

Brian Munzlinger Missouri Senate District 18



Summary

Legislative Biography

Brian Munzlinger, a lifelong farmer, is a 1978 graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia with a BS Degree in General Agriculture and a teaching certificate in Agriculture.

Senator Munzlinger and his wife Michele have two children. They attend Monticello United Methodist Church.

Senator Munzlinger is a member of: Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Corn Growers; Missouri Soybean; Missouri Cattlemen's; NFIB; Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity; State Fair Foundation, University of Missouri Alumni Association; and a life member of the National Rifle Association. He serves on the advisory board to the University of Missouri's Greenley Research Center and the board of directors for the NEMO Grain Processors Co-op.

[Legislative Biography, [Accessed 3/26/2018](#)]

ALEC Legislator of the Week Q&A – 3/26/18

This week, ALEC and FreedomWorks introduce Missouri State Senator Brian Munzlinger. Senator Munzlinger is a third generation Missouri farmer and earned his Bachelor's degree in Agriculture from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is a member of the Missouri Farm Bureau, Missouri Corn Growers, Missouri Soybean, and several other associations. Senator Munzlinger is part of the Energy, Environment, and Agriculture Taskforce at ALEC. He also serves on the advisory board to the University of Missouri's Greenley Research Center and the board of directors for the NEMO Grain Processors Co-op. Senator Munzlinger and his wife Michele have two children and are members of the Monticello United Methodist Church.

Why did you run for office?

I decided to run for office back in 2002 because I wanted to ensure that the voices and concerns of rural Missouri and agriculture continue to be heard. The interests of my constituents are important for Missouri, and I felt it was my responsibility to personally advocate for them.

In your view, what is the biggest issue facing your state?

The biggest issue facing the state of Missouri right now is job growth and development. As legislators, we need to focus our energy and resources in expanding jobs for people with trade skills as well as four year degrees. These individuals make up a considerable portion of our population and are the reason many of our other industries are still functioning efficiently; an ample amount of jobs in this sector would positively impact the entire state.

If you could "wave your magic wand" what would you like to see immediately implemented in your state?

I would very much like to see a value added program implemented statewide to support taking Missouri products another step or two down the value chain. This would not only add value to Missouri products, but it would also help create the jobs that our state needs.

What project or law are you most proud of?

You might think it would be an agricultural or second amendment bill, but the oral chemotherapy bill that increased the affordability and accessibility of medication is the one I consider to be the most important. We all know someone who has battled or is currently battling cancer, and no one should have to break the bank in order to get the help they need.

How has ALEC helped you as a legislator?

ALEC has helped me by providing a good sounding board for legislative ideas as well as a place to follow what is happening in other states around the country.

Can you share a fun fact about yourself that's not in your official bio?

While I was in college at the University of Missouri, I loved to rodeo, and I continued to do it for a few years after I graduated. I was also a shooting instructor for 4H and took teams to national competition.

ALEC membership/ties

- [Listed as a state legislator with ALEC ties by Progress MO in 2014 \(pg. 34\)](#)
- [ALEC Legislator of the Week](#)
- [Signed Confirm Judge Brett Kavanaugh ALEC Letter 2018](#)

Other Hits

Senator Brian Munzlinger sponsored a bill, to eliminate trainings required to carry guns. According to The Kansas City Star, “The wide-ranging bill would also reduce the penalty for carrying a firearm into buildings where it is not allowed from a felony to a misdemeanor and implement a so-called “stand your ground” law that says people no longer have a duty to try to retreat before using lethal force if they think their life is in danger. The bill would expand the castle doctrine to permit invited guests in a home to use deadly force on intruders. And for those who still want to get a concealed-carry permit, the bill creates a lifetime version that never expires. On the final day of the 2016 legislative session, lawmakers approved a bill eliminating those requirements and allowing someone to carry a concealed firearm in public without a permit. Sen. Brian Munzlinger, a Republican from Lewis County who sponsored the bill, said it simply “will allow law abiding citizens to protect themselves from criminals.” Governor Jay Nixon vetoed the bill because he said it would allow “individuals to legally carry a concealed firearm even though they have been or would be denied a permit because their background check revealed criminal offenses or caused the sheriff to believe they posed a danger.” Joining Nixon in opposing the bill were groups representing law enforcement officers around the state, such as the Missouri Police Chiefs Association, along with the state’s four Catholic bishops. Proponents have argued that the change is about public safety. The legislation, according to the National Rifle Association, “seeks to expand the fundamental right to self-defense of Missourians and strengthen their ability to protect themselves and their families.” (SB [656](#), Bill passed in House, 112-41, [9/14/2016](#); The Kansas City Star, [9/14/2016](#))

Senator Brian Munzlinger sponsored a bill, SB 731, that allows concealed carry on college campuses. According to St. Louis Public Radio, the bill will “...allow students to carry concealed weapons on college campuses in Missouri. The bill, proposed by state Sen. Brian Munzlinger...drew a strong reaction from both supporters and opponents during a hearing today. Some of the bill's opponents said the bill should have a more precise definition of “higher education institution. “I just can’t stand here before you and suggest it would be a good idea to conceal carry in Barnes Jewish Hospital, St. Louis Children’s Hospital or any of the other facilities that are intertwined with Wash U’s campus,” said Sean Grove, a representative of BJC Healthcare.” Munzlinger’s bill allows for institutions to opt out of the concealed carry provisions if they agree to station armed guards and install metal detectors at every university building entrance, a measure that Clif Smart, president of Missouri State University in Springfield, said would cost \$45 million for his institution alone.” (SB [731](#), Died in committee, [1/27/2016](#); St. Louis Public Radio, [1/27/2016](#))

Senator Brian Munzlinger voted for two castle doctrine bills, HB 189 & 1103, while he was a state representative. According to the Center for Media and Democracy, these two bills reflect the ALEC model bill titled the “The Castle Doctrine Act”. “This bill would allow persons to shoot and kill any other person who enters their home without permission. It creates a presumption of innocence for the person shooting the alleged intruder, barring liability for personal injury lawsuits even if the victim was not

committing a crime (for example, a teenage girlfriend having been invited in by her boyfriend).” ([HB 139](#), Passed in House 143 YEAS- 4 NAYS, [2/19/2007](#); [HB 1103](#), Bill passed in House, [3/2/2006](#); Center for Media and Democracy, [Castle Doctrine Act](#))