

## Jackson County Missouri

Jackson County Courthouse 415 E.12th Street, 2nd floor Kansas City, Missouri 64106 (816)881-3242

## Legislation Text

File #: 20974, Version: 0

## IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

**A RESOLUTION** recognizing MORE<sup>2</sup> for its efforts to educate, engage, and register eligible voters with misdemeanor or felony convictions throughout Jackson County.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20974, June 6, 2022** 

INTRODUCED BY Theresa Cass Galvin, County Legislator

WHEREAS, MORE<sup>2</sup> was created in 2004 as a social justice organization representing different faith traditions, cultural backgrounds, races, and economic means, growing from twelve congregations to thirty-four congregations with many individual members; and,

WHEREAS, MORE<sup>2</sup> is active in issues surrounding criminal justice, education, healthcare, and immigration; and,

WHEREAS, MORE<sup>2</sup> has organized people with felony convictions into a group called "Our Voices" and launched a campaign called "Our Voice, Our Vote," to engage and educate eligible voters throughout Missouri and Kansas; and,

WHEREAS, it is the goal of MORE<sup>2</sup> to register 20,000 new voters by November 2022; and,

WHEREAS, research suggests voting has been linked to a reduction in recidivism and restoring voting rights to people impacted by the criminal legal system could aid their transition back into

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community life, encouraging law-abiding behavior; and,

WHEREAS, restoring the right to vote to people previously incarcerated enables them to exercise their lawful civil rights and civic duty; and,

WHEREAS, voting rights for formerly incarcerated individuals eligible to vote under section 115.133.2 of the Missouri Revised Statutes are fundamental to our democracy and our County; and,

WHEREAS, in Missouri, those with felony or misdemeanor convictions are eligible to vote upon completion of their sentence and probation or parole and individuals who have been convicted of an election offense, whether a felony or misdemeanor, are not allowed to vote; and,

WHEREAS, in a 2018 Pew Research Center survey, 69% of Americans agreed with allowing people convicted of felonies to vote after serving their sentence with a majority of both Republicans and Democrats in support; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the Legislature hereby recognizes MORE<sup>2</sup> for its efforts to educate, engage, and register eligible voters with misdemeanor or felony convictions throughout Jackson County.

..Enacted and Approved

Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage by a majority of the Legislature.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Chief Deputy County Counselor	County Counselor
Certificate of Passage	
•	resolution, Resolution No. 20974 of June 6, 2022, was duly son County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows:
Yeas <u>8</u>	Nays0
Abstaining <u>0</u>	Absent1
Date	Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of Legislature