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During the past week there has been many bills referred to committees for public hearings. Many of the bills will be coming to the floor for debate in the upcoming weeks. The bills vary from conceal carry issues, education, child care, and many more. If you are interested in following legislation you can go to house.mo.gov see what is being debated or in committee. This week the Governor gave the State of State address to indicate his priorities for the upcoming year. This week I was invited to attend the Cuba Development Group to meet with several manufacturing employers. I was very impressed with the attendance and the diversity of manufacturing in the Cuba area. There were many topics discussed, but the two main topics were, housing in the Cuba area and the lack of employees available. The regional director from the Missouri of Department of Economic Development was also in attendance to give information to the group to give them resources that are available to their businesses. The groups that were in attendance were, American Precision Die Casting, LMI Aerospace, Mar Bal, Meramec Instrument Transformer Company, Robust Farms, Versa Tags, Versatile Molding & Coating LLC, and Wieland. I look forward to working with Cuba Development Group in the future.

2024 State of the State Talking Points

During Governor Parson's tenure, Missouri has enacted three separate tax cuts, including the largest one in the state of Missouri's history, reducing Missouri's tax burden by over 20%.

Governor Parson paid down our state owed debt by \$600 million over 6 years, equaling 53% less debt since 2018 while maintaining Missouri's AAA credit rating.

Under the Governor's Administration, Missouri ranks 15th in the nation for job creation. Our state has added 110,000 jobs to our economy all while we saw the lowest unemployment rate in our state's history at 2.1%.

This year the Governor recommended \$121M to fully fund the foundation formula and an additional \$14M to help fund school transportation.

Governor Parson also is recommending increasing our teacher's salaries to \$40,000, up from the previous \$38,000 recommended two years ago.

This year the Governor recommended an additional \$54.4 million in the MOExcels Program to facilitate the development of employer-driven workforce educations and training programs in high-demand occupations at Missouri's high education institutions.

Last year Governor Parson led the charge to expand Pre-K programs in Missouri with putting dollars within the state budget. This year he is asking the General Assembly to codify these changes to ensure long lasting changes. These programs are vital to getting children in the classroom learning quicker, so that they are better equipped for a quality education.

Building on the success of last year, I want to thank the Governor for recommending increased funding for fetal and maternal mortality prevention plans. These dollars will go to provide support and address preventable deaths of babies and expectant and postpartum mothers in Missouri.

Fentanyl deaths are all too often preventable, yet they continue to wreak havoc on Missourians and their families. Today, Governor Parson recommended stricter punishments for adults who would expose children and minors to fentanyl. Child deaths from fentanyl are 100% preventable

The Governor and General Assembly has already made historic investments in improving access to broadband across the state to the tune of over \$400 million dollars. Now, thanks to former Senator Roy Blunt and Governor Parson's administration, we can continue working towards connecting everyone Missourian with the \$1.7 billion dollars coming into our state.



I enjoyed a recent meeting with members of the Cuba Business Development Group



Missouri Governor Mike Parson delivered his sixth and final State of the State address in the Missouri House Chambers on Wednesday, January 24. Expressing gratitude to members of the Missouri House, Senate, and his cabinet, Governor Parson thanked the legislature for their collaborative efforts in enacting impactful policies across diverse topics, all aimed at enhancing the well-being of Missouri.

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