

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF BRANSON'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR 2024.

WHEREAS, issues which affect the interests of the City of Branson will be considered by the Missouri General Assembly, and laws which are passed will have a direct impact on the health, safety, and well-being of all of the citizens of the City of Branson; and

WHEREAS, City staff will maintain an ongoing dialogue and regular updates with the Board of Aldermen, so that public positions stay consistent with the Board of Aldermen's intent; and

WHEREAS, new issues that arise during the legislative session may be brought to the Board for consideration to update the legislative policies; and


WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen desires to declare the City of Branson's Legislative Agenda for the year 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The Board of Aldermen hereby adopts the statement of legislative policy, attached hereto as Exhibit "1", as the official position of the City of Branson, and the Board authorizes the City to actively advocate these positions on behalf of the City of Branson to the media, the press, the members of the Missouri General Assembly and any legislative committees.


Section 2: This resolution shall be in full force and effect after its passage and approval.

ADOPTED, by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri, this 14th day of November, 2023.



Larry D. Milton
Mayor

ATTEST:



Hillary Briand
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney



2024 State Legislative Priorities

The City's 2024 state legislative priorities are as follows:

- Support the passage of legislation to remove ticket reseller loopholes in Sections 94.802 RSMo and 67.662, RSMo. so that tourism taxes are collected on the price paid or charged on an admission ticket regardless of who brokers the transaction. Currently Section 67.662 RSMo levies the tax on the amount the operator receives and Section 94.802 RSMo on the amount paid.
- Support legislation to establish and/or expand state programs and tax incentives for local development of affordable workforce housing.
- Support legislation to allocate state infrastructure funding based on economic impact instead of per capita formulas to account for tourism destinations that drive significant state tax revenue. With over 10.2 million visitors annually, the City of Branson produces a large portion of the total taxes received by the State of Missouri. As an example, one of those revenue producers is motor fuel taxes. This tax is collected by the State of Missouri and then allocated on a per capita basis. With an overwhelming majority of the taxes being paid by visitors, a per capita basis distribution benefits cities with a bias toward population, not production.
- Support amending the provisions of Section 67.1956 RSMo to ensure board of director appointments for the tourism community enhancement districts are proportionate to actual tax revenue collected by political subdivision.
- Support legislation to promote regulatory certainty and safeguard small businesses from the impact of burdensome regulations.
- Support changes to improve the health, safety and living conditions of permanent guests in lodging establishments by defining the term "extended stay" in the state lodging code. Current provisions are broad in nature.
- Support legislation to enhance programs and services for individuals in need of assistance with substance abuse and/or mental illness.
- Support legislation to reform Missouri bail restrictions, specifically for felony charges. Current law allows for felony offenders to be released without bail, unless they meet limited conditions.
- Support increased investment in local road infrastructure to improve and enhance safety, including improving bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure throughout the state.

- Support legislation to increase state funding for road trash removal and mowing, including returning to the model of using Department of Corrections inmates for state highway maintenance activities.
- Support legislation to enhance fines and respective enforcement activities in designated construction zones to ensure protection of worker safety.
- Support legislation to amend the state candidate filing period to extend by a number of pre-set days if the filing period closes on a State or Federal holiday.