

CAPITOL OFFICE

Missouri State Capitol
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 204
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: (573) 751-2124
gail.beatty@house.mo.gov



MINORITY LEADER

Gail McCann Beatty

State Representative
District 26

COMMITTEE

Ex-officio member of all
committees of the House

DISTRICT ADDRESS

P.O. Box 22333
Kansas City, MO 64113

December 18, 2017

The Honorable Kevin Austin
House Ethics Committee Chairman
State Capitol, Room 302B
Jefferson City, MO 65110

Dear Chairman Austin:

I hereby request that you cancel the House Ethics Committee hearing scheduled for Friday, December 22 at 1 p.m. on complaints pertaining to state Rep. Warren Love and reschedule it for a more appropriate date after the holidays.

While I am aware you became chairman only recently, the committee has delayed action on this matter for several weeks in breach of promises made by majority leadership that a public hearing would be held in November. Given the slow movement up to this point, I see no legitimate reason for the sudden haste.

In fact, it is clear that quietly scheduling the hearing for a Friday afternoon just three days before Christmas is intended to discourage people from showing up to testify, especially those who may be unavailable due to holiday travel, and to significantly minimize public awareness of the proceedings. It also should be noted that House offices will be closed Dec. 22 since Speaker Richardson graciously has granted all House employees the day off.

In addition, I am deeply disappointed the public notice for the hearing went up just one week in advance and without the basic courtesy of informing the Democratic committee members or myself, one of the complainants, that it had been scheduled so that we could be properly prepared.

I hope you will agree that this matter has not been handled properly or transparently and immediately reschedule the hearing for some time after the New Year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gail McCann Beatty", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Gail McCann Beatty
House Minority Leader
District 26