

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COLE COUNTY
STATE OF MISSOURI**

RONALD J. CALZONE
Plaintiff,

v.

MARGIE VANDEVEN, et al.
Defendants

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CASE NO. 17AC-CC00250

AFFIDAVIT OF ANNE GASSEL

Comes the affiant, under oath, and does depose and say the following:

1. I, Anne Gassel, am over the age of eighteen and the following is based upon my personal knowledge.

2. I am currently the Legislative Director for Missouri Eagle Forum and have lobbied on behalf of the Missouri Coalition Against Common Core for six years.

3. I am a registered lobbyist in the state of Missouri though I am not compensated by any organization for my lobbying efforts.

4. As private citizen, I have been extensively involved the state legislative process, tracking and either supporting or opposing bills that the organizations I represent believe will affect children across the state who are in the public school system.

5. Unlike many professional lobbyists who have access to dynamic subscription bill monitoring services which can alert them to movement of a bill or significant changes

to bill language practically in real time, I must rely on the General Assembly's website, searching for bills that negatively affect my interests using key words, titles and summaries. I use this system to provide reports to the organizations I serve to alert them to bills that may require them to act (e.g. call their representative, provide testimony etc.)

6. Because of this I must rely on the original title of bills, as they have been filed, counting on the legislature to keep bills true to the purpose stated in their original title, and narrowing the number of bills that I must spend time and energy watching. The year that SB638 (2016) was passed, for instance, 128 bills were tagged as relating to education. The organizations I represented were tracking 22 of them.

7. The subject of SB638 was deemed of interest to one of the groups I represented and viewed as primarily unnecessary legislation, but ultimately not harmful enough to warrant action. That determination was made based on the fact that the bill title and language were very narrowly focused on a single subject. Had we known that it could be broadly expanded as it was to include topics we had opposed in other bills, we might have made greater effort to oppose it in the first place.

8. Because the legislature has been in the habit of amending struggling or controversial bills to other bills that are popular or at least less controversial which are continuing to move through the legislative process, and because of what I believe to be their loose interpretation of what they consider to be germane amendments, I am sometimes surprised by the addition of amendments to bills with original titles that describe a purpose not related to the amendment. SB638, for instance, changed from a 4 page bill relating only to civics education, to a 58 page bill which covered numerous

topics relating to all of primary and secondary education.

9. Because this massive amendment process seems to happen most often very late in the legislative session, when the push to pass legislation that leadership has prioritized is strongest, the public has little opportunity to affect the outcome of these bills, that is if they are even aware that significant changes have been made.

Further affiant saith not.

Anne Gassel

Anne Gassel

State of Missouri }
County of St Louis } SS

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of October A.D. 2017

Dennis D. Broadbooks
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 09/02/2020

