



**Nicole Galloway, CPA**  
Missouri State Auditor

# CITIZENS SUMMARY

## Conclusions in the review of Article X, Sections 16 through 24

### Background

The Constitution of Missouri was amended in 1980 to add Article X, Sections 16 through 24, commonly referred to as the Hancock Amendment. This tax limitation amendment places restrictions on the amount of personal income used to fund state government, and the amount by which fees and taxes can be increased. Mathematical formulas are used by the Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning (OA-BP) to determine the relevant threshold amounts each year.

Section 18(a-d) of the Hancock Amendment requires no greater portion of Missourians' personal income (MPI) be used in any future year to fund state government than was the case in fiscal year 1981, except as authorized by a vote of the people.

Section 18(e) requires voter approval before taxes or fees can be increased by the General Assembly beyond a certain annual limit. Based upon the calculation provided by the OA-BP, the relevant annual revenue limit for fiscal year 2018 was \$102.9 million.

### Fiscal Year 2018 Conclusions

For the year ended June 30, 2018, total state revenue was approximately \$3.9 billion under the refund threshold. As a result, no refund is due for the year ended June 30, 2018. This revenue limit has not been exceeded since the year ended June 30, 1999.

In addition, the OA-BP determined based on fiscal notes prepared for each bill by the Committee on Legislative Research - Oversight Division, as a result of general assembly legislative actions, net taxes and fees could decrease by a total of at least \$41.3 million. The projected net decrease does not include 9 bills for which the Section 18(e) fiscal impact could not be projected. Actual compliance with the Section 18(e) revenue limit can be determined after each tax and fee increase and decrease is fully effective. Since Section 18(e) was added to the Hancock Amendment in 1996, the 2016 legislative session was the only year the limit has been projected to be exceeded.

Because of the nature of this review, no rating is provided.