



During a recession, the state of Missouri, like families,  
needs to find ways to save money

**The Missouri Association for Social Welfare-  
Criminal Justice Task Force**  
presents these great money saving tips...

**Vote YES for...**



## **SB 613: Modifies Food Stamp Benefits**

Passing SB 613 lifts the optional ban placed on individuals with a past drug felony from being eligible for Food Stamps. Thirty-six states have already lifted or modified this ban and are receiving the Federal Food Stamp Dollars that Missouri is paying through our Federal Taxes.

- Passage of SB 613 will potentially bring **32,902,634** additional federal dollars into Missouri the first year.
- This money will be infused into our local economy through payments to grocery stores and farmers.

## **HB 1757: Long Term Sentencing Reform**

Passing HB 1757 allows the Board of Probation and Parole to periodically review certain convicted offenders serving sentences of 50 years to life without the possibility of parole.

- There are 1,893 people who fall into this category in Missouri prisons- costing the state approximately \$16,000 per inmate per year.
- If  $\frac{1}{4}$  of these inmates meet the strict criteria (have only one felony on their lifetime record, have already served 15 years and have an excellent record within the institution) and are released into residential supervision and then into regular supervision Missouri, could save **\$5,985,000** in the first year.

**Vote NO for...**



## **SB 602, SB 607, SB 615 and SB 725: TANF Drug Testing**

Passing SB 602, SB 607, SB 615 or SB 725 requires the Dept. of Social Services to drug test TANF recipients when a case worker believes a person partakes in the use of illegal substances.

- The state testing individuals for drug use costs an abundant amount of money. The fiscal note attached to this bill indicates that it would cost Missouri anywhere from 5 to 10.5 million dollars per year to run this program.
- Social service workers are not trained about drug side effects. This gives too much personal discretion to social service workers about whether or not to drug test a person.
- Parole officers have been cutting back on drug testing because they can manage drug users in their case load in appropriate, less costly ways.

## **SB 857: Modifies Crime Provision**

Passing SB 857 would require any person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a felony on or after August 28, 2009, to serve a minimum prison term of eighty-five percent of his or her sentence.

- The State is paying over \$16,000 per year to house each non-violent offender. If this bill is passed, the state will pay more to keep these individuals in our prisons for longer periods of time.
- It is much cheaper to have non-violent offenders stay in their communities under supervision. This way, they can work to repay what they owe. It costs \$45.02 per inmate per day in prison, while the cost of regular supervision is \$2.47 per day and electronic monitoring is \$2.37 per day.
- If passes, the bill will remove discretion from judges and parole officers who can determine—on a case by case basis—if a non-violent offender will rehabilitate through treatment and/or probation.