

# House Resolution No. 2484

## 98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6904H.011

Relating to an investigation of Attorney General Chris Koster.

1           **WHEREAS**, Attorney General Chris Koster is required to comply with various conflict  
2 of interest provisions in Missouri law; and

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4           **WHEREAS**, media reports in October 2014 suggested that campaign contributions may  
5 have influenced Attorney General Chris Koster's decisions in certain cases; and

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7           **WHEREAS**, news sources indicated that Attorney General Chris Koster ordered his staff  
8 to drop an investigation into the company 5-Hour Energy after being notified of the investigation  
9 by a company attorney whose law firm had donated moneys to his campaign; and

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11           **WHEREAS**, reports also described a settlement in a case involving Pfizer, represented  
12 by a law firm whose attorneys donated to Attorney General Chris Koster's campaigns, that  
13 occurred outside of a multistate settlement negotiation and resulted in Missouri receiving less  
14 moneys than it would have received had it participated in the multistate settlement; and

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16           **WHEREAS**, according to news sources, Attorney General Chris Koster accepted an  
17 invitation to speak at a Pfizer-sponsored breakfast during the settlement negotiations in the case  
18 involving Pfizer; and

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20           **WHEREAS**, the media also reported that Attorney General Chris Koster received  
21 moneys from The Simmons Firm, which received a settlement in a class-action lawsuit against  
22 Republic Services, months after he filed a lawsuit against Republic Services; and

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24           **WHEREAS**, Attorney General Chris Koster is prohibited by Section 105.452, RSMo,  
25 from "[a]ct[ing] or refrain[ing] from acting in any capacity in which he is lawfully empowered  
26 to act as such an official or employee by reason of any payment, . . . including any gift or  
27 campaign contribution, made or received in relationship to or as a condition of the performance  
28 of an official act, other than compensation to be paid by the state or political subdivision"; and

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30           **WHEREAS**, article VII, section 1 of the Constitution of Missouri states that "[a]ll  
31 elective executive officials of the state, and judges of the supreme court, courts of appeals and  
32 circuit courts shall be liable for impeachment for crimes, misconduct, habitual drunkenness,

33 willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, incompetency, or any offense involving moral  
34 turpitude or oppression in office"; and

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36 **WHEREAS**, article VII, section 2 of the Constitution of Missouri vests the sole power  
37 of impeachment in the House of Representatives:

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39 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives of the  
40 Ninety-eighth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, requests that a House legislative  
41 committee be formed to investigate whether campaign contributions have influenced Attorney  
42 General Chris Koster's actions in office, which may constitute impeachable offenses.

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