

Vote No on Amendment 5: Income Tax Repeal Will Hurt Retirees the Most

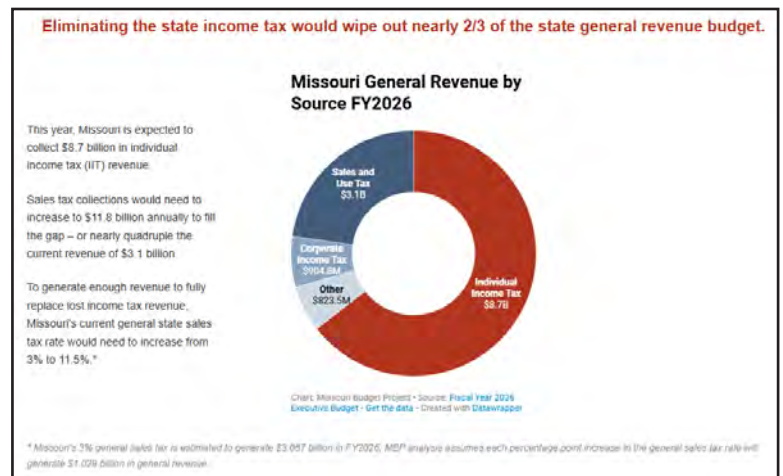
During the 2026 legislative session, the Missouri General Assembly passed SS SCS HCS HJR 173 & 174 which will appear before the Missouri voters as Amendment 5 on the August ballot.

Amendment 5 would grant lawmakers broad and largely unfettered authority to expand sales taxes as part of a long-term effort to eliminate Missouri’s state income tax.

MRTA is especially concerned about the potential impact Amendment 5 could have on the retirement security of our members and working families. MRTA has taken a position against Amendment 5.

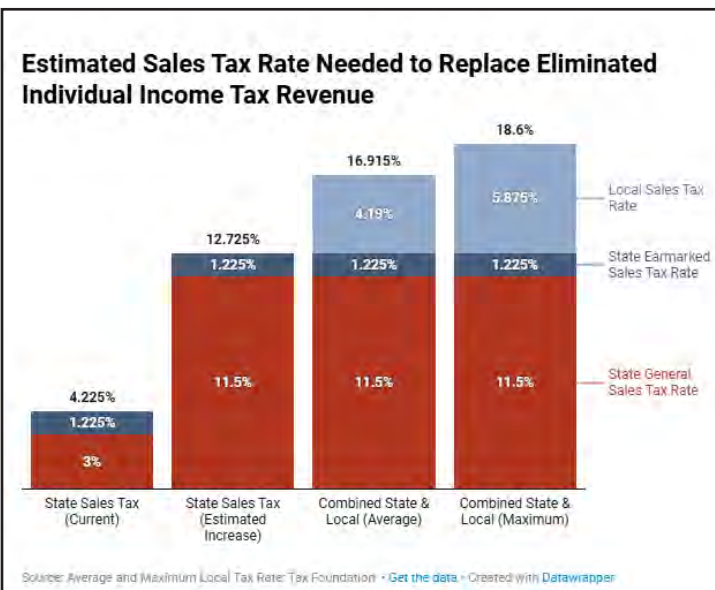
Income tax revenue is the single largest and most stable source of funding for Missouri’s General Revenue budget. Approximately 65% of all general revenue comes from individual income tax, totaling more than \$8.7 billion annually.

Sales taxes are regressive taxes, which take a larger percentage of income from fixed- and low-income earners than from high-income earners. This change would increase the tax burden on many Missourians who can least afford it, including retired Missourians and those on fixed incomes.



MRTA's purpose is to protect the retirement security of our members. This proposal will have a detrimental impact on our members financial security.

As advocates for students, educators, retirees, and communities, MRTA believes policy decisions should support and ensure the financial security of Missouri public school retirees, not undermine their financial peace of mind.



This plan shifts taxes onto those with fixed incomes, and risks long-term cuts to public schools and essential services that Missourians rely on.

For more information on what eliminating Missouri's income tax could mean for MRTA members, scan this QR code:



Source: Missouri Budget Project, Eliminating the Income Tax Would Raise Taxes on Most Missourians, November 29, 2025