



NEWS

**From the Office of
Rep. Rob Vescovo**

112th District

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Dec. 1, 2015**

**CONTACT: Rep. Rob Vescovo
573-751-3607**

State Rep. Rob Vescovo Files Legislation to Put an End to Project Labor Agreements in Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – State Rep. Rob Vescovo today pre-filed legislation designed to put a stop to Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) in Missouri. Vescovo’s bill, HB 1444, is identical to legislation he filed during the 2015 session that received committee approval but did not come to a vote on the House floor.

A Project Labor Agreement is a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement that in effect ensures only Union Labor companies can be utilized on a construction project. Merit Shop companies are closed out of bidding or performing work on these projects.

“A PLA is nothing more than a legal form of extortion. Any time a community enters into one of these agreements, it effectively excludes the 70+ percent of our workforce that is made up of Non-Union , Merit Shop businesses. This inevitably leads to higher costs, and a bigger final price tag that the people ultimately have to pay,” said Vescovo, R-Arnold.

Vescovo noted that the City of O’Fallon has recently dealt with the issue as the City Council approved a PLA for the construction of a new police station and courthouse. Vescovo joined State Reps. Kurt Bahr, John Wiemann, Justin Hill, and Senator Bob Onder, in speaking out against the plan.

Vescovo added, “My constituents are not happy with the idea they are paying more for a project that could possibly be built more cost effectively with the same high level of quality and safety by Merit Shop labor. It’s in the best interests of taxpayers that these projects have an open bidding process going forward.”

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