

Schools Face 18% Cut Under Tax Scheme

Lawmakers are considering swapping out the income tax for a greatly expanded sales tax. **The proposal would blow a \$5 billion hole in the state budget, causing massive cuts to schools, particularly in rural areas.**¹

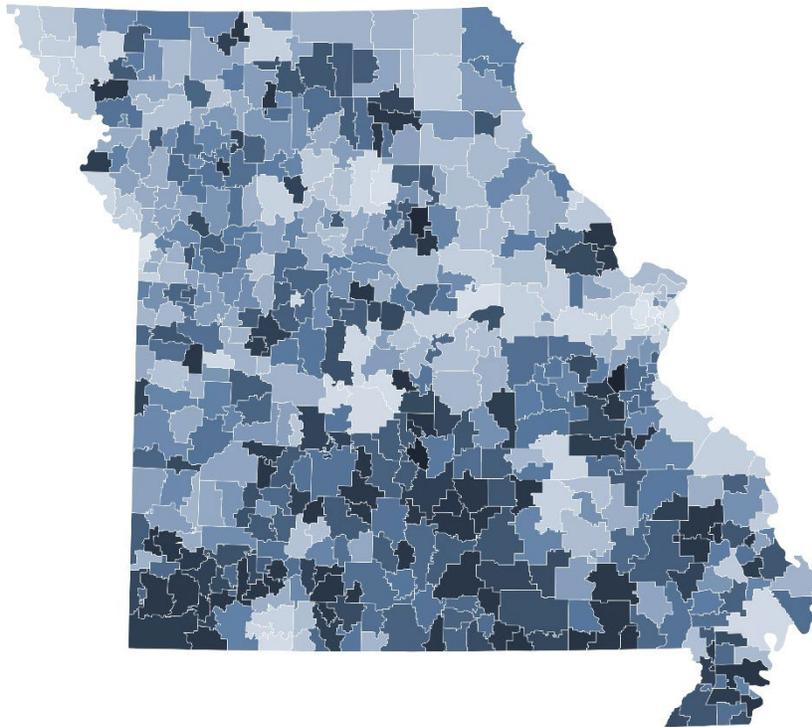
If resulting cuts are equally distributed across the budget, state general revenue funding for local schools would be cut by more than one-third, or \$1.4 billion statewide.² Depending on the school district, this could result in a nearly 18% cut in TOTAL school revenue including local funds.³

On average, that is a cut of **over \$1,800 per student** and is the equivalent of the **average salary of nearly 27,000 teachers or over 46,000 support staff** (such as bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodians, paraeducators, and office staff) across all of Missouri’s local school districts.⁴

ELIMINATING THE INCOME TAX WOULD CREATE A \$5 BILLION HOLE IN MISSOURI’S BUDGET, LEADING TO CUTS FOR LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Estimated Budget Cut as a Share of Total School District Budget

0.5% 17.9%



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NOTES

¹ Missouri Budget Project analysis of U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, "[SAPCE1 Personal consumption expenditures \(PCE\) by major type of product](#)" ¹" (accessed February 2026) and FY2027 Consensus Revenue Estimate (CRE) from the Missouri FY 2027 Executive Budget.

² *A \$5 billion cut to general revenue cut translates to a 35% cut in services funded by general revenue. This analysis illustrates the potential impact of a 35% cut to the portion of annual expenditures that are funded by state general revenue in local school districts.*

³ Missouri Budget Project Analysis of Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, [Finance Data and Statistics Summary for All Districts/Charters](#) (accessed February 2026).

⁴ *Average cut per student based on Average Daily Attendance (ADA) for each school district* Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, [Finance Data and Statistics Summary for All Districts/Charters](#) (accessed February 2026).; *Number of teachers and support staff based on average teacher and education support professional salaries in Missouri*_National Education Association, [Educator Pay in America](#) (accessed February 2026).