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# Jason Smith's Capitol Report - Friday, June 5, 2015

JUNE 09TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Jason Smith's Capitol Report - Friday, June 5, 2015

**8th Congressional District, Missouri** - In 2014, members of the House Ways and Means Committee sent a letter to the Department of Justice calling for the criminal prosecution of former Internal Revenue Service Director of the Exempt Organizations Division Lois Lerner. Instead, the IRS worker who used her position to abuse conservative organizations was awarded bonuses of \$129,000 and given a pension, all while in contempt of Congress. Taxpayers, of course, footed the bill.

Enough is enough and I am demanding answers. Last week, I wrote the Department of Justice along with my fellow Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee to again push for criminal prosecution of this bad actor. It's no surprise folks are scared of the IRS – they can make life miserable even without injecting personal politics into the equation.

Initially, Lerner's potentially incriminating emails were lost when her hard drive had crashed along with those of six other IRS employees. Miraculously though, the IRS Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration found more than 30,000 of her emails on a back-up server. The IRS investigation found words like “tea party” or “patriot” were flagged for additional examination when groups applied for tax-exempt status, and hardworking, patriotic Americans were singled out for their political beliefs in direct violation of the Constitution. Lois Lerner has denied targeting conservative organizations for increased scrutiny and simultaneously apologized for the IRS's actions.

There have been Congressional hearings and an FBI probe. President Obama called the

actions “intolerable and inexcusable,” and in the next breath said there was “not even a smidgen of corruption” at the IRS. Despite the hypocrisy, it's clear that taxpayers were violated and their trust in government was compromised, and still, Lerner has not been charged with a crime. Moreover, the Department of Justice has not even responded to Congress's call for prosecution.

An agency with as much power to destroy citizens as the IRS must be above reproach, and Congress won't be finished until Lois Lerner is held accountable.

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## Tila Hubrecht's Capitol Report - Friday, May 22, 2015

MAY 26TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Tila Hubrecht's Capitol Report - Friday, May 22, 2015](#)

Dear 151st District Constituents,

As we go into this Memorial Day weekend, I have to stop for a minute and think about all the sacrifices that have been made for us. Sacrifices that we will never know about in many cases. I cannot thank those that willingly risk their lives for our freedom enough. I am forever indebted to them and what they have given or were willing to give.

I know from my own experience, when my husband was deployed, I worried all the time while he was in the combat zone. We were lucky with the modern technology that I was able to hear from him frequently. In war's past, that was not the case, months would go by without hearing from the loved one.

Also in war's past, many more people were deployed to the combat zones and almost everyone knew someone firsthand that was serving or had served. Now very few actually deploy to a combat zone with all of the new modern warfare technology. Many people do not know anyone that has or is serving. This is causing many to not understand the importance of a strong military nor understand the sacrifice that comes with serving in the military.

America is a great nation, we have so much to be thankful for. Please remember this during the weekend and if you see a veteran, thank him or her for their sacrifice. Don't forget the service Monday at the Veteran's Cemetery in Bloomfield at 1pm.

Until Next Week,  
Tila

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## Jason Smith's Capitol Report - Friday, May 22, 2015

MAY 26TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Jason Smith's Capitol Report - Friday, May 22, 2015

### **The Inalienable Right to Life**

**8th Congressional District - Missouri** - Almost 250 years ago our Founding Fathers eloquently wrote that the inalienable right to life isn't granted by Congress or any legislature, but is endowed by our Creator. Sadly, even as our scientific knowledge and medical expertise advance, this inalienable right is still being debated in Washington, D.C. We know that caring doctors and nurses today can save babies born prematurely at 20 weeks and help them go on to lead normal lives. But, sadly, the opportunity to grow and thrive is not protected for babies at that same stage in the womb.

Last week, I voted to be a voice for those that cannot yet speak. The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which I cosponsored and has passed the House of Representatives, is one of the most significant pieces of pro-life legislation to ever come before the House. This bill defends life and provides protection for babies that have already reached five months in the womb. At this stage, babies can feel pain and are developed enough that in many cases they can go on to live outside the womb with proper medical care.

This bill reflects the compassionate and caring feelings of the American people to protect the life of the unborn. In poll after poll, folks across the country agree with us here southeast and southern Missouri that it is our obligation to protect babies from painful late-term abortions. In a CNN poll last year, 58 percent of respondents opposed abortions with "few" or "no" exceptions. A CBS News poll found 59 percent of respondents thought abortions should have stricter limits or not be permitted at all. A Quinnipiac poll found that 60 percent of adults, including 59 percent of women, support restrictions on abortion after 20 weeks. Our message of protection for every precious life resonates far

beyond just our community.

The fight to protect life at all stages is a fight I am passionately leading in Washington. I will continue to be a voice for the children that deserve our protection and continue to share our message of compassion, because life is truly a gift from God.

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## 151st District Survey Results from Tila Hubrecht

MAY 21ST 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

### 151st District Survey Results from Tila Hubrecht

**151st District, Missouri** - Representative Hubrecht sent a survey to constituents of the 151<sup>st</sup> District to determine the standing of the district on various issues facing Missourians. A total of 678 surveys were returned to the office. Listed below are the questions on the survey and the percentages of Yes, No, No Opinion.

1. Does Missouri's current \$26.2 billion in revenues adequately provide for the various needs of state government?
  - a. 320 or 47.2% Yes
  - b. 127 or 18.7% No
  - c. 65 or 9.5% No Opinion
  - d. 163 or 24% No Response
  
2. Should tax credit programs like these be reined in because they reduce tax revenues available to state government spending priorities like education, public safety and the disabled?
  - a. 258 or 38% Yes
  - b. 215 or 31.7% No
  - c. 48 or 7% No Opinion
  - d. 155 or 22.8% No Response
  
3. Should MO tax laws be changed to apply the same sales tax rates and requirements to all purchases, for both MO-based retailers and purchases made over the internet?
  - a. 254 or 37% Yes
  - b. 245 or 36.1% No
  - c. 28 or 4.1% No Opinion
  - d. 151 or 22.2% No Response
  
4. Should MO enact public-private partnerships that would lease certain MO roads and bridges to private entities to maintain in exchange for the ability of those entities to charge tolls?
  - a. 105 or 15.4% Yes
  - b. 388 or 57.2% No
  - c. 31 or 4.5% No Opinion
  - d. 150 or 22.1% No Response
  
5. Should the legislature put before the voters a proposition that would temporarily increase the current 17-cent per gallon road tax by a modest amount so that additional revenues could be bonded to generate additional revenue for road and bridge construction?

- a. 228 or 33.6% Yes
  - b. 288 or 42.4% No
  - c. 10 or 1.4% No Opinion
  - d. 151 or 22.2% No Response
6. Does Missouri's current system for attracting and retaining quality educators work effectively?
- a. 208 or 30.6% Yes
  - b. 233 or 34.3% No
  - c. 82 or 12% No Opinion
  - d. 154 or 22.7% No Response
7. Should MO's education department stay out of curriculum development and performance reviews because these are issues best handled by the local school districts?
- a. 412 or 60.7% Yes
  - b. 82 or 12% No
  - c. 33% or 4.8% No Opinion
  - d. 151 or 22.2% No Response
8. Should the state allow parents the option of transferring their children to a "virtual school" that meets the state education standards for children that are more likely to effectively learn through "online education"?
- a. 265 or 39% Yes
  - b. 196 or 28.9% No
  - c. 64 or 9.4% No Opinion
  - d. 152 or 22.4% No Response
9. Should MO accept additional federal funds for Medicaid expansion if the state can receive the authority to overhaul the existing Medicaid system into a less cumbersome and more effective health care delivery system?
- a. 279 or 41.1% Yes
  - b. 204 or 30% No

- c. 38 or 5.6% No Opinion
- d. 156 or 23% No Response

10. Should MO's term limit system be less restrictive by allowing the same 16 years total, without regard to the chamber in which the member serves?

- a. 119 or 17.5% Yes
- b. 393 or 57.9% No
- c. 15 or 2.2% No Opinion
- d. 151 or 22.2% No Response

11. Should MO adopt more restrictive regulations on abortion service providers to further reduce the number of abortions occurring in the state?

- a. 386 or 56.9% Yes
- b. 112 or 16.5% No
- c. 31 or 4.5% No Opinion
- d. 149 or 21.9% No Response

12. Should MO law be changed to eliminate the requirement for citizens to obtain a concealed weapons permit before lawfully carrying a concealed weapon?

- a. 177 or 26.1% Yes
- b. 344 or 50.7% No
- c. 8 or 1.1% No Opinion
- d. 149 or 21.9% No Response

13. Should MO law be changed to abolish use of the death penalty?

- a. 48 or 7% Yes
- b. 449 or 66.2% No
- c. 27 or 3.9% No Opinion
- d. 154 or 22.7% No Response



14. Should MO law be changed to allow for the decriminalization for marijuana only for medicinal use?

- a. 221 or 32.6% Yes
- b. 276 or 40.7% No
- c. 23 or 3.3% No Opinion
- d. 158 or 23.3% No Response

A side note about the questions in the survey:

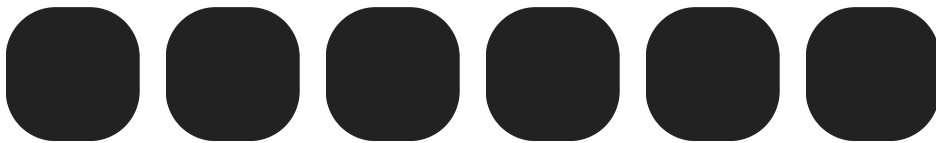
All representatives are given a list of 20 questions to choose to use on a district survey. A representative may choose to write his or her own questions but these are more difficult to obtain the tabulated responses. This year, Representative Hubrecht chose to use the “stock” questions choosing 12 that she felt were most pressing to be included on a survey.

\*\*The No Response answers were reviewed by Representative Hubrecht and her staff, these unanswered responses were not all on the same survey. Many surveys answered only specific questions leaving the remaining questions unanswered resulting in the No Response category.

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# Jason Smith's Capitol Report - Friday, May 15, 2015

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MAY 18TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Jason Smith's Capitol Report - Friday, May 15, 2015

### Congressman Jason Smith's Capitol Report

8th Congressional District - Missouri - Ronald Reagan once said his fondest hope for young people is that they would love their country for her selflessness and idealism. As the school year comes to a close, I have reflected on all of the great schools I have had the pleasure of visiting while in Congress. From Rolla to Caruthersville, Sikeston to Gainesville, and Festus to Doniphan, I've been bringing Congress to the classroom. When I speak with students, my message is simple: You can make an impact no matter your age.

Young people don't have to wait until they are older to get involved in the political process. Since taking office, I have talked with bright students at more than 50 schools across the district and they have great ideas on how to move America forward. I encourage them to follow what is happening in Jefferson City and in Washington, D.C. to see how legislation affects their lives. They can make their voices heard now by contacting their elected officials through traditional methods like phone calls and letters, but also through Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Even now students can have an immediate impact in their communities. Young people can volunteer with civic organizations, get involved in their churches or create their own opportunities to serve. I am so proud of the students I have met around the area that are taking action. They are volunteering at food pantries, coaching teams for kids with disabilities, improving hiking trails and so much more.

As one of the youngest members of the House of Representatives, I want today's students to know that they are tomorrow's leaders. With hard work and perseverance these bright young people can accomplish anything.

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