



## Governmental Services Group

The second week of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Missouri General Assembly's first session was mostly a week of pomp and circumstance. Missouri's 58<sup>th</sup> Governor, Mike Kehoe, was sworn in Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> to a good-sized crowd braving the January cold, with temperatures in the low 20s and snow still on the capitol grounds. This marks a new chapter in Missouri's political history with three straight Republican governors. Gov. Kehoe began his career adjacent to politics as a community leader and local Ford dealer in Jefferson City. He touted his resume as a businessman and planned to focus his tenure on public safety, education, and agriculture. He promised to look for growth opportunities for the state and to always look for a good idea no matter where it comes from.

He was sworn in by former Sen. Roy Blunt on a family bible belonging to his mother. I found the quote of the speech to be Kehoe outlining his worldview and how he views governing based on his background. "My life—growing up in the inner city, moving to a small town, building businesses, operating a ranch—these experiences have taught me one thing: Missourians are more alike than we are different," said Governor Kehoe. "It will take each of us, working together, to secure an even safer, stronger, and more prosperous Missouri." The Inaugural Ball commenced after a day filled with activities, and the celebrations lasted late into the night.

Tuesday, the House and Senate finalized rules and began assigning bills to committee Wednesday and Thursday. The biggest news this week came yesterday as the slow trickle of updates about committee assignments rolled out. The changes made to committees and chairmanships will have a major effect on what bills are prioritized the next two sessions, and in some cases beyond.

Notable committee chair and vice chair assignments in the Senate are Sen. Trent – Gen Laws Chair, Sen. Black – Local Gov, Sen. Carter – Families, Seniors and Health. On the House side Rep. Keathley – Gen Laws Chair, Rep. Davidson – Budget Vice Chair, Rep. Stinnett – Health and Mental Health Chair, and Rep. Hinman – Local Gov Chair to name a few. We will attach a list of full committee assignments in the email as well.

Feel free to reach out with any questions and we will continue to inform you of the latest happenings in Jefferson City.