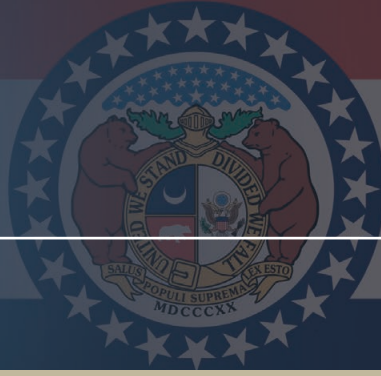


Missouri



43 Overall Rank

F Overall Grade

Missouri	Overall Rank	To Governor	To State Senate	To State House	To Parties	To PACs
Individual Giving	42	42	32	24	36	45
		\$2,600/election	\$2,600/election	\$2,600/election	\$25,000/election	\$2,600/election
PAC Giving	37	42	34	25	34	
		\$2,600/election	\$2,600/election	\$2,600/election	\$25,000/election	
Party Giving	49	50	50	48		
		\$2,600/election	\$2,600/election	\$2,600/election		
Union Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		
Corporate Giving	50	50	50	50		
		Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited		

Inflation Adjustment: Yes

In 2016, Missouri plummeted from the best state for political speech in the Index to one of the worst. At the ballot box in 2016, Missourians voted in favor of Constitutional Amendment 2, which imposes contribution limits on individuals, political parties, and PACs, as well as prohibits direct contributions from businesses and labor unions to candidates. Prior to passage of Constitutional Amendment 2, individuals, parties, political committees, businesses, and labor unions were free to make contributions of the size of their choosing in the Show-Me State. With the enactment of contribution limits, Missouri stands in stark contrast to recent trends in other states. Since 2010, 17 states have raised or eliminated contribution limits, and Missouri is the only state that has imposed greater restrictions.

Though the language of the ballot measure is too vague to say with certainty, it is likely that this new law is so restrictive as to be unconstitutional. While outside the scope of this Index, it's possible to read this measure as restricting contributions to political action committees that make expenditures independent of any candidate. Such restrictions are a violation of citizens' First Amendment rights and court precedent.

All told, in addition to adding needless restrictions to the individuals and groups looking to participate in Missouri politics, the passage of the ballot measure is likely to force the state to spend many years and countless tax dollars attempting to defend its newly-enacted but constitutionally suspect law in the courts.