**SEPTEMBER 2024 MO RED BOX BACKUP**

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| **CLAIM** | **BACKUP** |
| Mike Kehoe vocally supports Missouri’s extreme abortion ban that has no exceptions for rape and incest, saying he was, “proud to have been a part of that work.” And he has repeatedly voted to sell Missouri farmland to China. |  |
| Most importantly, voters should see broadcast, cable, and satellite TV and on streaming and digital platforms across the state that:  Mike Kehoe said that he was, “proud to have been a part of that work” on Missouri’s current abortion ban – even though it has no exceptions for rape or incest, and it makes a doctor or nurse performing an abortion subject to felony charges of up to 15 years. | **2022: Kehoe Posted “Missouri Is an Overwhelmingly Pro-Life State” And Thanked Gov. Parson For “Quick Action On The ‘Right To Life Of The Unborn Child Act.’”** In a June 2022 post to Twitter, Kehoe wrote, “Missouri is an overwhelmingly pro-life state, and generations of conservative leaders have worked in preparation for this day. I am proud to have been a part of that work and I am thankful for @GovParsonMO’s quick action on the ‘Right to Life of the Unborn Child Act.’” [[twitter.com, @LtGovMikeKehoe, 6/24/22](https://x.com/LtGovMikeKehoe/status/1540370771322851330?s=20)]  **2019: Missouri Lawmakers Passed “The ‘Right To Life Of The Unborn Child Act,’ Which Would Ban All Abortions In Missouri If Roe Vs. Wade Is Overturned.”** According to the St. Louis Review, published by the Archdiocese of St. Louis, “After long debate and hours of intense negotiations, Missouri lawmakers have passed a sweeping measure that places further restrictions on abortions in the state, including a ban on abortions after eight weeks of pregnancy. […] Other measures include: […] enactment of the ‘Right to Life of the Unborn Child Act,’ which would ban all abortions in Missouri if Roe vs. Wade is overturned, a federal Human Life Amendment is adopted, or a federal Human Life bill is enacted.” [[archstl.com, 5/29/19](https://www.archstl.org/missouri-lawmakers-pass-historic-prolife-bill-banning-abortions-after-eight-weeks-4022)]  **After Roe v. Wade Was Overturned, Missouri Banned Abortions With Only Exception “In Case Of Medical Emergency” And No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.** “Missouri senators on Wednesday voted against amending the state’s strict law against abortions to allow exceptions in cases of rape and incest. The state banned almost all abortions after the U.S. Supreme Court in 2022 overturned Roe v. Wade. Abortions currently are only legal ‘in cases of medical emergency.’ Democratic state Sen. Tracy McCreery said Missouri’s current law goes too far and called on her colleagues to ‘show an ounce of compassion’ for victims of rape and incest. ‘What we’re saying is, ‘We don’t care,’’ McCreery said of the state’s current abortion ban. ‘We’re going to force you to give birth, even if that pregnancy resulted from forcible rape by a family member, a date, an ex-husband or a stranger.’” [[pbs.org, 2/7/24](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/missouri-senate-votes-against-allowing-abortion-in-cases-of-rape-and-incest)]  **Kehoe On Missouri’s Abortion Ban: “I'm A Defender Of The Current Law As We See It.”** “Now advocates are suing over a ballot summary written by Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft, a Republican running for governor, who said the constitutional amendment would allow for ‘dangerous’ and ‘unregulated’ abortions in Missouri. That has further delayed signature collection. Kehoe also said he supported efforts to make it more difficult to amend the state constitution, though he didn't say what specific threshold for passage he believed should be required. ‘I'd rather see something that's in writing,’ he said. ‘I'm a defender of the current law as we see it,’ Kehoe also said Thursday. ‘I do not like the initiative petition process that some people are putting together on the life question.’ If the Legislature approved ‘something that had some exceptions that weren't crazy, we'd certainly sure look at it,’ Kehoe said. ‘It's the same position that President Trump has and that Senator Hawley has.’” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 8/19/23]  **Right to Life of the Unborn Child Act: “Any Person Who Knowingly Performs Or Induces An Abortion Of An Unborn Child In Violation Of This Subsection Shall Be Guilty Of A Class B Felony, As Well As Subject To Suspension Or Revocation Of His Or Her Professional License By His Or Her Professional Licensing Board.”**“Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no abortion shall be performed or induced upon a woman, except in cases of medical emergency. Any person who knowingly performs or induces an abortion of an unborn child in violation of this subsection shall be guilty of a class B felony, as well as subject to suspension or revocation of his or her professional license by his or her professional licensing board. A woman upon whom an abortion is performed or induced in violation of this subsection shall not be prosecuted for a conspiracy to violate the provisions of this subsection.” [Missouri Legislature, 188.017. Right to Life of the Unborn Child Act, [6/24/22](188.017.%20%20Right%20to%20Life%20of%20the%20Unborn%20Child%20Act)]  **2019: Kehoe Said “The Heartbeat Bill, In My Opinion, Was a Very Good Bill.”** In an interview with This Week in Missouri Politics, Kehoe said,“The heartbeat bill, in my opinion, was a very good bill. The speaker, again, in the House, did a really good job getting it in shape. Andrew Koenig in the Senate and others that are very passionate about the rights of the unborn did a great job of leading it through. […] If you’re a conservative Republican, you’re most natural fundamental position that you ran for office on was to protect innocent life, and I think the heartbeat bill certainly puts Missouri in a position to do that.” [[youtube.com, 00:10:23, 11/4/2019](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P49DgoZRd5Y)] (VIDEO)   * **2019: Missouri Lawmakers Passed a Bill “That Places Further Restrictions on Abortions in the State, Including a Ban on Abortions After Eight Weeks of Pregnancy.”** According to the St. Louis Review, published by the Archdiocese of St. Louis, “After long debate and hours of intense negotiations, Missouri lawmakers have passed a sweeping measure that places further restrictions on abortions in the state, including a ban on abortions after eight weeks of pregnancy. Gov Mike Parson signed the ‘Missouri Stands for the Unborn Act’ at a small gathering at his office May 24, with members of the House and Senate and other pro-life leaders present. ‘By signing this bill today, we are sending a strong signal to the nation that, in Missouri, we stand for life, protect women’s health, and advocate for the unborn,’ he said in a written statement. ‘All life has value and is worth protecting.’” [[archstl.com, 5/29/19](https://www.archstl.org/missouri-lawmakers-pass-historic-prolife-bill-banning-abortions-after-eight-weeks-4022)] * **2019: Missouri Passed Bill “To Ban Abortions After A Fetal Heartbeat Is Detected” At About Eight Weeks With “No Exceptions For Rape Or Incest.”** “Missouri lawmakers passed a bill Friday to ban abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected, the latest in a flurry of anti-abortion measures across the country intended to mount direct challenges to federal protections for the procedure. [...] The measure, known as the Missouri Stands for the Unborn Act, now moves to the desk of Gov. Mike Parson, a Republican, who is expected to sign it. The bill, which bans abortions at around eight weeks of pregnancy, often before a woman even knows she is pregnant, included no exceptions for rape or incest.” [[nytimes.com, 5/17/19](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/17/us/missouri-abortion-law.html)] |
| Even if the abortion amendment passes, Mike Kehoe suggested he’d ignore the election results and keep his ban in place” | **Kehoe: “Well, One, Let's Hope Amendment Three Does Not Pass. But Randy, To Find To Go Through That Scenario, Any Governor Puts Their Hand On The Bible, Says They're Going To Follow The Constitution. Unfortunately, Amendment Three Is A Constitutional Amendment, Which Is A Whole Another Discussion. Which Is Horrible, That We Let Outside Interests To Change Our Constitution So Easily.”** [Facebook, The Eagle 939, [9/18/24](https://www.facebook.com/939TheEagle/videos/529192476327043)]  **Kehoe: “You Guys Have Heard Me Say Time And Time Again On This Show, I Think If You're An Elected Official, Your Number One Priority Should Be Protecting Those Who Can't Speak For Themselves, And That Is Innocent Life. And I Will Do Everything I Can To Work With Legislators And Other Folks Around The State To Find Ways To Make Sure We Continue To Do That In Some Form Or Fashion.”** [Facebook, The Eagle 939, [9/18/24](https://www.facebook.com/939TheEagle/videos/529192476327043)] |
| Voters should hear this messaging from Republican voters, particularly Republican women, who have been hurt by Missouri’s abortion ban that Kehoe has vocally supported.  Women without a college degree especially should see this messaging on digital and streaming platforms. |  |
| Additionally, Missouri voters need to see broadcast, cable, and satellite TV (including in the Springfield Media Market) and on streaming and digital platforms across the state that:  Mike Kehoe sold out Missouri’s farmland to China. He was the deciding vote overturning a bill which was meant to protect Missouri farmers from being bought out by China, he has repeatedly taken money from Chinese companies that are hurting Missouri farmers, and his campaign bus is even leased to him by a lobbyist for a Chinese company that owns significant Missouri farmland. | **February 2013: Kehoe Voted To Pass SB 9 To Allow Foreign Ownership Of Up To One Percent Of Missouri Farmland.** In February 2013, Kehoe voted to pass SB 9, “Modifies provisions relating to agriculture,” according to records with the Missouri Senate. According to a summary of the legislation, “Generally, foreign businesses are prohibited from owning or having an interest in agricultural land, except as provided in sections 442.586 and 442.591. This act prohibits foreign businesses from owning agricultural land if the total aggregate foreign ownership of agricultural acreage in Missouri exceeds one percent of the total aggregate agricultural acreage. Such sale, transfer, or acquisition of any agricultural land must be approved by the director of the Department of Agriculture.” SB 9 passed the Senate 23-9. [[SB 9](https://www.senate.mo.gov/13info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=16944724" \l ":~:text=This%20act%20prohibits%20foreign%20businesses,the%20total%20aggregate%20agricultural%20acreage.), Third Reading and Passed, 2/18/13]   * **2013: Kehoe Voted To Approve “Legislation Allowing Up To 1% Of Missouri's Farmland To Come Under Foreign Ownership.”** “Kehoe has come under fire from some of his gubernatorial opponents over his voting record in 2013, when lawmakers approved legislation allowing up to 1% of Missouri's farmland to come under foreign ownership. Although Gov. Jay Nixon vetoed the measure, lawmakers overrode his veto to ultimately pass the legislation. Kehoe was among the lawmakers who voted for the measure at the time. State Sen. Bill Eigel, who is running against Kehoe in the Republican gubernatorial primary, dubbed the lieutenant governor ‘Kung Pao Kehoe’ in a statement following the conference. ‘This is a too little too late in-kind contribution from Mike Parson's government office to Kung Pao Kehoe's campaign to try to make up for the fact that they are losers on this issue,’ Eigel said. ‘They both voted to let foreign enemies buy Missouri land during their time in the Senate.’” [Columbia Daily Tribune, 1/4/24]   **Kehoe “Said The 2013 Vote Had Been To ‘Put A Cap On Foreign Ownership Of Land,” Though “The Previous Cap Had Been Zero.”** “Kehoe is likely to face the most direct attacks on the issue because of his 2013 vote. During a February radio interview, he said the 2013 vote had been to ‘put a cap on foreign ownership of land.’ But while the bill did cap foreign ownership at 1%, the previous cap had been zero. The Chinese Communist Party's influence continues to grow and is one of the foremost national security threats to the United States, Kehoe said Thursday in a statement in response to questions from The Star. Missouri should be doing ‘everything possible’ to prevent the CCP and other foreign adversaries from buying Missouri farmland, especially around military installations, advanced manufacturing that plays a role in national defense and intelligence agencies, he said.” [Kansas City Star, 5/19/23]  **September 2013:** **Kehoe Assumed The Chair And Voted To Override The Veto Of Jay Nixon On SB 9.** In September 2013, Kehoe assumed the chair and voted to override Governor's veto on SB 9, “Modifies provisions relating to agriculture,” according to records with the Missouri Senate. According to a summary of the legislation, “Generally, foreign businesses are prohibited from owning or having an interest in agricultural land, except as provided in sections 442.586 and 442.591. This act prohibits foreign businesses from owning agricultural land if the total aggregate foreign ownership of agricultural acreage in Missouri exceeds one percent of the total aggregate agricultural acreage. Such sale, transfer, or acquisition of any agricultural land must be approved by the director of the Department of Agriculture.” The Veto Overide for SB 9 passed the Senate 23-10. [[SB 9](https://www.senate.mo.gov/13info/pdf-jrnl/VDAY01.pdf#page=20), S adopted motion to override Governor's veto, 9/11/13]   * **2013: Kehoe Supported Override Of Former Gov. Jay Nixon’s (D) Veto Of “A Bill Lifting A Near-Total Ban On Foreign Ownership Of Agricultural Land.”** “Former Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon in 2013 vetoed a bill lifting a near-total ban on foreign ownership of agricultural land but the Republican-controlled General Assembly overrode him -- allowing foreign entities to own up to 1% of agricultural land. In a statement, Kehoe called the order a ‘critical step forward to protect Missourians, our military assets, and critical infrastructure against China and other foreign adversaries, all while respecting our strong relationships with international allies and economic partners.’ Kehoe's Republican opponents for governor, Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft and state Sen. Bill Eigel, painted the order and press conference as intended to benefit Kehoe's campaign. Both Republicans attacked Kehoe, who was a state senator in 2013 and supported the veto override but now backs new restrictions. Ashcroft on social media called the press conference ‘incredibly disingenuous.’ Eigel, in a statement, said the order was ‘a too little too late in-kind contribution from Mike Parson's government office’ to Kehoe's campaign. House Majority Leader Crystal Quade, a Springfield Democrat running for governor, said in a statement that Parson's order was ‘a start,’ but attacked Kehoe and Republicans for their 2013 votes.” [Kansas City Star, 1/2/24]   **Veto Override Vote “Allowed Foreign Entities To Own Up To 1% Of Agricultural Land And Most Proposals In The Legislature Now Would Either Lower That Threshold To 0.5% Or Reimpose The Ban.”** “The veto override allowed foreign entities to own up to 1% of agricultural land and most proposals in the legislature now would either lower that threshold to 0.5% or reimpose the ban. Now, the major Republican candidates for governor all support tighter limits on foreign ownership or a new ban, reflecting how far the party has moved in 10 years. As the Republican Party nationally has shifted away from support for free trade and adopted an increasingly hawkish stance toward China, foreign land ownership has become a political liability - and opportunity - ahead of the 2024 election. Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe was a state senator in 2013 and supported the veto override, but now backs new restrictions. Missouri Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft and state Sen. Bill Eigel, neither of whom were in the legislature at the time, also support limits but have fought over who has staked out the most aggressive position.” [Kansas City Star, 5/19/23]  Kehoe has recently come under fire for taking four separate campaign donations totaling to $8,500 from Smithfield Food in 2013-2016.  **HEADLINE: “Kehoe Campaign For Missouri Governor Riding On Bus Owned By Lobbyist For Chinese Pork Producer.”** [Missouri Independent, [7/21/24](https://missouriindependent.com/2024/07/21/kehoe-campaign-for-missouri-governor-riding-on-bus-owned-by-lobbyist-for-chinese-pork-producer/)]  **Missouri Independent: “Campaign Finance Reports List The $25,000 Expense As A Donation From Mike Kehoe, Who Personally Leased The Bus Because He ‘Didn’t Want To Use Campaign Funds.’ [Kehoe Is] Traveling The State In A Bus Owned By Jewell Patek, A Former Legislator Who Is The Only Missouri Lobbyist Employed By The Chinese Business That Owns A Significant Chunk Of Agricultural Land In The State.”** “Campaign finance reports list the $25,000 expense as a donation from Mike Kehoe, who personally leased the bus because he ‘didn’t want to use campaign funds.’ In his campaign for governor, Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe has promised Republican voters he will stop China ‘from buying up our farmland.’ He’s doing so while traveling the state in a bus owned by Jewell Patek, a former legislator who is the only Missouri lobbyist employed by the Chinese business that owns a significant chunk of agricultural land in the state. The Republican primary for governor has nine candidates listed on the ballot, with three – Kehoe, Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft and state Sen. Bill Eigel – running full-scale campaigns. The issue of foreign land ownership, especially by China, has been one of the major issues.” [Missouri Independent, [7/21/24](https://missouriindependent.com/2024/07/21/kehoe-campaign-for-missouri-governor-riding-on-bus-owned-by-lobbyist-for-chinese-pork-producer/)] |
| And finally, Black voters across the state should see in mail, radio, and streaming and digital platforms that:  Mike Kehoe voted for anti-worker legislation that hurts working- and middle-class families by driving down wages. Department of Labor reports show that in states that adopted Kehoe’s plan, wages are lower – cutting an average of $8,700 less per year in a family’s household income. | **Kehoe: “When I Was The Majority Leader In The Senate, I Supported Right To Work. We Had It Passed. It Was Signed By The Governor And Then 67.5% Of Missourians Decided It Wasn't The Right Way To Go. I Have Tried To Maintain A Good Relationship With Organized Labor Because There's Some Issues We're Not Going To Agree On. But At The End Of The Day, They Represent A Well-Trained Workforce That Can Get Things Done.”** “[HOST]: If Missouri lawmakers send you a bill to implement Right to Work, which would bar unions and employers from requiring workers to pay dues as a condition of employment. Would you sign, sign it or veto it and why?” “[Kehoe]: Listen, when I was the majority leader in the Senate, I supported right to work. We had it passed. It was signed by the governor and then 67.5% of Missourians decided it wasn't the right way to go. I have tried to maintain a good relationship with organized labor because there's some issues we're not going to agree on. But at the end of the day, they represent a well-trained workforce that can get things done on time and under budget. And we talk about workforce development in this state all the time. Every state talks about workforce development and the trades really have an incredibly well-trained workforce, whether it's 562 pipefitters and their new training center, carpenters, sheet metal workers. I've been in most of those training centers. I really appreciate what the trades men and women do and the quality of job that they can bring to to that. So there's a there's spots we're going to disagree on things, but for the most part, putting keeping men and women to work and improving the state's economy is something that's very important.” [Politically Speaking, 00:13:01, [6/17/24](https://stlpr.org/show/st-louis-on-the-air/2024-06-17/kehoe-touts-experience-but-not-being-tied-to-the-establishment-in-run-for-governor)] (AUDIO)  **Kehoe On If He Would Veto Right To Work: “Well, There's Different Versions Of Right To Work Going On Around Out There In The Conversation. Some Of Our County To County Opt-In And Opt-out. So I Would Love To See The Piece Of Legislation That You Asked Me Whether I'll Sign Or Veto Before I Just Say A Blanket Word To That.”**  “[HOST]: And so based of that answer, you'd veto it. You’d veto right to work?” “[Kehoe]: Well, there's different versions of right to work going on around out there in the conversation. Some of our county to county opt in and opt out. So I would love to see the piece of legislation that you asked me whether I'll sign or veto before I just say a blanket word to that.” [Politically Speaking, 00:13:29, [6/17/24](https://stlpr.org/show/st-louis-on-the-air/2024-06-17/kehoe-touts-experience-but-not-being-tied-to-the-establishment-in-run-for-governor)] (AUDIO)  **HEADLINE: “Perspective: Case For Right To Work.”** [News Tribune, Mike Kehoe, [1/31/17](https://www.newstribune.com/news/2017/jan/31/perspective-case-right-work/)]  **Kehoe: “I Have Voted For Right-To-Work Before, And I Voted For It Again On Thursday For Several Reasons, One Being That A Much Larger Percentage Of The People I Represent Are For Right-To-Work Than Against.”** “Since I have been in office, right to work has been a topic which has generated a great deal of discussion and consideration. This issue certainly creates very strong emotions with constituents who are both for and against right to work. I have voted for right to work before, and I voted for it again on Thursday for several reasons, one being that a much larger percentage of the people I represent are for right to work than against.” [News Tribune, Mike Kehoe, [1/31/17](https://www.newstribune.com/news/2017/jan/31/perspective-case-right-work/)]  **Kehoe: “When Missouri Becomes A Right-To-Work State, Labor Unions Will Have A Choice Of Whether Or Not To Adapt Their Practices To Provide A Real, Measurable And Tangible Benefit To Employees And Have An Equal Opportunity To Earn Their Investment. In Essence, Right To Work Levels The Playing Field.”** “I also believe that workers should not be forced to join a union as a condition of employment. As a small business owner, I know the power of competition in the free market. If a product is good and valuable, people will buy it. If a product is not good and valuable, people will not. The trade unions are managed by good people, but they are not an exception to this rule. If union membership is beneficial to employees, workers will pay dues for what the union provides. However, if union membership provides no tangible benefit to them, they likely will not. When Missouri becomes a right-to-work state, labor unions will have a choice of whether or not to adapt their practices to provide a real, measurable and tangible benefit to employees and have an equal opportunity to earn their investment. In essence, right to work levels the playing field.” [News Tribune, Mike Kehoe, [1/31/17](https://www.newstribune.com/news/2017/jan/31/perspective-case-right-work/)]  **AFLCIO Missouri: “U.S. Department Of Labor And Census Bureau Reports Show That In Right To Work States, Wages Decline. On Average, Families Make $8,700 Less Per Year In States With Right To Work Law.” “**The Missouri Secretary of State recently approved for circulation Initiative Petition 2022-004 to amend Article I, Section 29 of the Missouri Constitution to establish Missouri as a ‘Right to Work’ state. Just over two years ago, Missourians resoundingly rejected ‘Right to Work’ as wrong for Missouri. […] ‘U.S. Department of Labor and Census Bureau reports show that in Right to Work states, wages decline. On average, families make $8,700 less per year in states with Right to Work laws, while the average CEO pay is 364 times more than the average worker.” [AFLCIO Missouri, [3/4/21](https://moaflcio.org/news/lawsuit-proposed-right-work-constitutional-amendment-misleads-voters)] |