



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 402		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 2:02 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in Opposition to this Bill. There should be NO secrets of where the winning are going and who is claiming the prize. This is public information!



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DOUG CREWS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-881-5272	
REPRESENTING: LATHROP GPM, MISSOURI PRESS ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 2519 BASSWOOD CT			
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65203
EMAIL: rdcrews@socket.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2021 2:36 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The Missouri Press Association does not support closing the names of all Missouri State Lottery winners. Why Lottery winners' names should be open to the public: Keeping names of Lottery winners open promotes transparency and a feeling of fairness in the operation of The Missouri Lottery. Publicizing the winners' names is good for the entire Lottery system. Revealing Lottery winners' names builds trust and excitement, which drives ticket sales. And ticket sales in Missouri help fund Education. Lottery winners' names open to the public make it easier to uncover scams. For instance, Iowa Lottery rules require winners to identify themselves, which helped to foil a 2010 national scheme, according to multiple lottery officials and investigators. An employee of the Multi-State Lottery Association was found guilty of hijacking the association's random generation system for Lottery numbers by secretly adding a software code that allowed him to predict the winning numbers. He bought a "winning" ticket at an Iowa convenience store. Iowa law does not award the winnings without the winner's identity. Consequently, the scammer was found guilty of trying to win millions of Lottery dollars. He now is serving a 25-year prison sentence. In Missouri, a Lottery winner has 180 days to come forward to claim his or her prize. During that time, the winner could prepare for the big change in his or her life. The winner's name and hometown are considered public information. As the Missouri Lottery notes, not only is this information public by law, publicizing it is necessary to ensure the integrity of the Lottery's games. If players were never provided with actual names, they may not believe the games are real or fair. There are options in some states' laws to keep winners' names of larger jackpots anonymous: Arizona allows winners of Lottery jackpots of \$100,000 or more to request their names not be made public. In Georgia, the Lottery shall keep all information regarding the winner of awards of \$250,000 or greater confidential upon the prize winner making a written request that his or her information be kept confidential. In Texas, a winner of a Lottery prize of \$1 million or more may elect to remain anonymous. In some states, like New York, Ohio, Colorado, Vermont, Connecticut, and Massachusetts, a winner can create a trust or an LLC and claim the Lottery jackpot in the organization's name. In Arizona, winners of \$600 or more can stay anonymous for 90 days after collecting their money. So, there are options the Missouri General Assembly can take to keep winners of large Lottery jackpots anonymous, while keeping in tact the overall transparency of The Missouri Lottery and its operation. The Missouri Press Association does not support this bill as filed and seeks to work with the sponsor.