

Missouri's Constitution & State Government



The capital city of Missouri is Jefferson City.

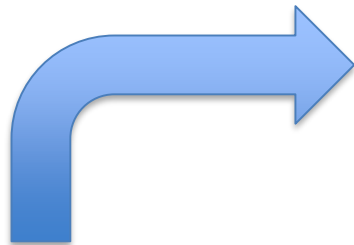
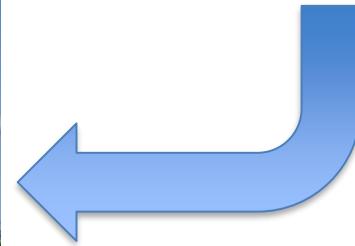


Missouri's capitol building





**Capitol of
Missouri**



**Capitol of the
United States**



capital / capitol



- The **capital** is the **city** where a government is located.



- The **capitol** is the **building** where a government does its work.

The Missouri Constitution

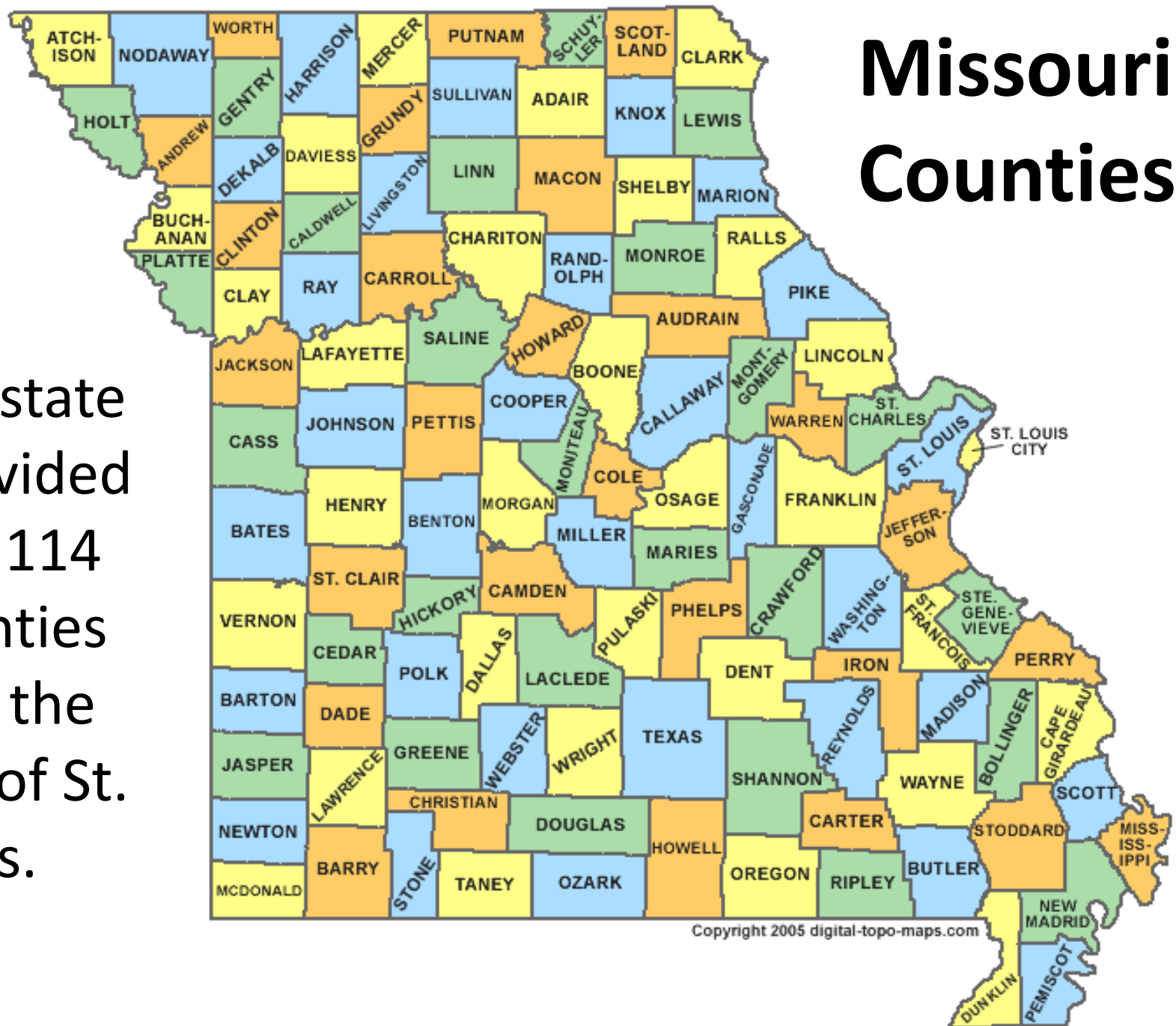
- The Missouri Constitution is the document that organizes the government and laws in the state of Missouri.
- Missouri has had **FOUR state constitutions**.
 - The current state constitution was adopted in 1945.
- The Missouri constitution establishes a state government with three branches that is similar to the federal government.

Three Branches of Missouri Government

- The legislative branch is the Missouri General Assembly, including the state house of representatives and the state senate.
- The executive branch is headed by Governor of Missouri.
- The Judicial branch is the Supreme Court of Missouri and the Missouri state courts.

Missouri Counties

The state
is divided
into 114
counties
plus the
city of St.
Louis.



Power in State Government

Powers which are NOT given to the national government are reserved for the states.

■ **Reserved Powers:**

state governments and the people hold powers neither given to the Federal government nor prohibited to the states

■ **Police Power:** The principal state power--gives each state authority to provide for the **health, morals, safety and welfare** of its people.

- Using its **Police Power** a state can regulate
- **Health**
 - Marijuana laws
- **Safety**
 - Speed Limits
- **Morals**
 - Liquor laws
- **Welfare**
 - Outlaw child labor

How Is the Missouri Constitution Organized?



Some of the many official symbols of Missouri:

Missouri Flag



The mule is the state animal.



The official exercise of the state is the jumping jack and was invented by Army General Pershing from Missouri.



ARTICLE I BILL OF RIGHTS



Popular Sovereignty = the people have power

CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

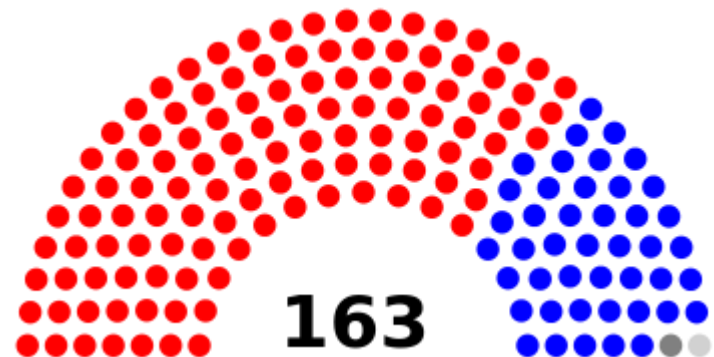
Bill of Rights

In order to assert our rights, acknowledge our duties, and proclaim the principles on which our government is founded, we declare:

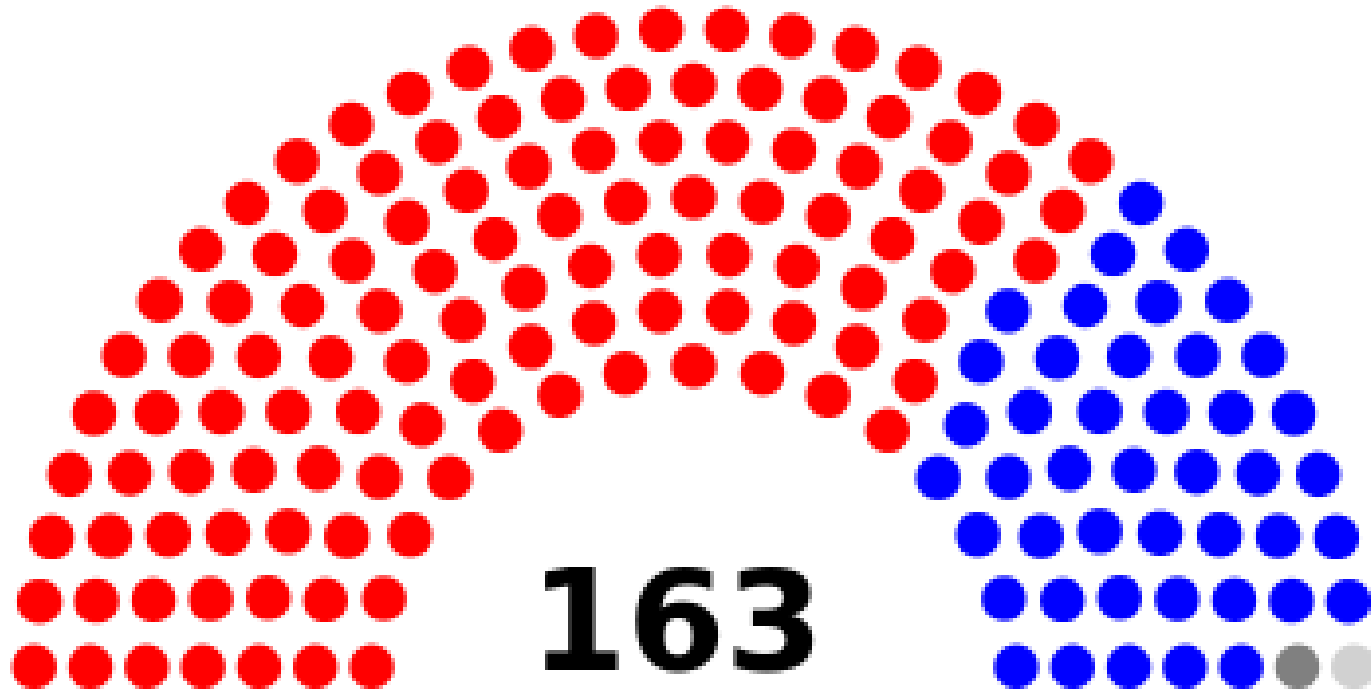
Sec. 1. That all political **power is vested in and derived from the people**; that all government of right originates from the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole.

The General Assembly

- **Consists of Two Chambers**
 - **House of Representatives**
 - 163 Members
 - **Senate**
 - 34 Members
 - **General Assembly meets on the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January following each general election.**
 - **Sessions typically last till May.**
 - **3/4 of the members of both houses may vote to convene the General Assembly in special session.**



The Missouri House of Representatives
has 163 members.



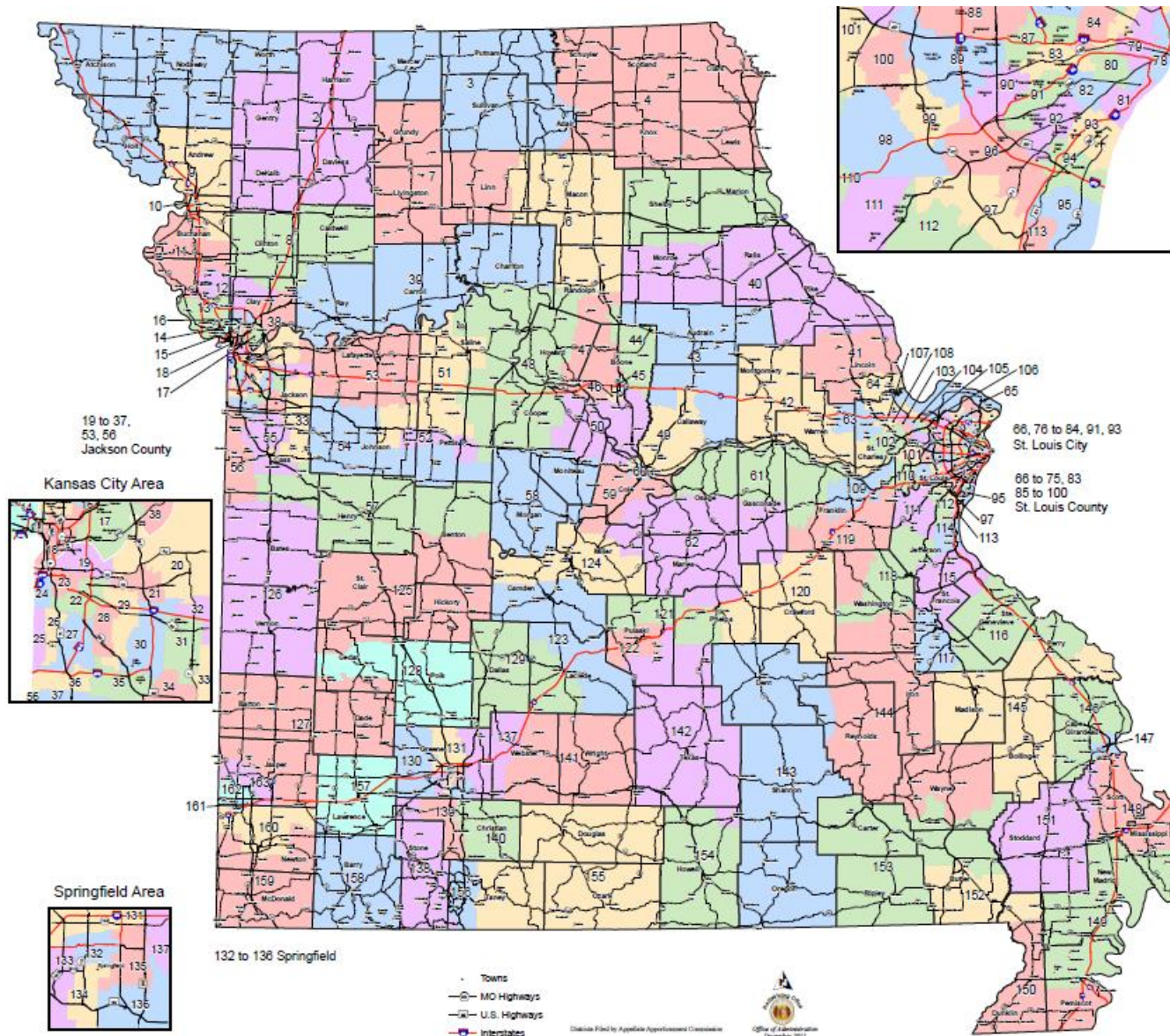
Red = Republican

Blue = Democrat

House of Representatives

- 163 members
- Members must be
 - 24 years of age
 - Voter for 2 years
 - Dist. resident for 1 year
- Serve a 2 year term
- 8 year term limit

Missouri House of Representatives Districts



Missouri State Senate

- 34 members
- Members must be
 - 30 years of age
 - Voter for 3 years
 - Resident for 1 year
- Serve a 4 year term
- 8 year term limit



How Bills Are Passed

- The process of passing bills into laws in the state is similar to the process used in the national government.

Initiative and Referendum

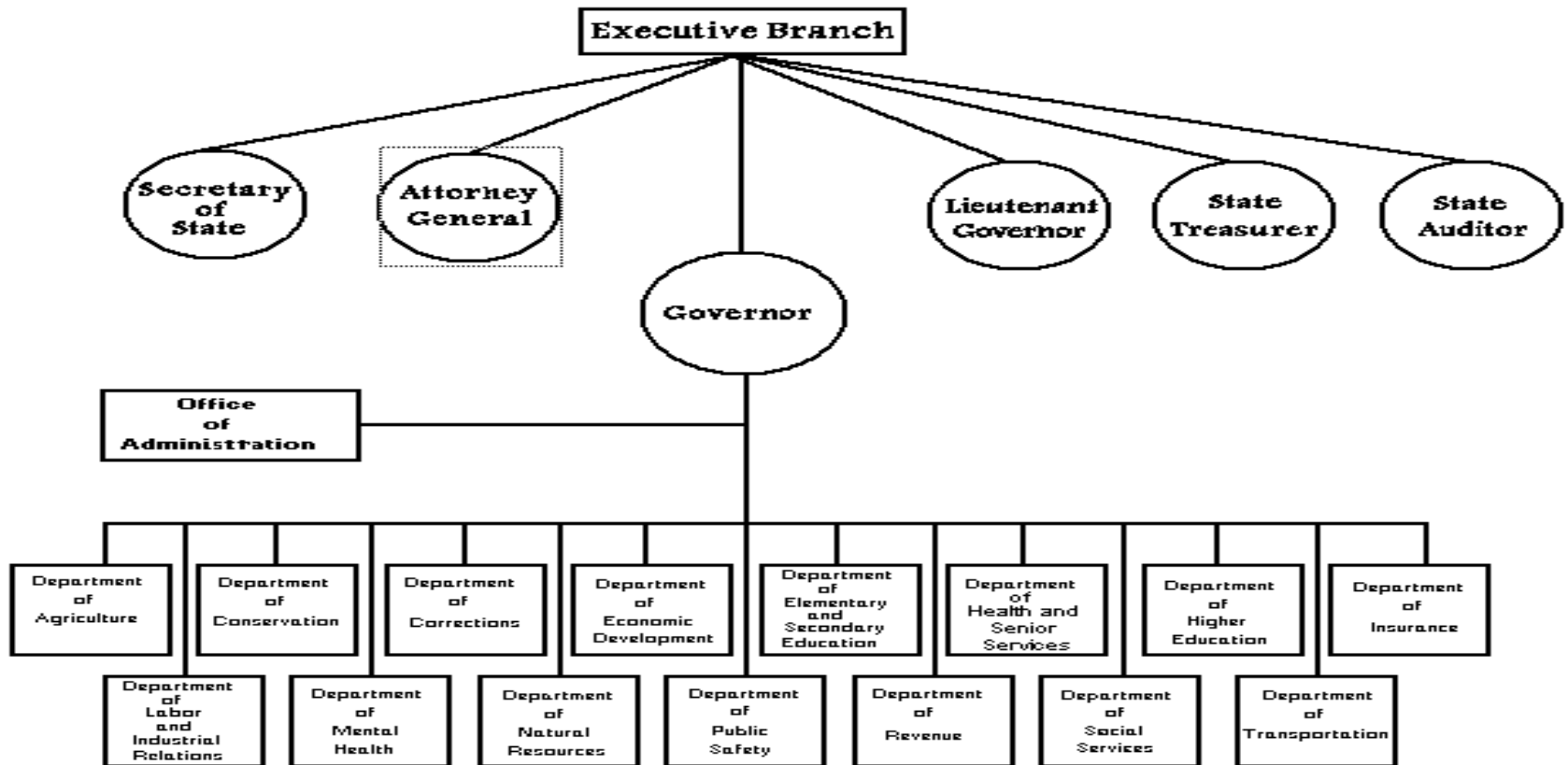
- **Initiative**

- By using the initiative process, the people of Missouri can pass/add new laws, even without the lawmakers in the State Assembly.

- **Referendum**

- By using the referendum process, the people of Missouri can block new laws from going into effect.

MISSOURI STATE GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION CHART



Executive Branch

- Governor
 - Has state's *supreme executive power*
 - Appoints department heads with Senate approval
 - Qualifications
 - At least **30 years of age**
 - **Citizen** of the U.S. for at least **15 years**
 - **Resident** of Missouri for at least **10 years**
 - Can't serve more than **two terms**.



Missouri Governor
Mike Parson

Governor's Powers

- **Commander in chief** of our national guard
 - But not when it is called into the service of the U.S.
 - May call it out to execute the laws, suppress insurrections, and repel invasion.
- Judicial powers
 - Can grant:
 - **Reprieves, commutations** and **pardons** (but not parole) for all offenses except treason and in cases of impeachment.
 - Can **appoint** all appellate judges and some lower judges.

Governor's Powers cont.

- Legislative Powers
 - Gives General Assembly information about the state of the government and makes recommendations.
 - Spending Recommendations = **Balanced Budget**
 - On extraordinary occasions can convene the General Assembly
 - Must state specifically each matter on which action is deemed necessary.

President and Governor

President of the USA



Governor of a state



The job of being Governor of a state is similar to the job of president.

Executive Departments

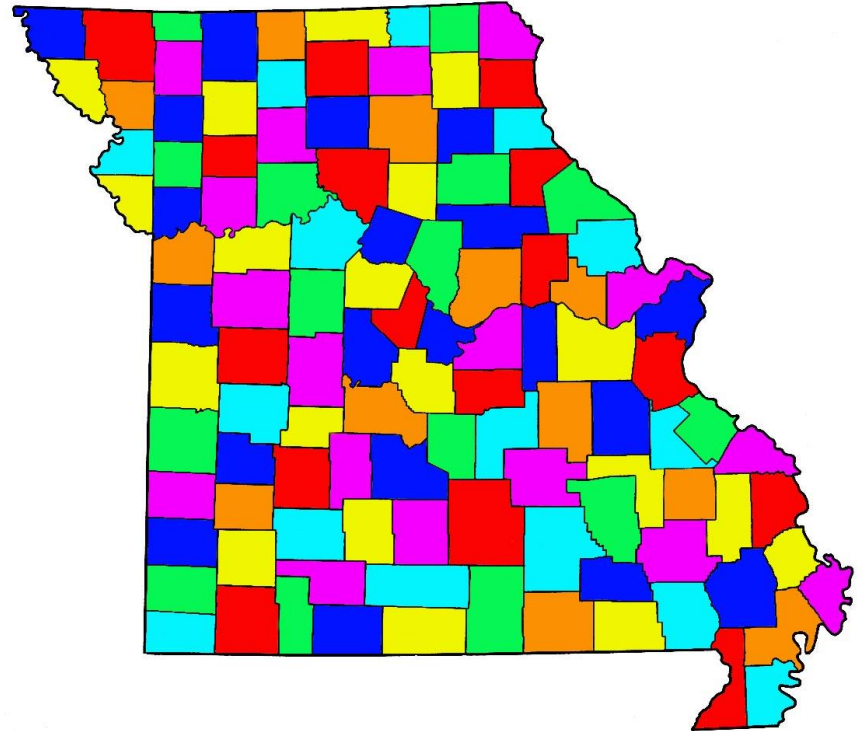
- Revenue
- Highways and Transportation
- Agriculture
- Economic Development
- Insurance
- **Social Services**
- Mental Health
- Conservation

Governor Appoints
Department Heads with
Senate Approval

- Natural Resources
- Public Safety
- Labor and Industrial Relations
- Office of Administration
- **Elementary & Secondary Education**
- **Higher Education**
- Corrections
- **Health & Senior Services**

Other Executive Branch Officials

- Lieutenant Governor
- Secretary of State
- State Auditor
- State Treasurer
- Attorney General



What do they do?

- **Lieutenant Governor**

- **Same qualifications** as the governor
- **President** *Ex Officio* of the **Senate***.
- May debate all questions in Senate
- Votes to **break ties** in the Senate
- **Acts acts Governor** during absences

*Not the most powerful member of Senate, however.



Lieutenant Governor
Mike Kehoe

Order of Succession

- If the Governor dies, is convicted, impeached or resigns, then
 - the **Lieutenant Governor** shall become governor for the remainder of the term.

State Auditor

- Official Duties



State Auditor
Nicole Galloway

- Tax Payers' **Watchdog**
- Establishes systems of **accounting** for all public officials of the state
- **Inspect the finances of all state agencies, boards, and official groups.**
- **Audit the Treasury at least once annually**
- Make all other audits and investigations required by law (county and city audits).

Secretary of State

- Official Duties
 - **In charge of elections**
 - **Custodian** of the **Seal** of the State
 - Keeps a **register** of official acts of the Governor.
 - **Maintains records of corporations and businesses registered in Missouri**



Missouri Secretary of State
Joh R. Ashcroft

State Treasurer

- Official Duties
 - **Manages the state's money.**
 - **Custodian** of all state funds and funds received from the US government.
 - Manages the [Unclaimed Property Fund](#)



Missouri State Treasurer
Scott Fitzpatrick

Attorney General

- State's **Chief Legal Officer**
 - **Acts as attorney for the state** and its agencies
 - Represents Missouri in all **criminal appeals**
 - Protects against **consumer fraud**
 - **Must be an attorney** and reside in Jefferson City while in office
 - **An attorney is a lawyer.**

Missouri Attorney
Eric Schmitt

