

GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY
65102
May 14, 2013

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
STATE OF MISSOURI

Herewith I return to you Senate Bill No. 350 entitled:

AN ACT

To repeal sections 135.010, 135.025, and 135.030, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to funds for vulnerable persons.

I disapprove of Senate Bill No. 350. My reasons for disapproval are as follows:

Senate Bill No. 350 is not comprehensive tax credit reform. Instead, it eliminates only part of a single program – the renters’ portion of the Property Tax Credit – that assists low income seniors and disabled individuals.

Effective tax credit reform must be broad-based and designed to ensure that all tax credit programs provide a strong return for taxpayers, our communities and our economy. Such an approach is fiscally prudent and would build upon the State of Missouri’s strong financial foundation. Senate Bill No. 350 does not constitute comprehensive tax credit reform.

Moreover, savings from the repeal of the renters’ portion of the Property Tax Credit would not be used to assist Missouri seniors. Instead, the fiscal year 2014 budget directs savings that would be realized from the program’s repeal to programs unrelated to seniors. Thus, under Senate Bill No. 350, seniors would lose their existing tax benefit and those savings would be directed elsewhere. Such a scenario is not acceptable.

In accordance with the above stated reasons for disapproval, I am returning Senate Bill No. 350 without my approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor