



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH &
SENIOR SERVICES

Synergizing Public Health, State Health Policy, and Healthcare Delivery in Missouri

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MOCEP Symposium
May 2, 2025

**I, Heidi B.
Miller, MD
have no
financial
disclosures**





Agenda Today:

Synergizing Public Health, Health Policy, and Healthcare Delivery in MO

1. Health of Missouri
2. State Govt Health Infrastructure
3. Public Health Funding
4. Public Health Ecosystem
5. Health Policy
6. Action Steps



Agenda:

1. Health of Missouri

2. State Govt Health Infrastructure

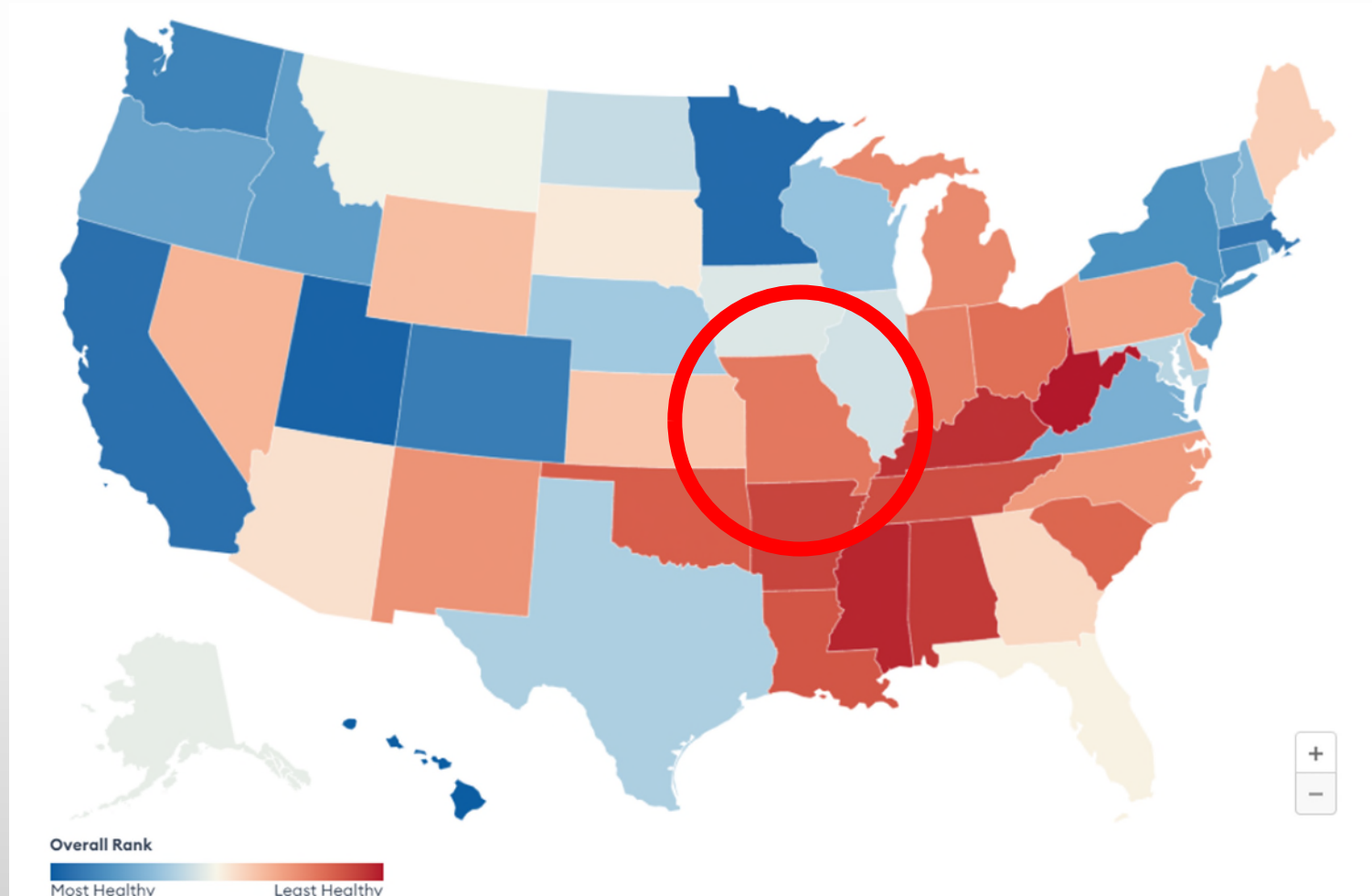
3. Public Health Funding

4. Public Health Ecosystem

5. Health Policy

6. Action Steps

Least Healthy Populations



Outcomes and Opportunities

Maternal Mortality Rate

44th

Infant Mortality Rate

27th

Cancer Mortality Rate

39th

Chronic Lower Respiratory Disease Mortality Rate

41st

Heart Disease Mortality Rate

39th

Kidney Disease Mortality Rate

48th

Overall Healthy Living

42nd

America's Health Rankings

Data compiled from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, America's Health Rankings and fellow state health departments

Life Expectancy in **MO** and **US**

Year	Missouri Life Expectancy (In Years)		U.S. Life Expectancy (In Years)
<u>2021</u>	74.6	<	76.4
2020	75.3		77.0
2019	77.4		78.8
2018	77.0		78.7
2017	77.1		78.6
2016	77.3		78.7
2015	77.3		78.7
2014	77.7		78.9
2013	77.7		78.8
2012	77.8		78.8
<u>2011</u>	77.6		78.7

MO

Life expectancy:

- dropped 3.0 years 2011-2021
- 1.8 years less than US average



Exploring This Today

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MO Executive Cabinet: 17 Departments

Governor Kehoe

Office of
Administration

Agriculture

Conservation

Corrections

Economic Development

Elementary &
Secondary Education

Health & Senior Services

Social Services

Mental Health

Public Safety

Commerce & Insurance

National Guard

Transportation

Labor and Industrial
Relations

Revenue

Higher Education &
Workforce Development

Natural Resources

What Do We Do?



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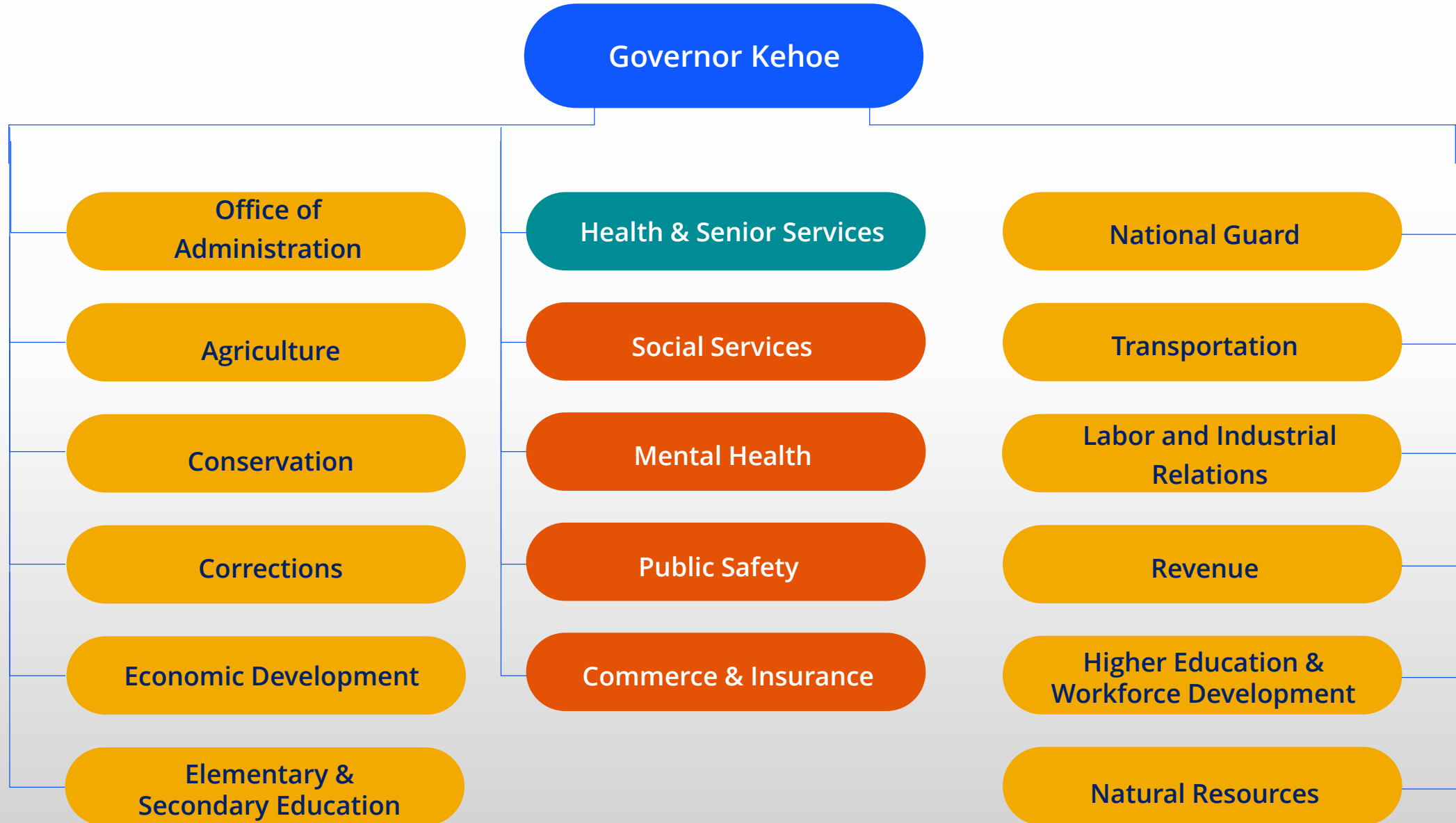
Labor and Industrial
Relations

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Higher Education &
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How Many Public Health Departments in MO?

Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services



115 Local Public Agencies in MO



Kansas City, MO
Local Public Health Agency



Butler County
Local Public Health Agency



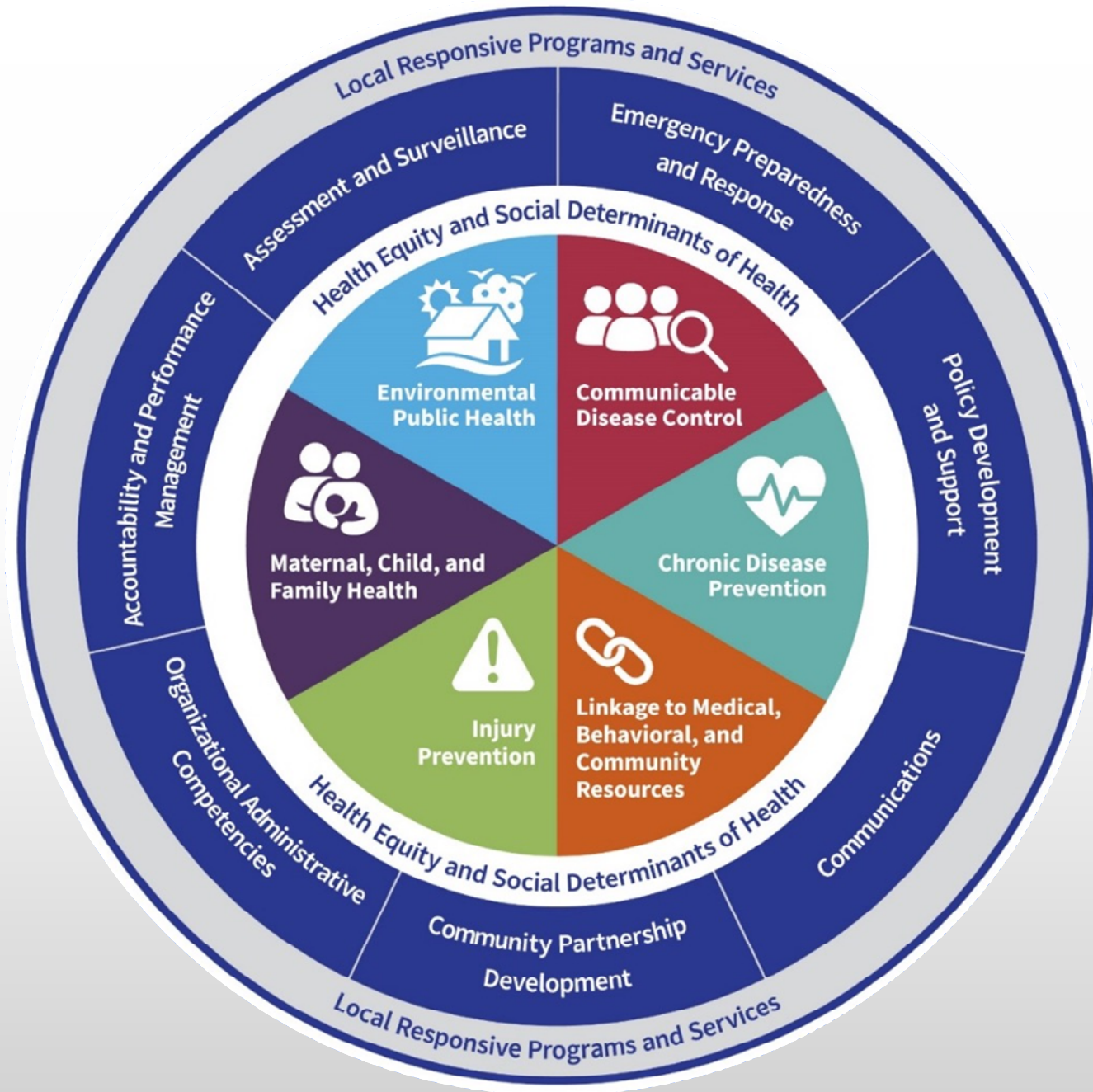
Dunklin County
Local Public Health Agency



Foundational Public Health Services:

Our Local Public Health Agencies need our support.

% unable to meet:



33%



Foundational Areas of Expertise



Foundational Capabilities

55%



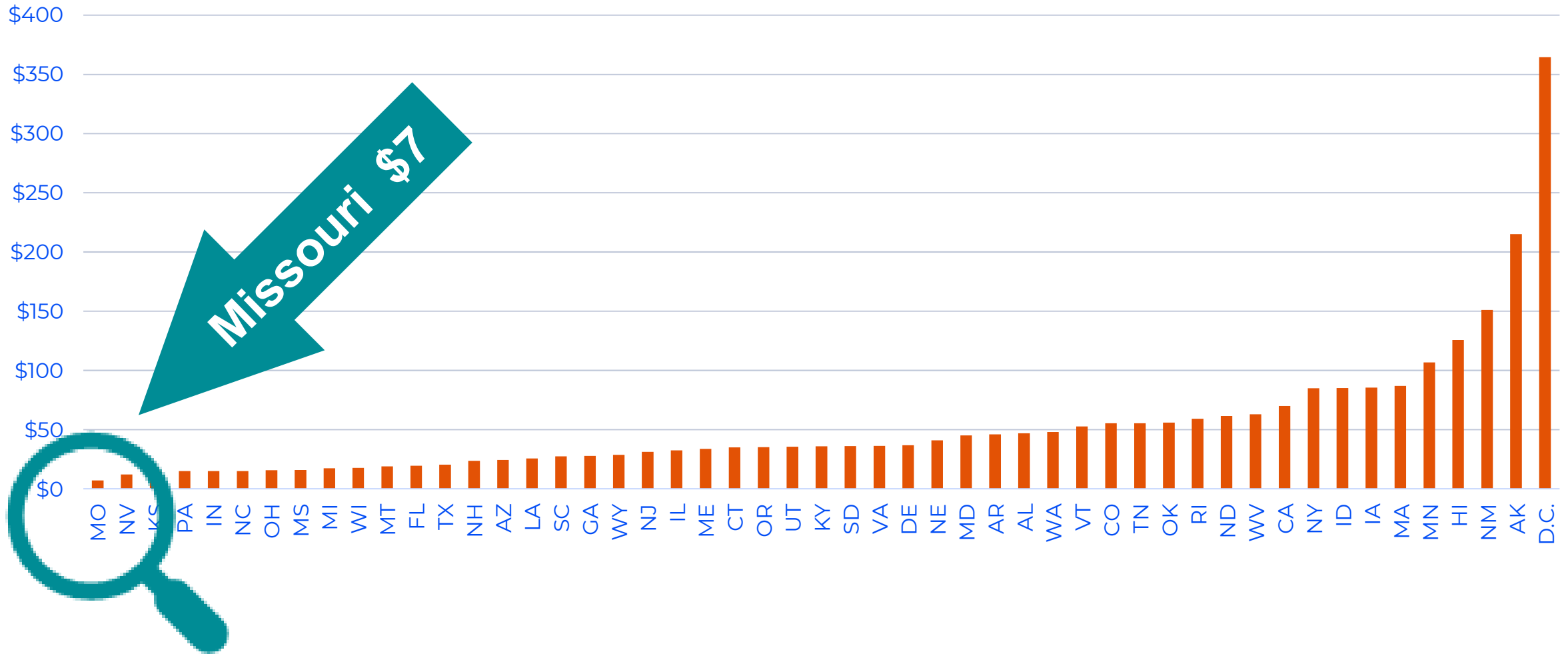
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Follow The Money



State Public Health Funding: Per Person Per Year





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Uniting Public Health with Healthcare Delivery



What is the relationship between

Healthcare and Public Health ?



**Healthcare
Delivery**

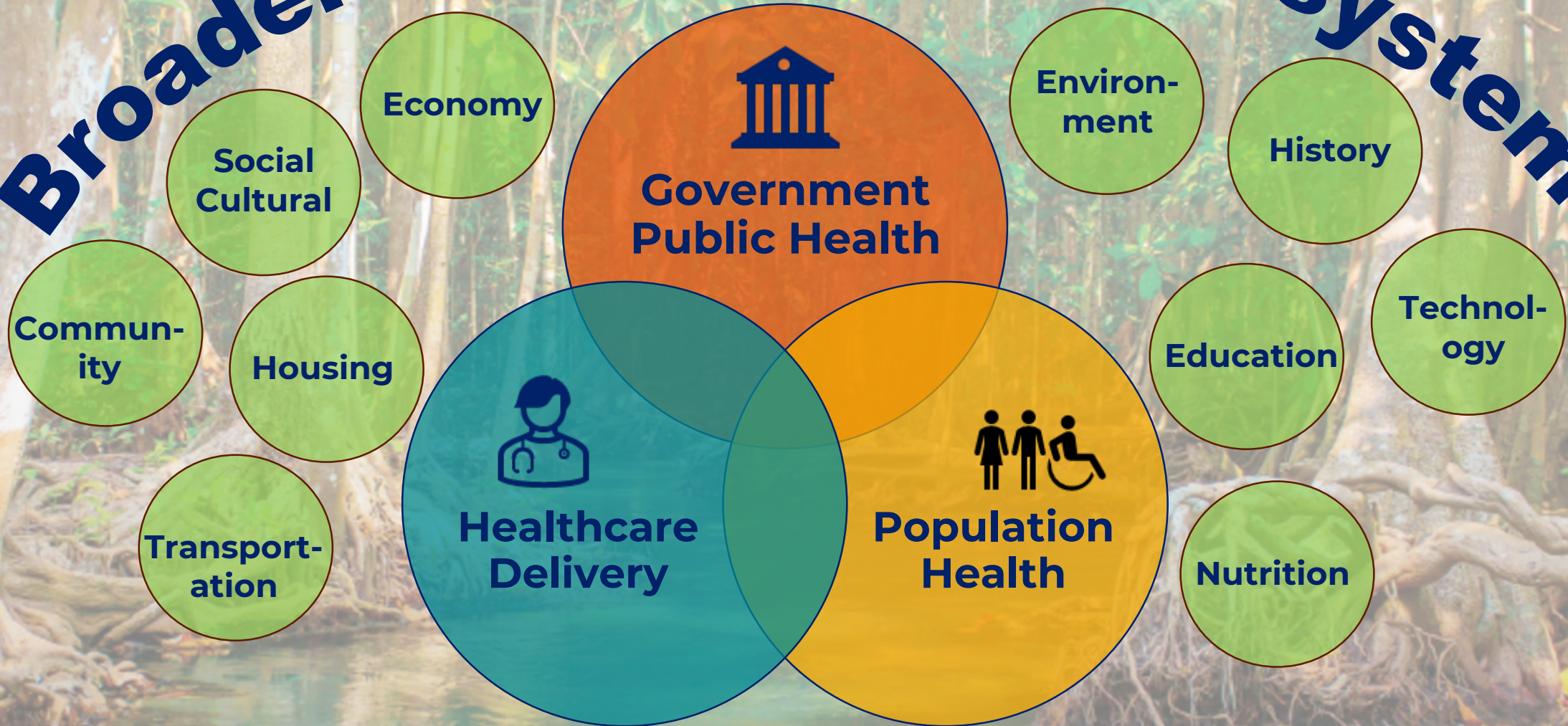


**Population
Health**



**Government
Public Health**

Broader Public Health Ecosystem





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Public Health Intersection with the Legislature

- Bills
passed
- Bills
not passed



2024 MO Legislative Session

- Bills passed



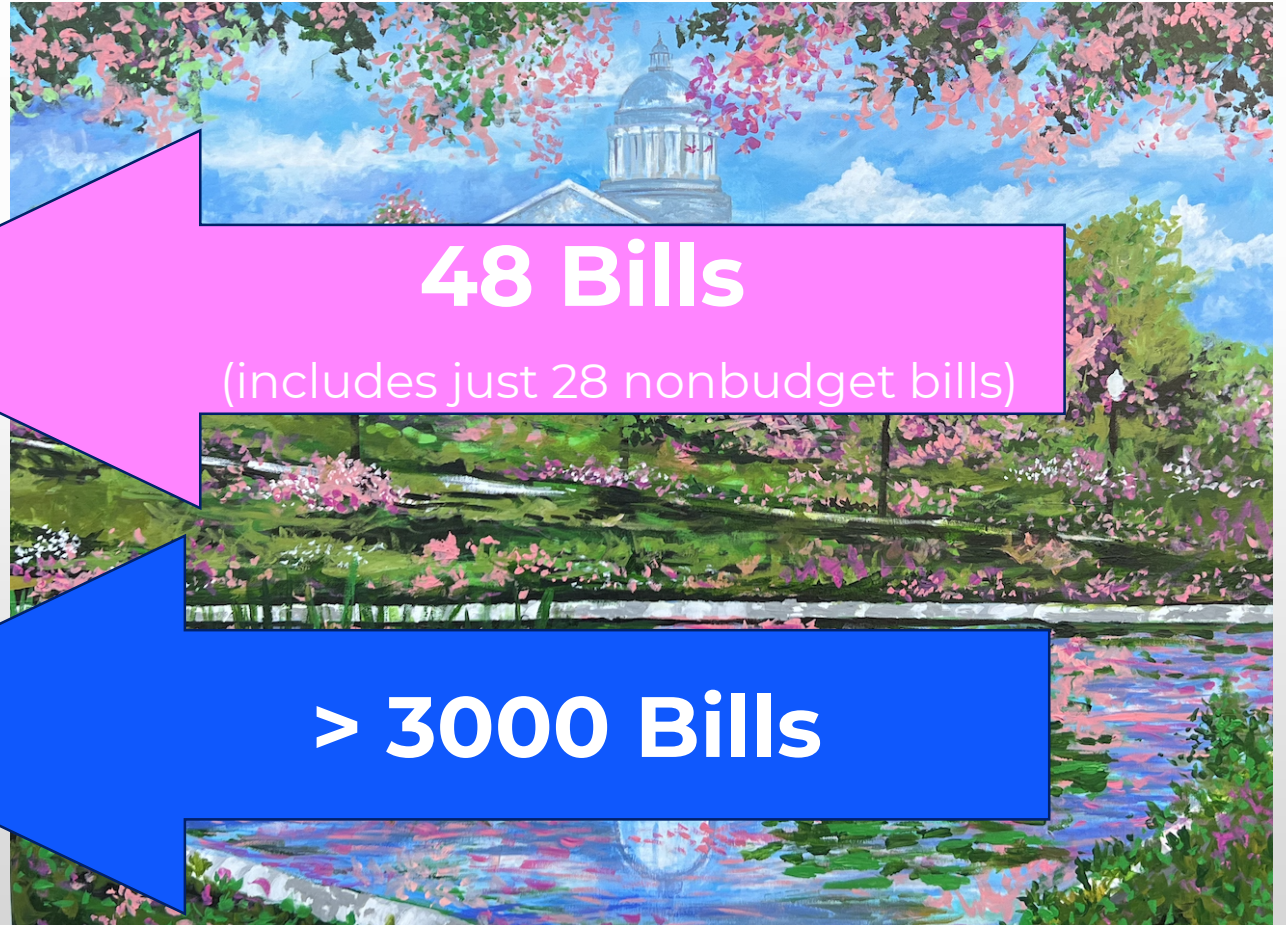
48 Bills

(includes just 28 nonbudget bills)

- Bills not passed



> 3000 Bills

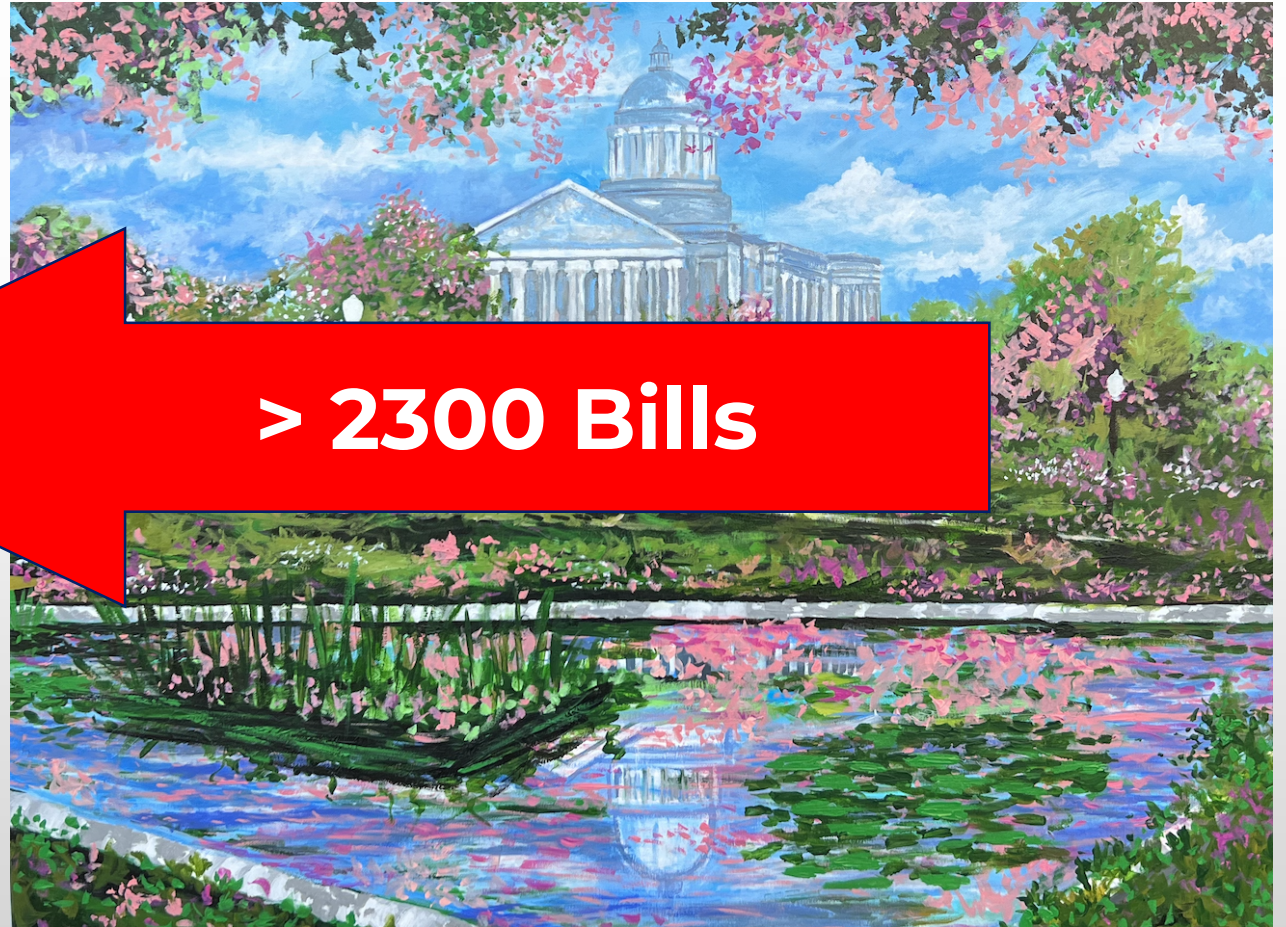


2025 MO Legislative Session

- **Bills
filed**



> 2300 Bills



How to Change Missouri Policy

1

Change State **Law**

Legislation or Constitutional Amendment by Ballot

2

Change State **Budget**

3

Write State **Regulations** for those Laws

4

Optimize State **Program** Implementation

5

Provide Data, Build Coalitions, and Contribute to Impact Non-Government **Organizations**

Vote!



Run for
Office

Identify Which Department!

Governor Kehoe

Office of
Administration

Agriculture

Conservation

Corrections

Economic Development

Elementary &
Secondary Education

Health & Senior Services

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ACTION STEP # 1: **Your Clinical Care**



YOUR CLINICAL CARE benefits

- Patients
- Families
- Communities
- MO public health

● **Examples:**

- Emergency response
- Connections to primary care
- STI testing/treatment
- Opioid reversal + maintenance therapy
- Smoking cessation, etc.
- **YOU are key to the public health continuum**
- **All clinical encounters can be TRANSACTIONAL or TRANSFORMATIONAL.**



ACTION STEP # 2:

Stay Informed



**Sign up for MO
HEALTH ALERTS
& ADVISORIES**



**Email request to:
DRMS@
health.mo.gov
Health.mo.gov**

ACTION STEP # 2:

Stay Informed



**Subscribe to
MO MEDICAID ALERTS**

mydss.mo.gov/mhd/providers

A screenshot of a web form for signing up for MO HealthNet News. The form has a white header with the 'dss Missouri Department of Social Services' logo on the left and the 'MoHealth Net' logo on the right. Below the header, the text 'Click to Sign Up for MO HealthNet News.' is displayed. Underneath is a white input field labeled 'Email Address'. At the bottom of the form is a dark blue button with the word 'SUBSCRIBE' in white capital letters. A small 'x' icon is visible in the top right corner of the form's border.

ACTION STEP # 2:

Stay Informed - Legislation



- MO Legislative Session**
- **Annual**
- **January – May**

**Track
Legislation**

Ex:

[FastDemocracy.com](https://www.fastdemocracy.com)





ACTION STEP # 2:

Stay Informed - Legislation



**Listen online to
House & Senate
Hearings**





ACTION STEP # 3: **Testify in MO**



Testify in person at House and Senate committee hearings

- **Track legislation & committee hearings**
- **Leverage Govt Relations**
 - **Your employer?**
 - **Your provider association?**



ACTION STEP # 4: **Connect w/ Legislators**



Make a personal connection with MO Reps and Senators:

- In Jeff City & local
- Your own & others
- Select from committees
- Session & Off-Session
- Invite them!
- Help them.



ACTION STEP # 5: **State Regulations**





**Comment on new
proposed regulations
[health.mo.gov/about/
proposedrules/](https://health.mo.gov/about/proposedrules/)**

**Or recommend changes
to existing regulations**

Comment on Proposed Regulations

health.mo.gov/about/proposedrules/

About DHSS

- Office of the Director
- Boards and Commissions
- Employment Opportunities
- Directory of Services 
- Department Brochure 
- ADA, FMLA and Civil Rights
- HIPAA
- Recent News and Public Notices
- Contact Information
- Nondiscrimination Notice (Translations Available)

Useful Links

- Site A-Z
- Proposed Rules**
- State Public Health Laboratory
- Local Public Health Agencies
- Birth and Death Records
- Child Care Information
- Family Care Safety Registry
- Sunshine and Records Requests

- Programs & Services
- Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs
- WIC Clinics
- Food & Drug Recalls
- Contractor Resources
- Email the Department
- Media Requests
- Employee Email Web Access

Connect With Us









Governor
Michael L. Parson



Director
Paula F. Nickelson

Comment on Proposed Regulations

health.mo.gov/about/proposedrules/

Proposed Rule	Summary	Fiscal Note(s)	Material Incorporated by Reference	Link to Missouri Register	Date Posted
19 CSR 40-10.020  Sexual Assault Forensic Exams with Telehealth Statewide Network (SAFEvT Network)	This proposed rule outlines the requirements for training and experience for the statewide telehealth network for forensic examinations of victims of sexual offenses.	Fiscal Note 	N/A	Volume 50, Number 3	January 31, 2025
19 CSR 10-4.060  Substance Use Disorder Grant Program	This proposed rule establishes guidelines for implementing the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Grant Program that will increase access to evidence-based low-barrier drug addiction treatment, support overdose prevention education, and support job placement, housing, and counseling for those with substance use disorders.	Fiscal Note 	N/A	Volume 50, Number 3	January 31, 2025
19 CSR 20-8.030  Lead Poisoning Assessment, Testing, Follow-Up, and Reporting	This proposed rule establishes criteria for the screening and follow up activities of children less than seventy-two (72) months of age for lead poisoning in Missouri.	Fiscal Note 	N/A	Volume 49, Number 21	January 31, 2025

Comment on Proposed Regulations

health.mo.gov/about/proposedrules/

*NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS: Anyone may file a statement in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Department of Health and Senior Services, Attn: Office on Women's Health, SAFEvT Network, PO Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102, or via email to SAFEvT@health.mo.gov. To be considered, comments must be received **within thirty (30) days** after publication of this notice in the **Missouri Register**. No public hearing is scheduled.*



ACTION STEP # 6: **Feedback to Programs**



Meet with program directors:

- **Attend public state gov. mtgs**
 - Ex: Missouri Oversight Committee - public comment
- **Request a meeting with program leadership**
 - Dept of Health & Senior Services
 - Dept of Mental Health
 - Dept of Social Services, etc.



ACTION STEP # 7: **Volunteer for Public Health**



Reach out to your

- **Local Public Health Agencies**
 - **Partner, Learn, Volunteer**
 - **Serve as Medical Director for one of the 115 LPHAs**
- **Local School Nurses**
 - **Standing orders – epi pens**



ACTION STEP # 8: **Support EMS**

Did you know? In MO:

- EMS: not an essential service
- Calling 911:
 - Not available in all counties
 - No requirement EMS comes
 - No requirement for paramedic
- VAST disparities in services
- Underpaid, understaffed, +SI
- EMS classified as transportation providers not clinical providers!
- Fix perverse payment incentives regarding right care/place/time

ACTION STEP # 8:

Support EMS



**Watch this
Documentary**

**“Honorable but Broken”
Amazon-prime
\$1.99**





ACTION STEP # 9: **Congenital Syphilis**



New Standard for Syphilis Testing THREE TIMES

- 1. First prenatal visit**
- 2. Third trimester**
- 3. Delivery**

**Monitor/test via
ED & other encounters**


ACTION STEP # 10: **Perinatal BH/SUD**

✓ **Register for new free
“MO Maternal Health
Access Project”**

Same-day phone
consult with
perinatal psychiatrist
for BH/SUD issues
and training prn

cfechildwellbeing.org/mhap/





ACTION STEP # 11: **Physician Workforce**

✓ **By 2026, MO will be
2000 physicians short**

New MO State GME Program

- **\$10 million**
- **Apply! health.mo.gov/GME**
- **Get on mailing list:
GME@health.mo.gov**
- **Feedback to program**

MO DHSS Funding Opportunities

\$10-million State Funds / Year

Technical Assistance

MO GME
Technical Assistance
Center

New GME

MO GME
New Program
Development

GME Expansion

MO GME
Rural Program
Expansion

MO GME
(Expanded Slots)
Grant Program

GME Feasibility

MO GME
Feasibility
Assessment

GME Curriculum

MO GME
Curriculum
Enrichment:
Rural & Addiction



**Due
5/13/25**



ACTION STEP # 12: Holistic Care

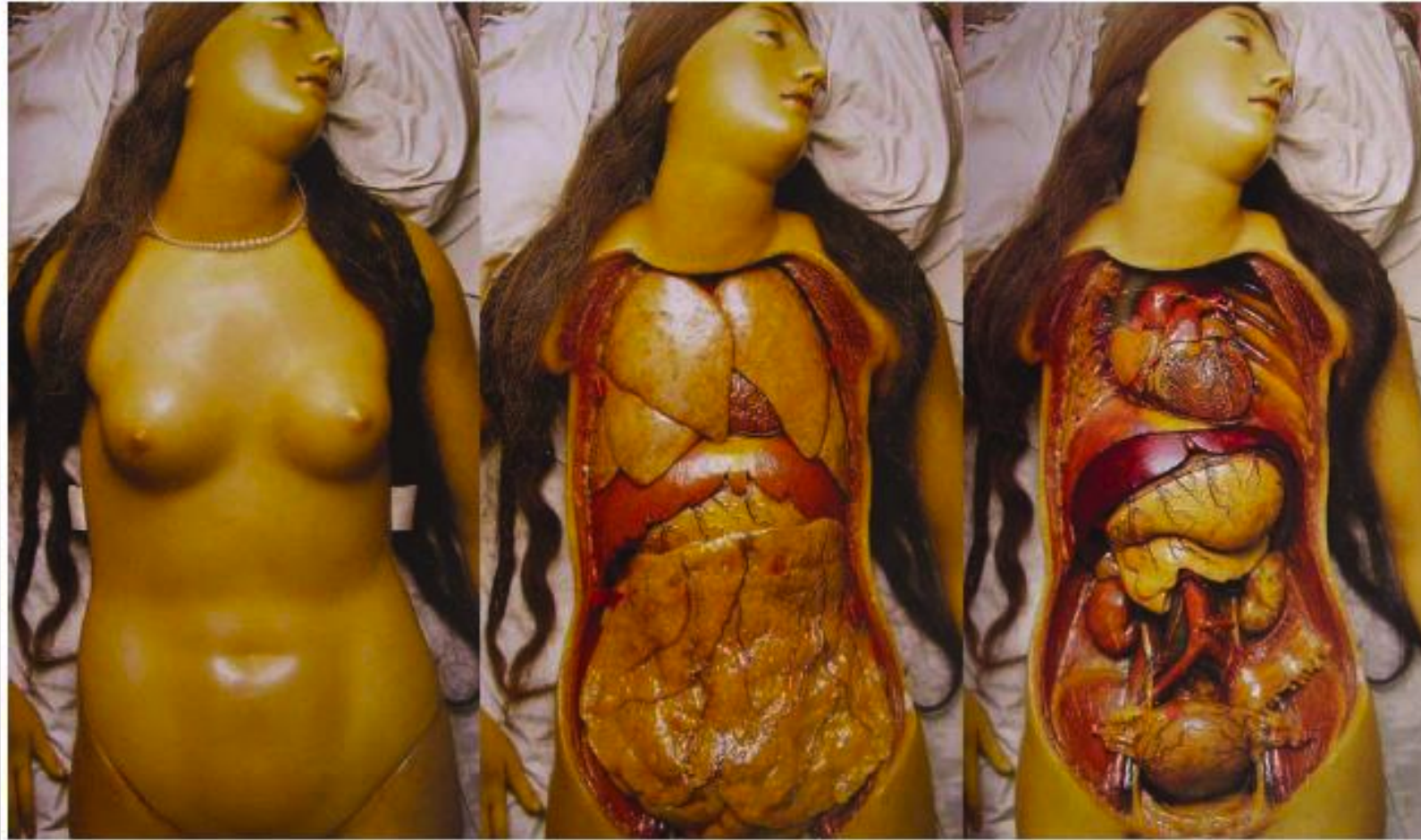


- Continue seeking systemic solutions**
 - That are not solely
 - Organ-based
 - Disease-based
 - Transaction-based
 - Whole-body, whole-person, whole-health, whole-community, public health solutions
 - Upstream & cost-effective

Focus on Whole Person Health



Focus on Whole Person Health



Focus on Whole Person Health





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**Questions?
Suggestions?
Reflections?**



Health.Mo.Gov



Heidi.Miller@health.mo.gov

Addendum:

Examples: Recent Policy Changes from the Past 2 Years

WORKFORCE

- Medical preceptor
- Loan repayment
- GME
- Doula
 - Medicaid reimbursement.
 - DHSS – training grants (Cora Faith Walker)

SUD/CANNABIS

- Fentanyl test strips. – legal and funding
- public health educ (cannabis 2.5 mill)
- SUD treatment (from cannabis dollars – scaled up)
- Fentanyl school water testing - dept of public safety
- Tobacco prev/cess increased (tob settlement funding)

COMMUNICABLE DZ

- Hep C testing, DIS, legionella

PUBLIC HEALTH

- PHIG – building capacity (disease-based → public health system/capacity → FPHS)
- DMI/informatics

FETAL INFANT MORTALITY REVIEW (FIMR)

MATERNAL HEALTH

- PQC, AIM bundles
- MMPP – MFAP
- Medicaid
 - group prenatal care
 - doula reimb.
 - incentives MCO: ex: LBW

BREAST CANCER (SMHW - no wrong door)

PRESCRIPTIONS (340B maintained)

PEDIATRICS – PPEC, Lead testing law

SENIORS

- AAA, APC, meals, ombudsman, private duty nurse rates
- Master plan on aging

BNDD

- New database coming

ARPA funds (rural hospitals, RCF, one-health lab)