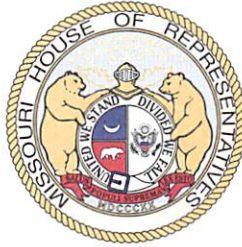


CAPITOL OFFICE
State Capitol - Room 135B
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: 573-751-1218
E-Mail:
mark.ellebracht@house.mo.gov



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Litigation Reform

MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
MARK ELLEBRACHT
State Representative
District 17

March 14, 2017

The Honorable Ron Richard
Senate President Pro Tem
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 326
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Senator Richard:

On Dec. 1, 2016, you pre-filed Senate Bill 5, which seeks to make it more difficult for Missouri consumers to sue unscrupulous businesses for unlawful merchandising practices and product liability claims. The legislation appears designed to benefit Tamko Building Products Inc., which is based in your hometown of Joplin and is facing a class-action lawsuit for allegedly selling shoddy shingles.

Just six days after you filed SB 5, Tamko President and CEO David Humphreys donated \$100,000 to your campaign committee, despite the fact that you are not currently a declared candidate for office and have not been a candidate since 2014 when you won re-election to the Senate. That particular donation came just five months after another \$100,000 contribution from Mr. Humphreys on June 2, 2016.

So, you are not a candidate for office and haven't been for more than two years, yet Mr. Humphreys gave you \$200,000 during a short period of time, including \$100,000 less than a week after you filed legislation favorable to his business interests. To be blunt, Senator, this appears to be a textbook example of pay-to-play politics.

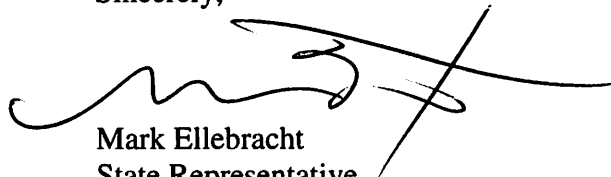
As a result, you owe it to your fellow Missourians to publicly disclose the following information:

1. Please list any individuals with whom you discussed SB 5 prior to the drafting and filing of SB 5. Please provide a date of those discussions and content of those discussions.
2. Please provide any and all notes, correspondence and prior drafts of legislation relating to SB 5.
3. Please list any individuals with whom you sought advice, counsel or input in regards to the drafting of SB 5. Please provide a date of those discussions and content of those discussions.
4. Please list any individuals who are not Senate employees whom you authorized to directly or indirectly consult with Senate Research analysts concerning SB 5.

5. If any of those individuals listed in questions 3 and 4 provided campaign donations to you, the Republican Party or any affiliated individual or entity, please provide a list of those donations. Please list a date of such donation and an amount of such donation.
6. Please provide a list of prior legislation sponsored by you during your time in the Missouri House of Representatives and Missouri Senate that relates to the content of SB 5. Please provide any correspondence relating to the drafting of that legislation.
7. Please provide an account of any discussions that took place between you and Mr. Humphreys, or anyone acting on his behalf, concerning SB 5 or any other legislation to benefit Tamko Building Products Inc., including when and where those discussions took place.
8. Please provide an account of any discussions that took place between you and Mr. Humphreys, or anyone acting on his behalf, concerning financial contributions to your campaign, including when and where those discussions took place.
9. Please provide any information concerning whether the \$100,000 donation Mr. Humphreys made to your campaign committee on Dec. 7, 2016, was directly or indirectly tied to your filing of SB 5 on Dec. 1, 2016.
10. Please disclose any documentation from your Senate office or campaign concerning your interactions with Mr. Humphreys, or anyone acting on his behalf, including any and all correspondence.

Missourians deserve to know if their government is for sale. If you decline to publicly clear the air concerning the connection between Mr. Humphreys' contributions and your pursuit of legislation favorable to his interests, Missourians naturally will conclude that you have something to hide.

Sincerely,



Mark Ellebracht
State Representative
District 17