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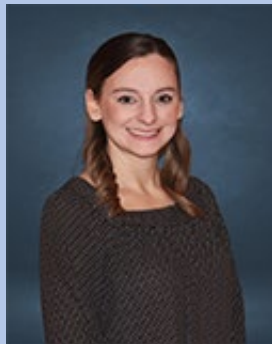
Missouri Legislative Academy Team

Anthony Ferrell

Brian Flowers

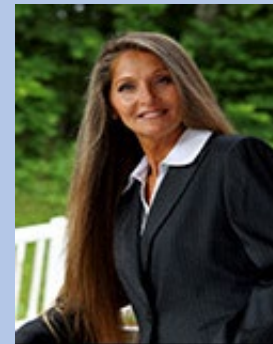Haylee Musso

Clay Stanton

BJ Tanksley

Darla Weekley

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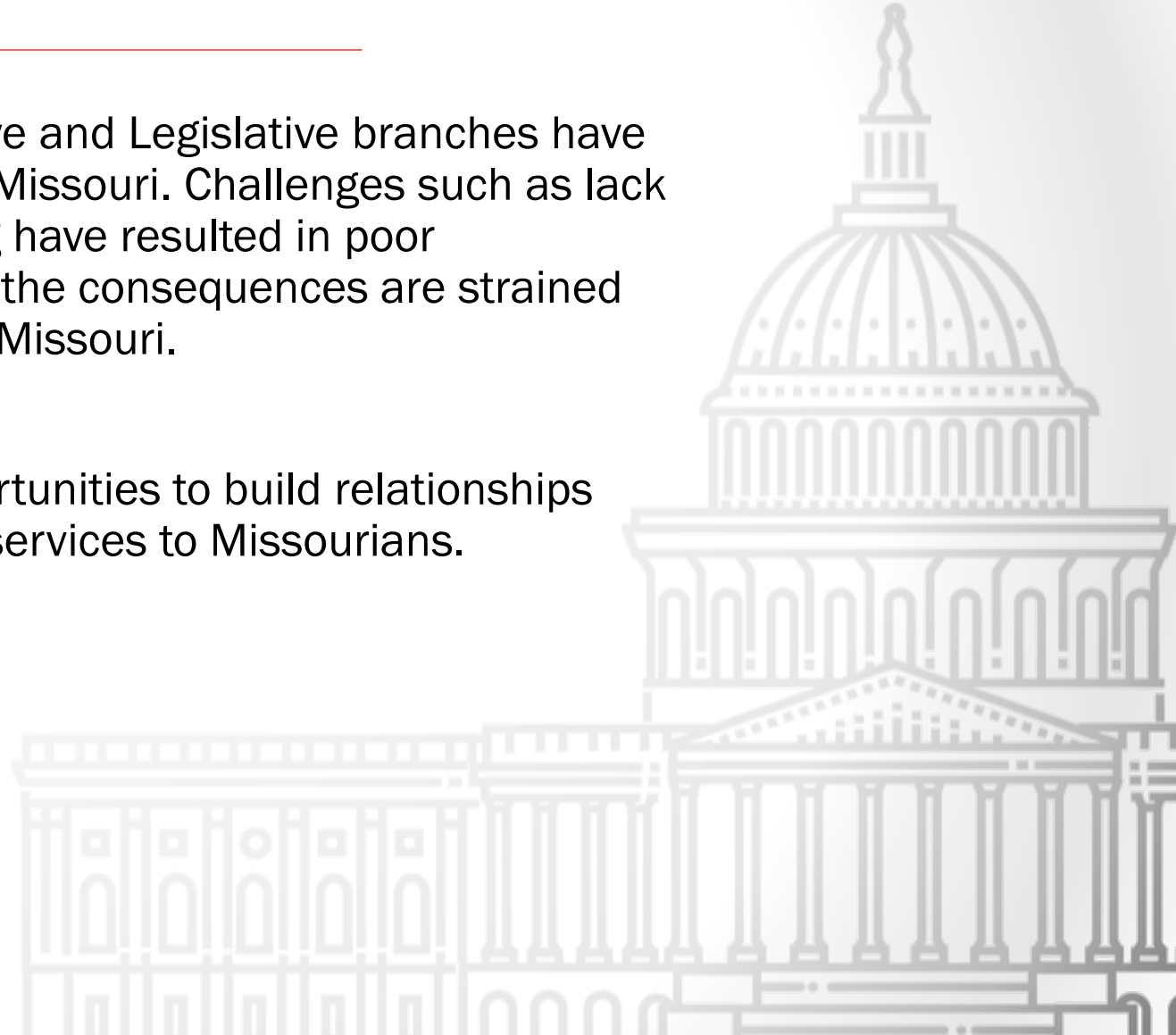
Problem Statement

In the past, poor collaboration between the Executive and Legislative branches have complicated the ability to best serve the citizens of Missouri. Challenges such as lack of communication, trust, and mutual understanding have resulted in poor collaboration between the branches. Unfortunately, the consequences are strained relationships and subpar services to the citizens of Missouri.

Our proposal is a **first step approach** to create opportunities to build relationships and improve collaboration in the spirit of improved services to Missourians.

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Ripped from the Headlines

'I think you're lying': Missouri lawmakers demand change in _____ agency

'They're never going to trust us again.' Missouri lawmakers rip clawback of benefits

'I expect change': Lawmakers hope new leadership jumpstarts reform at troubled agency

Was MO ____ director doomed from the start? How angry conservatives fueled backlash

Missouri lawmakers warn lack of confidence in _____ could stall funding for major projects
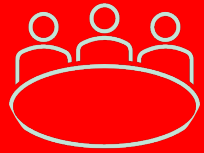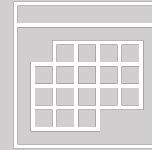
Missouri lawmakers: Trust issues could derail _____ funds

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Relationship Building

Break the Silence	Turn 'Hi' into 'Hi again'	Turn 'Hi again' into 'Lets chat'	Turn 'Lets chat' into "Lets build a relationship'

"Building bridges and relationships between the legislative and executive branch often results in improved collaboration."

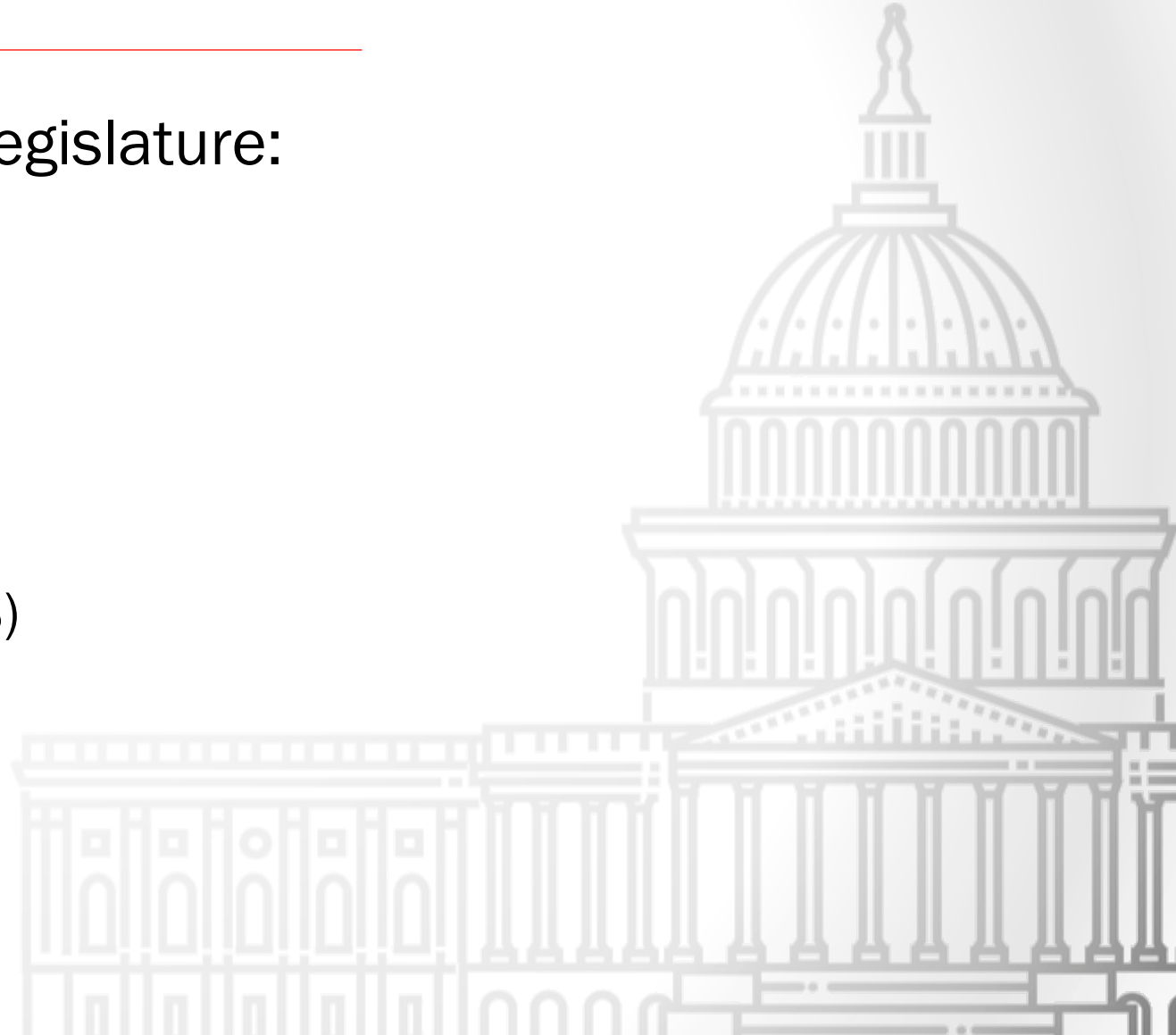Ng, G. (2022) How to Build Real Relationships at Work. Harvard Business Review.

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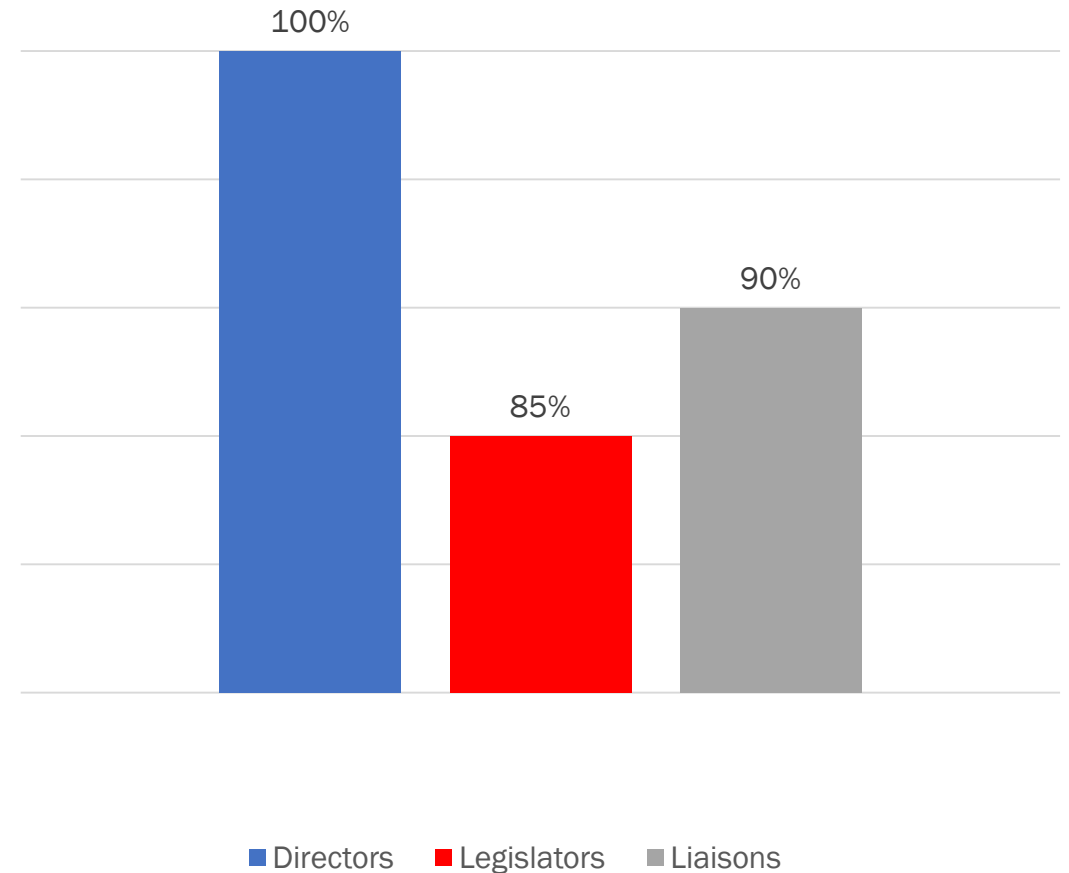LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY

Analysis

Surveys

- Surveyed Liaisons, Directors, and Legislature:
  - Need/Benefit
  - Focus/Purpose
  - Timing/Availability
  - Who to involve

- Results:
  - Higher than average responses (35%)
  - Constructive comments

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Survey Responses

- "Educating legislators on the role and operations of Departments allows for a more collaborative approach to interactions that currently trend towards adversarial."

- "Better depth of knowledge regarding the executive branch would further assist the legislature in assisting our constituents."

- "I don't know how many departments there are."

Could Benefit From Enhanced Knowledge

Chart: Directors 100%, Legislators 85%, Liaisons 90%

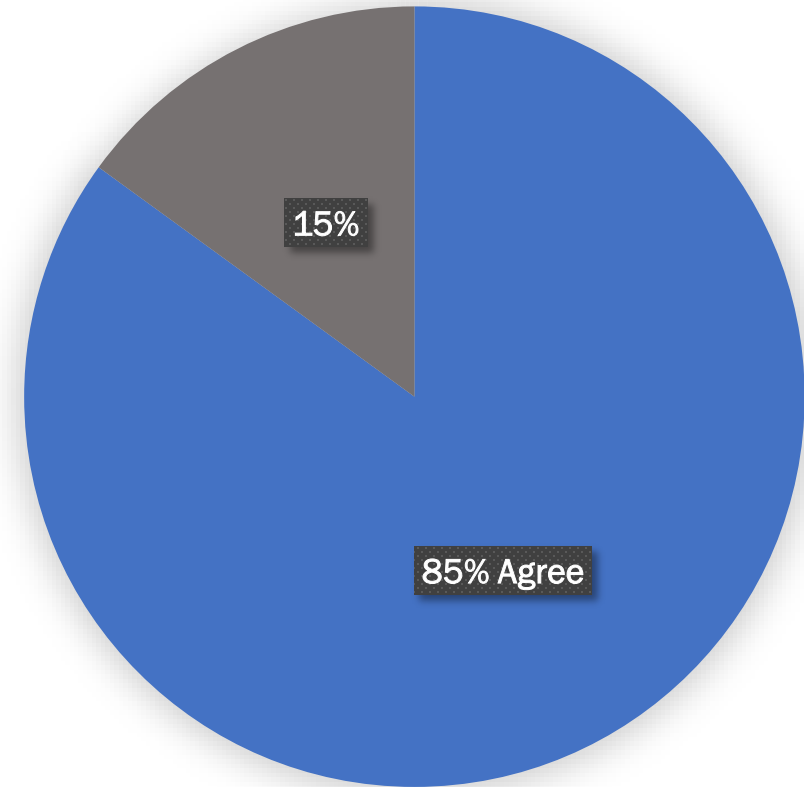Legend: Directors, Legislators, Liaisons

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Survey Responses

- "It's not uncommon for my first interaction with some legislators to be when something has gone wrong."

- "Important to dispel whatever rumors or preconceived notions new legislators may have about Government."

- "Major issues we encounter with legislators is a lack of trust and the need to build relationships."

Baseline education would improve efficiency and effectiveness

15%

85% Agree

Survey Summary

"The more I know about government the better decisions I can make."
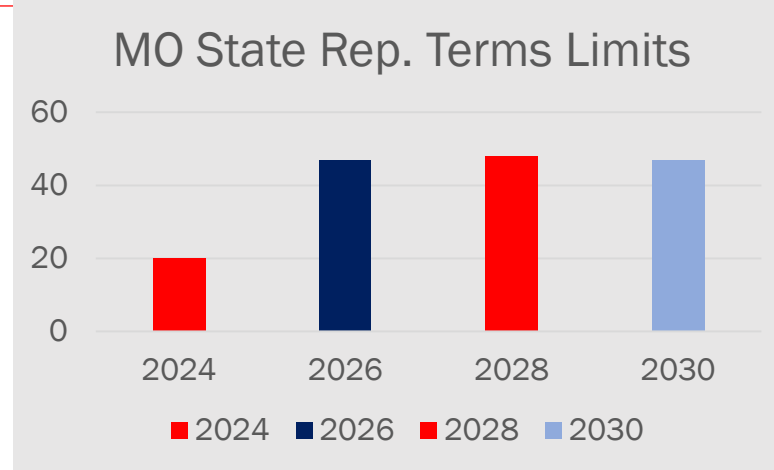
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Relationship

Legislative Profile

- I want to be an effective legislator but **can only do that with a better understanding** of departmental functionality."

- "Not sure **what departments are in the executive branch**."

MO State Rep. Terms Limits

$51.8 B Statewide Budget

2,200 Bills Filed

3982 Fiscal Notes

In Session 5 months a year
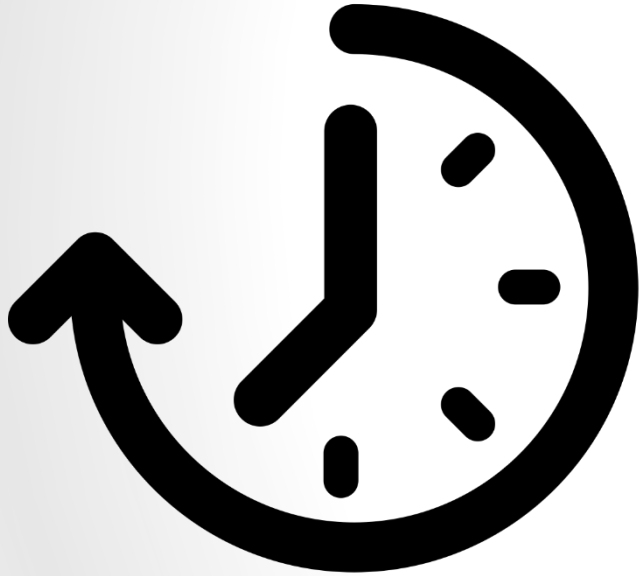
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Executive Departments

Challenges

Breaking the Silence

Initial Proposal

- **Three Day Freshman Legislative Orientation**
  - One 20 minute presentation
    - During 2 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches
  - Rotunda Exhibits
    - All three days

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Freshman Orientation Value Add

Time	Opportunity	Event
7:30 AM	2 Department Presentations	Breakfast
8:30 – 11:30		House Planned Content
11:30 – 1:00	3 Department Presentations	Lunch
1:00 – 5:30		House Planned Content
* 2 Breakfasts and 3 Lunches offers 390 minutes of opportunity. Offering each department 20 minutes.		

Department 101

Mission

Department Purview

Constituent Issues

Brief Budget Overview

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Turn 'Hi' into 'Hi again'

Legislative Academy Phase 2

- Capitol talks

- Facility/Office Tours/Field Visit

- District/Region Tours

- Legislative Open Houses

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Expected Outcomes

Forge Connections

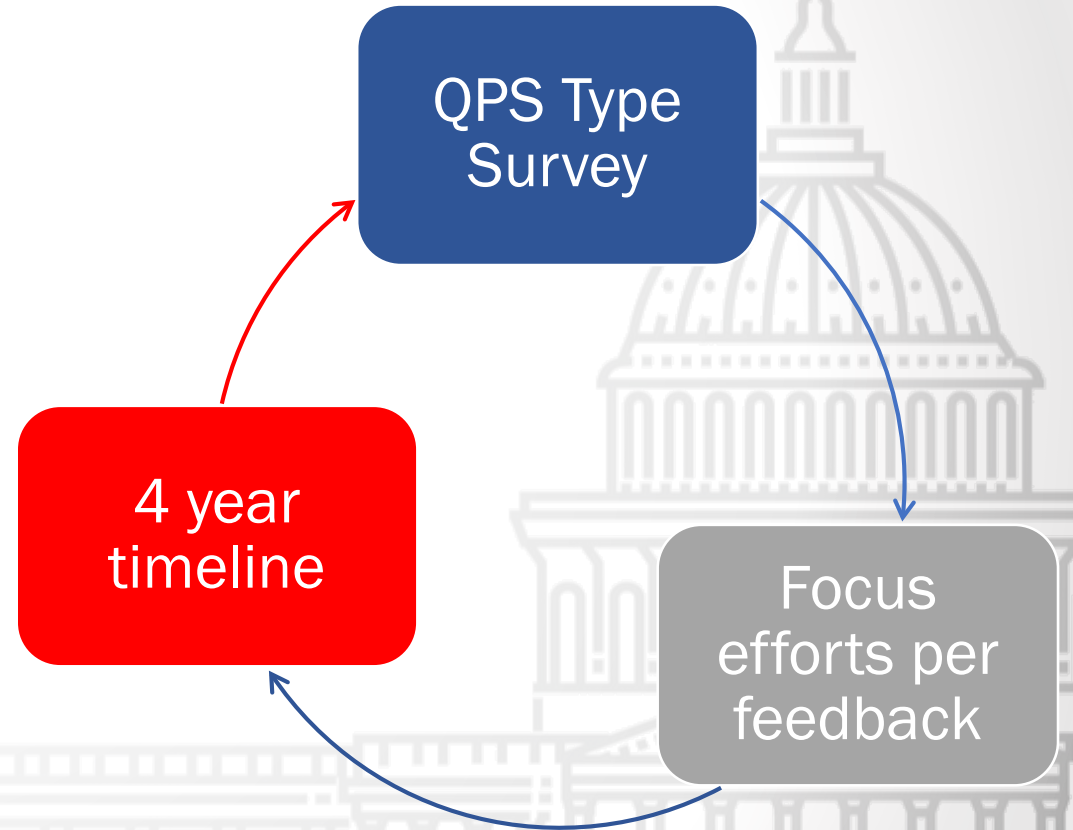Collaboration results in easier problem solving

Durable Long Term Relationships

"I do believe that collaboration between the executive and legislative branches needs to happen. If we all understood the other better we would more **easily find middle ground and agreement**."
– Budget Director

Easier Sessions and change in Status Quo

BETTER SERVICES TO MISSOURIANS!

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Measuring Impact

Measure relationship perception from:

- Department Directors
- Department Finance Directors
- Legislative Liaisons
- Legislative Members

QPS Type Survey

4 year timeline

Focus efforts per feedback

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Let's build relationships that will better serve Missourians

A special thank you to:

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Adam Albach

Ben Terrell

Logan Hobbs

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