



**MASW**  
Since 1901

**Missouri Association for Social Welfare**

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***MASW to Host Veto Session Preview  
With Rep. Stephen Webber on Aug. 29***

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo – With a lively and conflict-ridden Veto Session anticipated to begin in our State’s Capital on September 11, the Missouri Association for Social Welfare (MASW) is hosting a “Veto Session Preview” at Bones Restaurant, 210 Commercial Avenue, Jefferson City on Thursday, August 29, beginning at 6 p.m. The session is free and open to the public, and a buffet meal is available for \$15. RSVP’s to 573-634-2901, x 300 are appreciated.

Guest speaker for the Veto Session Preview is Rep. Stephen Webber, District 46, Columbia. Webber, a Democrat, is a member of the powerful House Budget Committee, and thus especially qualified to offer insights as to how an override of Gov. Nixon’s veto of House Bill 253 would impact on our state. (HB 253, a package of changes to Missouri tax law, is projected to reduce state revenue by at least \$800 million annually by several sources.) MASW supports sustaining the governor’s veto and has sent a letter to all House members sharing reasons for this position.

Webber will also discuss the Missouri Non-Discrimination Act, his legislation to add civil rights protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) persons to the Missouri Human Rights Code. With movement toward LGBT equality in the Supreme Court of the United States and in many other states, can Missouri be far behind? A poll conducted April 8-17, 2013 by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research, found the majority of small business owners already thought such laws existed in Missouri. The poll revealed that 69% of entrepreneurs were unaware it is legal in Missouri to refuse to hire someone based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

In addition to being a state legislator, Webber holds degrees in economics and law and is a Marine veteran of two tours of Iraq. When elected in 2008, he was one of the youngest persons ever elected to the General Assembly in Missouri history.

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*MASW ([www.masw.org](http://www.masw.org)), founded in 1901, provides leadership, research, education, and advocacy to improve public policy and programs impacting the health and welfare of all Missourians. MASW played major roles in the initiation of the Missouri Commission on Human Rights, the reduction of sales tax on food by three cents, development of the Missouri Housing Trust Fund, and lawsuits leading to the creation of the Missouri Foundation for Health and provision of non-emergency transportation to Medicaid clients, plus many other social justice victories.*