

THREE KEY BILLS

Passed By Missouri Lawmakers In 2023



A. Josiah Longenecker, CFP®
Financial Advisor, RJFS

Each year, Missouri's General Assembly meets from January to May to discuss legislative action for our state. The team is comprised of the elected state Senate and House of Representatives, and their goal is to pass bills that will enhance the well-being of Missouri residents. Once bills are passed, they must be signed by the Governor to become law. This year, three key bills have been passed that may have a profound impact on you, your family, and your fellow Missourians.

1. ELIMINATION OF STATE TAX ON SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Currently, Missouri is one of only eleven states that imposes a state tax on resident's Social Security benefits. The tax applies to single filers with over \$85,000 in income and joint filers earning over \$100,000. The new bill – pending signature from Governor Parson – would exempt all Missourians from the tax regardless of income. If passed and implemented in 2024 as anticipated, the new law would result in an estimated \$319 million in annual tax savings for the people of Missouri.

2. PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS

Another bill offering tax relief for our seniors focuses on ending property tax rate *increases* for primary residents aged 65 and older. If signed, the act would give each county the option of adopting the policy by way of vote. In the counties that do adopt the law, the tax savings would be realized in the form of a credit to eligible senior residents.

3. INCREASED BUDGET FOR EDUCATION AND TRANSPORTATION

The legislative action also includes the passage of an increased budget due to the significant surplus of cash the state has brought in. For the education system, the excess funds will be used to increase the pay of teachers and expand classes for pre-k children. The increased budget also includes the approval of a \$2.8 billion Interstate 70 expansion project. Once complete, I-70 will have been expanded to three lanes in each direction from St. Louis to Kansas City.

Remember, Governor Parson will still need to sign these bills before they become law in Missouri, but we know you may be wondering how these changes could affect your unique circumstances. If you're receiving Social Security benefits, you're a senior homeowner, or if you have specific questions or concerns, we suggest speaking with a tax advisor to determine if any of these potential new tax laws will influence your strategy. At Mission Financial, we strive to help keep you informed and educated on events that can impact your financial goals, and we're dedicated to partnering with your tax advisor to implement the best strategies for you.



MISSION FINANCIAL

4045 N ST. PETERS PARKWAY | SUITE 206 | ST. PETERS, MO 63304 | 636-224-3480

www.raymondjames.com/missionfinancial



@MissionFinancialSTL



URL: [company/missionfinancial](https://www.linkedin.com/company/missionfinancial)



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Sources:

Missouri House of Representatives Bill Tracking

house.mo.gov

St. Louis Public Radio

6 big takeaways from a contentious 2023 Missouri legislative session, by Jason Rosenbaum & Sarah Kellogg

Missouri legislature passes bill that eliminates state tax on Social Security, by Sarah Kellogg

Spectrum News

St. Louis County Councilman says Governor Parson will sign property tax bill, by Gregg Palermo

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