

The origins of Missouri's local control fight-plastic bags become catch all for local control

HB 865 and SB 455:
"relating to prohibited ordinances by political subdivisions."



Passed out of House and Senate committees.



Never scheduled for a floor vote on the house.

HB 722:
"Relating to the provision of paper and plastics bags."



Passed out of house committee and perfected on house floor. "relating to the provision of paper and plastic bags."



Senate substitute #2
"relating to prohibited ordinances by political subdivisions."



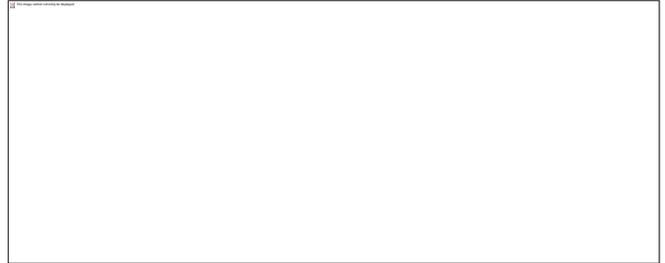
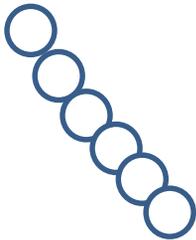
Agreed and finally passed.

Local Control– A progressive policy or a conservative plot to undermine standards?

Illinois governor takes a local approach to right-to-work

Unlikely to win backing for a statewide law to curb unions, Bruce Rauner urges counties to introduce their own proposals.

-American Al-Jazeera
February 22nd, 2015



“Through school choice, they’re going to demand rigorous standards from their school. They’re going to demand that the school does a great job educating their children and through school choice, allowing schools to customize and meet the needs of students.” Dr. James Shols, Show Me Institute.



National experts partnering with local voices



Media helps provide a frame

The★Star
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Here are two bills that Gov. Jay Nixon of Missouri should veto
“it’s not the state’s role to stop local governments from discussing and possibly adopting policies that benefit their communities “ KC Star, July 14th, 2015

T COLUMBIA DAILY
TRIBUNE

C’mon Jay, Urging a Veto

“Nixon should veto this bill as an act of good government. He can act like a Republican, touting the propriety of local control, even railing against central control by big government. He doesn’t have to take a position on any particular local law that might be affected. He can just say let local folks decide.” Columbia Tribune June 20th, 2015

SPRINGFIELD
NEWS-LEADER
A GANNETT COMPANY

Our Voice: Veto state's power grab

“Springfield City Council has not discussed banning plastic bags or raising minimum wages, Mayor Bob Stephen tells us, but that's not the point. This bill is one more attempt by state lawmakers to strip away local control.” Springfield News-Leader, July 1st, 2015

Local Leader Opposition



City Resolutions asking for a veto of HB 722 in

St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia, Springfield, Kirksville, Arnold, Grain Valley and Blue Springs.

Mayoral letters from Florissant, Wentzille, St. Peters and Potosi.

A framework that protects local control and quality standards.

Excerpts from Governor Nixon's veto letter

“In many instances, local elected officials may be best suited to determine the appropriate – and local – priorities for the citizens who elected them. And, it is important that **local governments have the ability to build on the minimum standards that are set at the state level.**”

Local elected officials are directly accountable for their actions. If a city passes an ordinance with which the voters disagree, those local officials will be held accountable at the next election. Healthy and important debate on issues addressed by this bill have been occurring, **illustrating the importance of local governments' ability to respond to local needs.**”

The issues impacted by House Bill 722 are *local* issues. How is St. Robert affected in St. Louis passes a minimum wage law higher than that required by state law? What differences does it make in Cabool if Columbia bans plastic bags?...**With its passage of HB 722, the General Assembly is telling local voters that legislators in Jefferson City – not they – know best how to address the local issues that their communities face.**”

Key Lessons

- Because of how it was used to undermine other important standards, 'local control' had a negative connotation- Needed ideological framework from which to oppose
 - National experts are critical for messaging, but local organizations and elected officials are the best messengers.
 - Messaging about building upon minimum standards provided a framework that didn't box our allies in for future fights