their child's education. Educational and economic freedom cannot be achieved by forcing other citizens to furnish their hard-earned taxpayer dollars to fund all that now entails a compulsory, failing, and government-run K-12 school system.