



# MISSOURI FIREARMS COALITION

## MISSOURI'S ONLY NO COMPROMISE GUN LOBBY

### 2022 GUN RIGHTS CANDIDATE SURVEY

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Anti-gun organizations, often funded with out-of-state resources from Michael Bloomberg, have been pushing legislation like SB-15/HB-523 for years. If passed, this would end all private party firearms transfers in Missouri unless gun owners submit to a federal NCIC check, thereby adding themselves and their firearm to a federal list. As we've seen, this legislation does virtually nothing to stop crime but expands state and national databases of gun owners – which can be used against gun owners later.

1. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on 'Universal Gun Registrations' (or similar legislation) that would ban all private party gun sales and make criminals out of Missourians who lawfully transfer firearms without first obtaining government permission?

Yes

No

Anti-gun politicians in Missouri continue to introduce legislation like HB-126, which would institute 'Red Flag Gun Seizures' here in Missouri. Also known as 'Extreme Risk Protection Orders,' these laws allow virtually anyone to petition a court and make the claim that a person is a 'danger to themselves or others' while providing little to no evidence. Once filed, 'Red Flag' allegations allow a liberal judge to strip a law-abiding gun owner of his firearms before he has been arrested, indicted, or convicted of a crime. And in most cases, this is done through *ex parte* hearings that the gun owner knows nothing about, thus violating his due process rights.

2. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on 'Red Flag Gun Confiscation' laws (or similar legislation) that would shred Missouri's due process rights, by disarming gun owners who have never been convicted of a crime?

Yes

No

In the wake of recent high profile murder-sprees around the country, anti-gun politicians, the media and Bloomberg funded activists have been screaming for a complete ban of the AR-15 (and standard 30-round magazines) and hundreds of related firearms all because of a variety of cosmetic features. Legislation like S. 746 has been introduced in Congress to ban these firearms across the country, and some politicians in Jefferson City want to do the same thing, even though these firearms are widely popular and are owned by tens of thousands of Missourians.

3. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on legislation that bans the manufacture, sale or possession of semi-automatic firearms and their standard capacity magazines –

See Reverse Side

knowing that these restrictions don't stop crime, but are used to harass gun owners?

Yes  No

Various state legislatures have already passed legislation that would make it a felony for Americans between the age of 18-20 to own firearms! And there are politicians here in Missouri who want to do the same thing. To be clear, these are law abiding citizens that can exercise their right to vote, serve in the military, pay taxes, get married, have careers, and enjoy every other aspect of being a legal adult.

1. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on legislation that would make it a crime for Missourians between the ages of 18-20 to buy and own firearms, leaving them defenseless, unable to defend themselves or their loved ones?

Yes  No

Gun control activists have long desired mandatory waiting periods before law abiding citizens can purchase firearms, ammunition or accessories. Legislation has been filed in numerous states across the country and there are those in Jefferson City that would also like to make criminals out of Missourians who buy a firearm without waiting five days first. This, despite the fact that many women have been murdered by violent predators because they were unarmed and couldn't defend themselves, because they hadn't waited enough days to buy a gun!

2. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on legislation that would make criminals out of Missourians who buy firearms without waiting an arbitrary number of days first, knowing that these laws are unconstitutional and only endanger innocent people?

Yes  No

Mental health has become a back door for gun control. By expanding the criteria for voluntary and involuntary commitments for 'treatment' and giving mental health staffers the power to 'declare' someone as a 'prohibited person' in the NCIC database, hundreds of thousands of gun owners have been disarmed (mostly veterans) even though their due process rights were violated, and they were never 'adjudicated' defective in a court of law. Once a person's name is placed on this list, it is virtually impossible to have it removed.

3. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on all so-called 'mental health' legislation that would allow a law-abiding Missourian to be disarmed before he was able to exercise his due process rights in a court of law?

Yes  No

Almost every legislative candidate will say "I support the Second Amendment" but not all will stand firmly against new and invasive forms of gun control, especially when 'compromises' are offered.

4. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on all methods of gun control, including those that the media calls 'reasonable?' These could include bans on 'ghost guns,' laws that ban those with simple misdemeanor convictions from owning guns, new taxes on ammunition, civil liability insurance requirements for gun owners, and the use of pistol braces?

Yes  No

Missouri passed the nation's leading Second Amendment Preservation Act (SAPA) in 2021. This law asserts state sovereignty under the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment and tells the federal government that while Missouri can't stop them from passing gun control, Missouri wouldn't allow their cops and other resources to be used to help them enforce it. And since the bulk of federal laws are enforced by state and local officers, this law means that the bulk of Biden's gun control agenda will go unenforced in Missouri. And with strong civil penalties built into it, Missouri's SAPA law gives individual gun owners the ability to hold departments that intentionally violate the law accountable.

1. If elected, would you **OPPOSE** and **VOTE NO** on any legislation that threatens to overturn or weaken Missouri's Second Amendment Preservation Act?

Yes  No

Most mass shootings happen in so-called 'Gun-Free Zones' where law-abiding citizens are forced to disarm. Thousands of Americans have been shot or murdered by violent criminals in these zones over the last fifteen years, because law-abiding citizens were unable to defend themselves or their loved ones, because of a deadly law that forced them to disarm.

2. If elected, would you **SUPPORT** and **VOTE YES** on legislation that eliminates government-mandated 'Gun Free Zones,' that leave law abiding citizens helpless against violent killers looking to rack up a body count?

Sponsor  Cosponsor  No

While dozens of states give the presumption of innocence to gun owners in the wake of a threatened or actual use of force (requiring the state to prove their guilt in court), Missouri law inverts that and requires gun owners to prove their innocence in court. Further, many states allow gun owners to assert this 'presumption of innocence' in a pre-trial immunity hearing. These hearings give gun owners the chance to be spared the agony of a criminal trial. And in an era where liberal prosecutors are targeting gun owners to advance a political agenda as we saw with Kyle Rittenhouse and Mark McCloskey, it's more important than ever that we have a pre-trial hearing process to dismiss these bogus charges.

3. If elected, would you **SUPPORT** and **VOTE YES** on legislation that would enhance Missouri's self-defense laws by providing the presumption of innocence to gun owners who are forced to defend themselves, as well as a pre-trial hearing process to spare them from going through politically motivated prosecutions?

Sponsor  Cosponsor  No

## -- Candidate Authorization --

My signature affirms that the answers given above accurately represent my beliefs as a candidate in the 2022 elections.

I hereby submit the answers to this survey as my solemn word that, if elected, I will vote on these issues as I have indicated in this survey.

Signature *Ryan P. Higgins* Printed Ryan Higgins Date 5/3/22  
Ryan Higgins

District # 98 Office Sought State Representative Party Republican  
District 98 State Representative Republican

Notes:

1. Unanswered questions will be considered as hostile to the Second Amendment.
2. Unsigned surveys will not be accepted by the Missouri Firearms Coalition.
3. If you have any questions about this survey, please email us at [info@missourifirearmscoalition.org](mailto:info@missourifirearmscoalition.org).
4. Please email your signed survey back to us at [info@missourifirearmscoalition.org](mailto:info@missourifirearmscoalition.org). If you want to mail it back to us, please send to:  
 The Missouri Firearms Coalition,  
 2208 Missouri Blvd, Ste 102, Box #302  
 Jefferson City, MO 65109.
5. The deadline for your survey is 5pm on May 27, 2022.

**PLEASE NOTE: Completing this survey gives our organization and other gun owners a look into your support (or lack thereof) for our Second Amendment freedoms. Completing this survey is not an endorsement by our organization and you are not allowed to convey or portray it as such.**