

Veto of 'circuit breaker' credit leads to Missouri's moral deficit

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When Gov. Greitens (R) vetoed a state-amended HC B3, it eliminated the "Circuit Breaker" low-income renters' tax credit. It also eliminated the Senior Protection Fund, balancing the budget on the backs of the defenseless. Legislators should veto the tax abatement. It was not to prevent tax increases, but to cover foolhardy tax cuts.

Recent \$450,000 propaganda touted that balanced budget as an achievement. Hit mute.

Why should Missouri's 1,300,000 seniors tolerate abuse to satisfy national political ambition? Two-thirds of the victims are over 75, and 60 percent live alone or in rural areas. Gone is essential funding for in-home health care and 64,000 home-delivered meals — the only daily wellness check for many.

Such losses are like having the breath knocked out of you — especially the Circuit Breaker, which helped cover rent increases and kept low-income seniors independent.

Seniors are being sacrificed for an estimated \$800 million in tax cuts for the wealthy by 2020. Seniors have paid a lifetime of taxes. Due to catastrophic illness or recession-related financial losses, many now need Medicaid, food assistance or in-home health care.

Conservatives prioritize slashing social services, seeing all recipients as undeserving, yet they claim ownership of the church, the American flag and patriotism. Is the new Medicaid number system for keeping score?

Like a rag doll in the teeth of a pit bull, the defenseless are viciously attacked. The morally deficient rejoice as each piece is ripped away. What kind of society allows this? Why do politicians — with billionaire pre-determined agendas — keep being elected when their only goal is putting Missouri in their rear-view mirrors? A tiny tax break for you means millions for billionaires.

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