

Editor's Note

This is the fifth issue of the Missouri Policy Journal and we are proud of reaching this many issues knowing that more are planned for the years ahead.

The Missouri General Assembly term that ended in May 2017, failed to pass an ethics reform bill. The bill made some headway in the Missouri House of Representatives but failed to get anywhere in the Senate. Governor Eric Greitens made ethics reform an issue in his 2016 campaign when running for Governor. The article in the current issue on former Missouri Congressman Richard Bolling (who served in the House of Representatives from 1949 to 1983) addresses how Bolling looked at ethics reform. While the article in this issue may be seen as focused on Congress and not the Missouri General Assembly, it nevertheless provides insight into how to look at ethics reform regardless of which legislature is the focus of attention. It might be assumed that ethics reform will return as an issue in the Missouri General Assembly and this article may help to provide insight into how this issue should be approached.

The two articles on Ban the Box are an outgrowth of a conference that was held at Lindenwood University. Those who have been released from prison, after serving their time, will need to re-enter the workforce and both articles address how to examine that issue with the focus on Missouri.

Joseph A. Cernik, Editor