Representative Justin Sparks

District 110

Legislative Biography



MO Rep. Justin Sparks is a Representative in the Missouri General Assembly who represents the 110th district and received 62.7% of the vote in his last election. He is a member of the Crime Prevention And Public Safety and Judiciary committees.

He works most frequently on Crime and Law Enforcement (35 bills), Health (27 bills), Law (21 bills), Education (12 bills), and Taxation (11 bills). He has sponsored 42 bills in his last two year(s) in office, voting with his party 78.0% of the time, getting 7.14% of his bills out of committee, and 0.0% of his sponsored bills enacted.

<u>About</u>

Assumed Office - 2022 Next Election - 2026 Residence - St. Louis, MO Term - 2nd term

Previous Experience

St. Louis County Police Department Deputized United States Marshal, Eastern District of Missouri

[Quorum Biography, <u>Accessed 2/10/2025</u>]

Other

In a bizarre podcast interview, Justin Sparks described how his children keep him "honorable" by keeping him from cheating on his wife or looking at pornography. In the same interview, he lamented the outfits "girls" wear to gyms and describes in detail how he looks at the ceiling to prevent him from staring.

<u>Representative Justin Sparks</u>: They require you to be a better man. They require you to be honorable...not cheat on your wife. For me, it's my boys, my five boys; if I'm going to tell them not to look at pornography, then I better not look at pornography myself.

<u>Interviewer:</u> And I think if we started thinking in those terms more, we would see a lot less problems like, you know, at the gym. There's, there's young gals that come by, but the minute I see them, you know what I'm thinking? I know that could be one of my daughters. I know. I mean, I've got daughters that are that age, you know what I'm thinking? I wouldn't want my daughters dressed like that. I wouldn't want men gawking like that.

Representative Justin Sparks: No kidding!

<u>Interviewer:</u> It's like, and now you don't think about it from a sexual point of view. I actually think about it from the opposite. Like I'm almost feeling sorry for their parents and for them for having to feel the need to be that way to get that attention.

<u>Representative Justin Sparks</u>: And what they dress now. It's not even like they're just dressed in workout clothes. It's ridiculous. Some of the stuff that the gals are wearing. And, and it's funny because you can see that the guys that are just there for that reason, not even there for any other reason other than to look at the girls. And then, and then you see the guys like, like what I do, a gal's going to come. I'm going to look at the trusses in the ceiling today, you know, or I'm going to look over, But we're at the opposite side of the gym. There's nothing over there. But I know that what's not over there is some gal in ridiculous clothes. It's going to be exactly in front of me. That's not why we're at the gym anyway. It's not why you should be at the gym. [X, 3/7/2024]

Justin Sparks called a press conference outside of a local gym to argue against a

trans-woman's use of the facilities. According to First Alert 4, "In response to complaints from constituents, Rep. Justin Sparks (R-Wildwood) called a press conference to call for an investigation into the fitness center, Life Time. 'We've decided to take a stand and ensure that the safety of our community comes first,' Sparks said. Sparks also said that he did not believe Missouri should allow trans people to change the gender printed on their driver's license and called the process 'inappropriate.'" [First Alert 4, <u>8/2/2024</u>]

After the incident, Sparks filed legislation to limit gender-marker changes only to those that match the sex assigned at birth. According to the Missouri Independent, "Rep. Justin Sparks, a Republican from Wildwood, proposed a more restrictive policy in a bill that limits gender-marker changes only to those that match the sex assigned at birth. The bill has a caveat that those with sex-development disorders who may have been incorrectly assigned a gender designation may still change their marker. The bill would prohibit changes on licenses for any 'factor other than evidence demonstrating the person's biological sex.' Sparks' bill would also remove a provision that currently allows birth certificates to be amended following gender-reassignment surgery. [Missouri Independent, <u>12/9/2024</u>]

Justin Sparks advocated for \$6 million in earmarks before taking a job with the organization in charge of the project. According to the Missouri Independent, "As a new legislator in 2023, state Rep. Justin Sparks became the leading advocate for a proposal to create a child care facility serving employees of the St. Louis County Police Department. A few months after lawmakers approved spending \$6 million from federal COVID relief funds to create the center, Sparks took a job with the

organization in charge of the project, the National Law Enforcement Foundation. So far, the foundation, created in 2022, has used \$3.7 million of the funding. Sparks, a Republican from Wildwood who resigned from a job with the county police in 2022 to seek office, has recently faced some criticism over the earmark." [Missouri Independent, <u>1/7/2025</u>]

After only receiving ten votes in a long-shot bid to become Missouri House Speaker, the Republican victor described Sparks as having "an oceanic ego who took it upon himself to make this day about himself." According to KCUR, "The Missouri legislature made history Wednesday as Republicans elected the first Asian American speaker of the House and the first woman to be president pro tem of the state Senate. In the House, state Rep. Jon Patterson of Lee's Summit won an overwhelming victory over a challenger from within the Republican conference, state Rep. Justin Sparks, helped to the 152-10 victory by votes from minority Democrats. At a news conference after the House session, Patterson called the challenge 'disappointing' and said Sparks forced the vote for personal reasons. 'This was not about Amendment 3 (which restored abortion rights) or any policy agenda," Patterson said. "This was a person with an oceanic ego who took it upon himself to make this day about himself." [KCUR, <u>1/8/2025</u>]