Representative Ed Lewis

District 6

Legislative Biography



MO Rep. Ed Lewis is a Representative in the Missouri General Assembly who represents the 6th district and received 78.5% of the vote in his last election. He is the Chair of the MO Elementary And Secondary committee, and a member of the Budget, Education, and Utilities committees.

He works most frequently on Education (41 bills), Health (35 bills), Economics and Public Finance (30 bills), Law (27 bills), and Crime and Law Enforcement (23 bills). He has sponsored 54 bills in his last four year(s) in office, voting with his party 57.7% of the time, getting 22.22% of his bills out of committee, and 1.85% of his sponsored bills enacted.

Before entering politics, Rep. Lewis was involved in education. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Missouri and a graduate degree from Pittsburg State University (KS).

About

Assumed Office - 2020 Next Election - 2024 Residence - Savanah, MO Term - 3rd term

Previous Experience

Former Chemistry and Physics Teacher

[Quorum Biography, Accessed 2/18/2025]

Other

Ed Lewis sponsored legislation to make it harder to amend the Missouri Constitution by initiative petition. Lewis sponsored HJR 76, which would require a majority of votes statewide and in more than half of the congressional districts to take effect, and HJR 72 would prohibit foreign governments and political parties from sponsoring, funding, or making contributions related to initiative petitions and require majority approval both statewide and in a majority of congressional

districts. Missouri's ballot initiative process is already grueling, requiring petitioners to collect more than 171,000 signatures from registered voters in six of Missouri's eight congressional districts by May. The path to successfully landing an initiative on the ballot usually costs millions of dollars and months of litigation. "To change the constitution of the state of Missouri, there should be broad support statewide, and I would submit broad geographic support," Lewis told his colleagues during a hearing in the house's elections and elected officials committee. Neither bill passed after GOP senators engaged in public vitriol against each other. [Missouri Independent, 1/23/2024; STLPR, 5/16/2024]

Ed Lewis sponsored legislation to bar public officials from prohibiting religious gatherings post-COVID pandemic. Lewis co-sponsored HB 75, preventing the government from limiting or interrupting religious services, even in emergencies. The so-called Missouri Religious Freedom Protection Act was inspired by lockdowns during the pandemic in which large public gatherings were prohibited to stem the spread of COVID-19. The bill has passed the House. [KZRG, <u>2/17/2025</u>; KCUR, <u>2/14/2024</u>]

Ed Lewis sponsored legislation to refuse the COVID-19 vaccine. Lewis sponsored HB 1686, which would have created provisions relating to the right to refuse the COVID-19 vaccine and medical treatment. Introduced in 2022, the bill would prohibit public bodies, political subdivisions, public school districts, state departments or agencies, public officials, peace officers, and gubernatorial appointees from mandating COVID-19 vaccinations, conditioning rights or services on vaccination status, or imposing penalties based on vaccination status. The bill passed both chambers but died. [Quorum, accessed 2/19/2025]