

Editor's Note

The goal of creating a redistricting process that is seen as politically neutral and not seen as benefitting one political party over the other has been a goal nationally for many years. Missouri will try its hand at establishing a nonpartisan process for redistricting with Amendment 1 on the ballot in November 2018. The article on the Clean Missouri plan in this issue of the *Missouri Policy Journal* addresses Amendment 1 and cautions that voters should manage expectations of what it can accomplish if it passes.

In this issue we'll also consider the question: Does remorse play a role when Missouri judges sentence those convicted? An article about sentencing in criminal cases addresses just that question, stating, "Conventional wisdom suggests that a defendant who is remorseful may receive a more lenient sentence than a defendant who is not." A small survey indicated inclusive results but suggested that a larger study might be useful to determine if a more definitive answer can be reached.

Additionally, we're pleased to include two articles which are part of the Missouri Growth Project and address the issue that Missouri's growth lags behind that of many other states. One article focuses on minimum wage and the other on labor market conditions.

This issue of the *Missouri Policy Journal* continues to present articles that are aimed at addressing policy-relevant issues. As the readership grows we hope to encourage more writers to contribute to future issues of the journal, touching on a wide variety of policy-relevant Missouri topics.

Joseph A. Cernik, Editor