



Legislative Update

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SESSION BEGINS!

The 2020 legislative session began at noon on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. The House swore in newly elected members and both chambers adopted organizing resolutions. House and Senate committee rosters are being updated and some committees will begin work next week.

MNEA'S EDUCATION PLATFORM

Students are at the center of Missouri NEA's legislative platform and advocacy. MNEA believes that every child has a basic right to attend a great public school. The Association strives to ensure that all students have the time and resources to learn, caring and qualified teachers and an education that inspires their natural curiosity and desire to learn.

MNEA also continues to lead the fight to defeat the proposals that would harm public education. The Association's legislative advocacy must ensure that legislators fulfill their commitments to stand up for children and public education during the legislative session.

REGISTER NOW TO ATTEND YOUR MNEA LEGISLATIVE FORUM!

The 2020 legislative session will begin this week, and the Association faces many policy challenges. Tax and revenue shortages, anti-worker bills, vouchers, charter school expansion, efforts to roll back ethics reforms and other problematic legislation will return for debate by legislators. The Association needs you to help build positive local relationships and shared understanding with legislators to help shape policy in ways that help all students and support educators.

Missouri NEA's regional legislative events will continue in 2020. These free events will be legislative discussion panels. As in previous years, these events provide a chance for members to build relationships with area legislators and support their understanding of MNEA priorities and education issues. Plan to attend and invite fellow members, administrators and school board members who would enjoy and benefit from a discussion regarding support for public education!

LEGISLATIVE FORUM SCHEDULE:

Kansas City Regional Legislative Forum	January 30
St. Louis Legislative Forum	February 13
Jefferson County/Southeast Legislative Forum	February 27
Mid-Missouri Legislative Forum	March 5

PLEASE REGISTER NOW for your regional MNEA Legislative Forum at
<https://www.mnea.org/Missouri/PoliticalAction/5.aspx>

Be sure to click through the "RSVP now" link for your event and then "Send RSVP" to register. For additional information contact Sandy Smith (sandy.smith@mnea.org).

CAPITOL ACTION DAYS RETURN!

MNEA Capitol Action Days will allow planned, face-to-face contact with legislators throughout the session. Capitol Action Days will generally be on Wednesdays starting in February and continuing through the end of session in May. For details and contact information, please visit: <http://www.mnea.org/Missouri/CapitolActionDays.aspx>

Your MNEA calendar includes the dates that MNEA Board of Directors members selected for your Governance District. If you are not able to attend on these designated days, feel free to contact Sandy Smith (sandy.smith@mnea.org) to arrange to attend a different Capitol Action Day. Each Capitol Action Day will start with a briefing at 10:00 a.m. to provide you with the most up-to-date information.

DOWNLOAD THE MISSOURI NEA APP!

The Missouri NEA app is an important member resource. You can download the app at the link below or search for "Missouri NEA" in the Apple App Store or Android's Google Play Store. Among other things, you can Look up or add MNEA events to your calendar, contact your legislators, read MNEA publications (including the Platform, Priorities and Position Papers) and create postcards and send them to your email and other contacts. <http://www.mnea.org/Missouri/News/Download-the-Missouri-NEA-Mobile-App-Today-413.aspx>

FINDING INFORMATION ABOUT BILLS

To find out more about legislation this session, go to: <http://www.mnea.org/Missouri/Issues-Action.aspx>

This page contains numerous links, including the Legislative Action Center, which addresses key education issues at the federal and state level. This page also contains links to legislative updates, the MNEA Legislative Platform, legislative priorities and other policy-related links.

To find information about a specific bill currently pending before the Missouri General Assembly, go to: <http://www.house.mo.gov/billcentral.aspx?pid=26>

Type the bill number (example: HB1000) or sponsor name in the "search" box to find a link to the bill. This link will take you to a "home page" for the bill that provides bill text, bill summaries, fiscal notes and information on legislative action on the bill.

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