

# FACT CHECK: Josh Hawley Launches Absurd Ad on Claire's Record of Fighting for All of Missouri

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| <b>TITLE</b> | “Given up on you”                 |
| <b>MEDIA</b> | Video 0:30 <a href="#">[link]</a> |
| <b>DATE</b>  | 10/11/18                          |

## **HAWLEY’S AD RIPS CLAIRE’S COMMENTS OUT OF CONTEXT**

- Claire's full comments during the canvass kick off that Hawley cites were "I mean, St. Louis County, if we do our job in St. Louis County, you know, I can give up a few votes in the bootheel. Right? I don't want to give up any votes. I've worked for every single one of them, but turning out this area is so important and that people to people contact makes it work."

## **CLAIRE HAS HELD TOWN HALLS THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO HEAR FROM ALL MISSOURIANS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT DISAGREE WITH HER**

- Claire has held more town halls than the entire rest of the Missouri Congressional delegation combined. She believes that town halls are essential to representing her constituents — even the ones that may not agree with her — and has held the vast majority of her town halls in rural areas like the bootheel. Any Missourian is welcome to attend her town halls and ask Claire any question, which are put into a bowl and completely unvetted.

## **CLAIRE IS WORKING HARD TO EARN THE VOTE OF EVERY MISSOURIAN AND HAS HELD NEARLY THREE TIMES AS MANY EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI AS JOSH HAWLEY**

- The Missouri Democratic Party Coordinated Campaign opened a permanent field office in the bootheel in June, the first Democratic field office in the bootheel since 2012, and have opened multiple field offices throughout Southeast Missouri.
- In the last year and a half alone, Claire has held nearly two dozen events in Southeast Missouri, almost three times as many as Josh Hawley.

## **UNLIKE JOSH HAWLEY, CLAIRE IS STANDING UP AGAINST THE PRESIDENT’S TRADE WAR THAT IS KILLING JOBS IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI**

- Claire strongly opposes the Administration's trade war, which has already cost Missourians hundreds of jobs and has put Poplar Bluff's Mid Continent Nail on the brink of extinction. Meanwhile, Josh Hawley continues to support the trade war, despite its devastating effects on Missouri's economy and Southeast Missouri, specifically.
- As a child, Claire grew up around guns - her father loved to hunt - and she has said repeatedly that she supports the Second Amendment while also supporting common sense gun safety measures to keep our children safe.

## **CLAIRE IS A DAUGHTER OF RURAL MISSOURI**

- A daughter of rural Missouri, born in Rolla and raised in Houston and Lebanon, Senator Claire McCaskill fights for Missouri's rural communities every day because she knows that they are the bedrock of our state. She has worked to sustain Missouri's rural post offices, hospitals, and school; pushed for expanded broadband access for rural areas; worked to pass bipartisan farm bills; fought to protect Missouri agriculture from unnecessary regulations; and has called for an end to the Administration's reckless trade war - which Josh Hawley supports - that is hitting Missouri's rural economy the hardest.

**CLAIRE HAS SUPPORTED NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF PRESIDENT TRUMP'S JUDICIAL NOMINEES**

- Claire evaluates every judicial nominee on their own merits, regardless of who nominated them. Claire has voted for over two-thirds of President Trump's judicial nominees, including all 23 of his District Court judicial nominations. After carefully evaluating Justice Kavanaugh's record, meeting with Justice Kavanaugh and watching his initial hearing, Claire determined that Justice Kavanaugh's allegiance to unlimited donations and dark anonymous money in political campaigns was deeply concerning and announced her opposition to Justice Kavanaugh's nomination.

| AD CLAIMS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | THE FACTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <p><b>Ad:</b></p> <p>Claire McCaskill caught on tape.</p> <p><i>McCaskill:</i> If we do our job in St. Louis County, you know, I can give up a few votes in the Bootheel.</p> <p>Listen again.</p> <p><i>McCaskill:</i> "I can give up a few votes in the Bootheel."</p> <p><b>Text:</b></p> <p>Claire McCaskill<br/><b>Caught On Tape:</b></p> <p>"If we do our job in St. Louis County...I can <b>give up</b> a few <b>votes in the Bootheel</b>"</p> <p>"I can give up a few votes in the Bootheel."</p> | <p><b><u>HAWLEY'S AD RIPS CLAIRE'S COMMENTS OUT OF CONTEXT</u></b></p> <p><b>Claire: "I Don't Want To Give Up Any Votes. I've Worked For Every Single One Of Them."</b> "This is going to be a ground game election. This is going to be how much people to people contact we have with everyone who sees our values in the same way as a country and as a state. And if we don't do that people to people part, if we don't get enough people on the doors and, believe me, it's the doors. Phone's great, but if I had my first choice, it would be doors. Doors, doors, doors. Now we are already shattering records. We have invested a huge amount in offices and field staff. We have—you know—raise your hand if you are part of Team Claire that's working here in the Clayton office. See them all? If we turn out Clayton—I was telling you. I mean, St. Louis County, if we do our job in St. Louis County, you know, I can give up a few votes in the bootheel. Right? I don't want to give up any votes. I've worked for every single one of them, but turning out this area is so important and that people to people contact makes it work." [McCaskill remarks at Clayton Canvass Kickoff, 6/29/18</p> <p><b><u>CLAIRE HAS HELD TOWN HALLS THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO HEAR FROM ALL MISSOURIANS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT DISAGREE WITH HER</u></b></p> |

**McCaskill Held Town Halls Throughout**

**Missouri.** “Democratic U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill is holding a series of town halls in mid-Missouri. McCaskill is hosting 10 forums this week in cities including Ashland, Moberly, Macon, Mexico and California. She'll be in Missouri while the U.S. Senate is on break for the July Fourth holiday. The meetings are open to the public. McCaskill says she wants Missourians to give her feedback on how she's doing and voice opinions on public policy. She says she wants to hold herself accountable to Missouri residents.” [Associated Press, 7/3/17]

**AP: "Her Itinerary In Rural Areas This Year Is Aggressive, With Dozens Of Town Halls Already Under Her Belt And More To Come In The Next Few Weeks."** “In her successful 2006 and 2012 campaigns, McCaskill made a series of small-town stops in an attempt to court rural voters. Her itinerary in rural areas this year is aggressive, with dozens of town halls already under her belt and more to come in the next few weeks. [...] McCaskill is a Rolla native who was later raised in Houston and Lebanon, Missouri, before moving to Columbia as a child.” [Associated Press, [8/21/17](#)]

**McCaskill Visited Counties That Voted For Trump By Margins Of 25% Or More And Held Town Halls.** “Over three days in mid-August, McCaskill visited 10 of these counties—all of which voted for Trump by margins of 25 percentage points or more. (McCaskill has now done around 40 town halls this year, and has set a personal goal of 52 by the end of 2017.) Using her most reasonable, adult-in-the-room voice, McCaskill’s goal was to peel off a few votes here, a few votes there. By tamping down the perception of what she calls her party’s ‘arrogance’ about rural voters, by arguing against knee-jerk cynicism about politics and the people who practice it, McCaskill hoped to convince voters she—and Washington, D.C., as a whole—can still improve their lives.” [Politico, [4/18/17](#)]

**CLAIRE IS WORKING HARD TO EARN THE VOTE OF EVERY MISSOURIAN AND HAS HELD NEARLY THREE TIMES AS MANY EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI AS JOSH HAWLEY**

**Claire Has Held Nearly Three Times As Many Events In Southeast Missouri As Josh Hawley.** In the last year and a half alone, Claire has held nearly two dozen events in Southeast Missouri, almost three times as many as Josh Hawley.

**MDP Coordinated Campaign Has Opened Multiple Field Offices Throughout Southeast Missouri.** The Missouri Democratic Party Coordinated Campaign opened a permanent field office in the bootheel in June, the first Democratic field

office in the bootheel since 2012, and have opened multiple field offices throughout Southeast Missouri.

### **CLAIRE IS A DAUGHTER OF RURAL MISSOURI**

**McCaskill Was Born In Rolla, Missouri And Attended Missouri Public Schools.** “Claire has lived in Missouri her whole life. She was born in Rolla (because her hometown was too small to have a hospital) and raised in Houston and Lebanon, where her mom’s family ran the corner drug store. Claire attended Missouri public schools and began waiting tables immediately after graduation to help put herself through college and law school at the University of Missouri in Columbia.” [Claire McCaskill Campaign Website, Accessed [2/20/18](#)]

**McCaskill Worked Her Way Through College And Law School Waiting Tables At The Lodge Of The Four Seasons.** “After graduating from high school, she worked her way through college and law school waiting tables at the Lodge of the Four Seasons. She began her political career at age 29, when she was elected to the state House, giving birth to her first child while in office.” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [3/27/11](#)]

**McCaskill Returns Home To Missouri Nearly Every Weekend.** “Claire returns home to Missouri nearly every weekend to spend time with her husband, Joseph, and their blended family of seven children and nine wonderful grandchildren.” [Claire McCaskill Campaign Website, Accessed [2/20/18](#)]

### **CLAIRE WAS A SINGLE MOTHER OF 3**

**When McCaskill First Ran For Office, She Was 28 Years Old, Single, And A Renter With No Money Or Political Organization.** “Street after street, door after door, I walked and knocked. “Hello, I’m Claire McCaskill, and I’m an assistant prosecutor. I’m running for state representative, and I’d appreciate your vote.” I was twenty-eight years old, single, a renter with no money or political organization backing me up. It was 1982, and I was a young prosecutor with courtroom experience who was comfortable making a case and doing hard work.” [Plenty Ladylike: A Memoir, Claire McCaskill, p.1]

**McCaskill Was The First State Lawmaker To Give Birth While In Office.** “Austin, my first child, was born in 1987 while I was serving in the Missouri state legislature. I was the first state lawmaker to give birth while in office. There was actually a bassinet by my desk and a jump-up right in the doorway—a great way to block lobbyists because they had to try to get around Austin in his jumper seat to get in my office. Joking aside, it was eye-opening for the lobbyists and the other legislators. My baby's

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>presence in my office brought the issue of what it means to be a working mother home to them in a way they hadn't really encountered before.” [Working Mother, <a href="#">5/13/07</a>]</p> <p><b>McCaskill Spent Seven Years In Office As A Single Mom With Three Small Children.</b> “When I declared my candidacy for Jackson County prosecutor in 1991, I was looking after two toddlers and a baby girl, Lily, who's now 15. Nonetheless, I was the first woman to run for and successfully hold that office. It was my dream job. [...] That's a challenge for women who have children: managing the unforgiving clock of opportunity in politics with the responsibilities of motherhood. I spent seven years in office—while I was prosecutor and state auditor—as a single mom with three small children.” [Working Mother, <a href="#">5/13/07</a>]</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>Ad:</b></p> <p>No wonder Claire McCaskill votes against your gun rights, against agriculture, and against conservative judges like Brett Kavanaugh</p> <p><i>McCaskill:</i> “I can give up a few votes in the Bootheel.”</p> <p>Claire McCaskill has given up on you.</p> <p><b>Text:</b></p> <p>Claire McCaskill<br/>Votes Against<br/>Your Gun Rights<br/>Against Agriculture<br/>Against Kavanaugh</p> <p>“I can give up a few votes in the Bootheel.”</p> <p>Claire McCaskill Has Given Up On You</p> | <p><b><u>CLAIRE HAS SUPPORTED NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF PRESIDENT TRUMP’S JUDICIAL NOMINEES</u></b></p> <p><b>McCaskill: “I’ve Got Some Colleagues That No Matter Who Trump Nominates They Vote ‘No.’ I Don’t Do That.”</b> “After last week's Senate confirmation hearings, U.S. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh came up a few times, but McCaskill did not share how she plans to vote. ‘Listen, this is a process,’ she said. ‘I am not like some of my colleagues. I've got some colleagues that no matter who Trump nominates they vote 'no.' I don't do that. In fact, I have voted for than half of President Trump's cabinet members, I've voted for two-thirds of his judicial nominees.” [KCUR, <a href="#">9/10/18</a>]</p> <p><b>McCaskill Supported 73% Of President Trump’s Judicial Nominees.</b> Out of President Trump’s 45 judicial nominations, McCaskill supported 33 and opposed 12. She also missed 4 judicial votes because of her husband Joseph’s surgery. [ProPublica, <a href="#">2018</a>]</p> <p><b><u>CLAIRE SPOKE OUT AGAINST THE TRADE WAR DEVASTATING AGRICULTURE</u></b></p> <p><b>McCaskill Spoke Out Against A Trade War Because Of Its “Devastating Impact” On The Agricultural Community And Missouri Economy.</b> “After Missouri’s new Gov. Mike Parson hosted the state’s congressional delegation earlier this month, U.S. Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., was the first to exit his Jefferson City office — and she eagerly approached the reporter scrum gathered in the hallway. ‘I certainly expressed concerns for the ag community on this looming trade war,’ McCaskill said, ‘and what a devastating impact that could have on Missouri’s economy if all of our export nations begin putting retaliatory tariffs on our ag products.’” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, <a href="#">6/24/18</a>]</p> |

**McCaskill Said She Was ‘Very Concerned We’re Starting A Trade War That’ll Do Nothing But Punish Missouri’s Manufacturing And Agriculture Sectors.’**

“Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., said that she was ‘very concerned we’re starting a trade war that’ll do nothing but punish Missouri’s manufacturing and agriculture sectors.’ And it’s not just retaliation fears for some Missouri exporters.” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [3/6/18](#)]

**McCaskill Came Out Against President Trump’s Tariffs Targeting China, One Of Missouri’s Largest Trading Partners.**

“She (McCaskill) has to have decent support from rural Missouri in order to have a chance,” said Terry Smith, political science professor at Columbia College. “From a political point of view, the timing of the impact is important. ... Will it kick in in time to potentially impact the ‘18 elections?” China, one of the main targets of Trump’s trade moves, is Missouri’s third-largest trading partner behind Canada and Mexico, with the state exporting \$926 million worth of goods to the country last year. The worries among Missouri’s agricultural and business people started in March when Trump announced steep tariffs on imported aluminum and steel.” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [6/24/18](#)]

**CLAIRE HAS BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF BIPARTISAN FARM BILLS**

**McCaskill Called Holding Up The Farm Bill Unfair To Farmers In Missouri.**

“U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill of Missouri says she will spend much of the August congressional recess talking about the farm bill, which is hung up in a legislative impasse. Hopes are dim for compromise on the legislation after the Senate approved a five-year plan regulating farm programs and food stamps, but the House signed off on a bill dealing only with farm programs. McCaskill says Republican efforts to make sharp cuts to the food stamp program are holding up the farm bill, which she says is unfair to farmers in Missouri. ‘The notion that we have got them in limbo like this, permanent limbo it seems, year and year, it’s disgraceful and I’m embarrassed, and I am frustrated and I really hope my colleagues in the House realize that there’s nothing evil about compromise,’ McCaskill said. The House is expected to take up a food stamp bill when it returns from a five-week vacation in early September.” [KBIA, [8/8/13](#)]

**McCaskill: “I’m Hopeful We’ll Be Able To Pass The Farm Bill So We Can Provide Missouri’s Farmers The Certainty They So Desperately Need.”**

“McCaskill told the News Tribune both parties support the Senate’s farm bill; she hopes the bill will pass this summer. ‘I’m hopeful we’ll be able to pass the farm bill so we can provide Missouri’s farmers the certainty they so

desperately need,' McCaskill said. 'In the Senate, we all understand that this isn't about party, this is about making sure that our agriculture in this country continues to be such an important part of our economy.'" [Jefferson City News Tribune, [6/12/18](#)]

**McCaskill: "We All Understand That This Isn't About Party, This Is About Making Sure That Our Agriculture In This Country Continues To Be Such An Important Part Of Our Economy."** "McCaskill told the News Tribune both parties support the Senate's farm bill; she hopes the bill will pass this summer. 'I'm hopeful we'll be able to pass the farm bill so we can provide Missouri's farmers the certainty they so desperately need,' McCaskill said. 'In the Senate, we all understand that this isn't about party, this is about making sure that our agriculture in this country continues to be such an important part of our economy.'" [Jefferson City News Tribune, [6/12/18](#)]

#### **CLAIRE IS A SUPPORTER OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT**

**McCaskill: I Am A Supporter Of The Second Amendment.** "Sen. Claire McCaskill Thursday argued back at the National Rifle Association for giving her a grade of 'F,' saying that a lawmaker can be in favor of both the Second Amendment and gun safety. 'The NRA has come after me in every election I've ever had,' the Missouri Democrat told MSNBC's 'Morning Joe.' 'I have an 'F' from the NRA. having said that, I am a supporter of the Second Amendment. I was raised around guns.' McCaskill added that her father was an avid hunter and she was raised in a rural community, and she's irritated by the organization's claims against her.'" [Newsmax, [3/8/18](#)]

**McCaskill: "I Am Not Interested In Taking Away People's Guns Or Limiting The Second Amendment."** "I grew up in rural Missouri in a gun culture. I am not interested in taking away people's guns or limiting the Second Amendment. But I am for if our intelligence community has said someone is so dangerous they can't fly on an airplane, I'm for them not buying an AR-15. I am for making sure that individuals can't go to gun shows and sell whatever weapons they want out of the trunk of their cars without there being any background check," says McCaskill. "I am for helping to figure out a way that we could delay the purchase of a gun or look at the ownership of guns if there is credible or substantial evidence that someone is a danger to themselves or others through due process." [Missourinet, [3/5/18](#)]

#### **CLAIRE WAS RAISED WITH GUNS IN A HUNTING COMMUNITY**

**McCaskill: “I Was Raised Around Guns, I Was Raised In A Rural Community. My Dad Was An Avid Marksman And Hunter.** ““The NRA has come after me in every election I’ve ever had,’ Mrs. McCaskill said on MSNBC’s ‘Morning Joe.’ ‘I have an ‘F’ from the NRA. Having said that, I am a supporter of the Second Amendment. ... I was raised around guns, I was raised in a rural community. My dad was an avid marksman and hunter.’” [Washington Times, [3/8/18](#)]

**When Talking About Her Gun Background, McCaskill Said Her Mother Kept “Cream Of Mushroom Soup To Pour Over Whatever Her Father Shot That Day For Dinner.”** “McCaskill has been in office, with a lone five-year break, since 1982. She was born in the university town of Rolla but grew up in rural Houston and Lebanon. (McCaskill pronounces Lebanon as ‘Lebanin,’ and, like most Missouri politicians, often calls her state ‘Missourah.’) When she’s asked about gun rights at town halls, she likes to mention that her mother kept cream of mushroom soup in the cabinet to pour over whatever her father shot that day for dinner. ‘They told me it was rabbit,’ she says with a laugh. ‘I wasn’t always sure.’” [Politico Magazine, [8/30/17](#)]

**CLAIRE SUPPORTS COMMON-SENSE GUN SAFETY MEASURES TO PROTECT OUR FAMILIES AND THE SECOND AMENDMENT**

**McCaskill: “I Am For If Our Intelligence Community Has Said Someone Is So Dangerous They Can’t Fly On An Airplane, I’m For Them Not Buying An AR-15.”**

“McCaskill says supporting the Second Amendment and gun safety measures at the same time can be done. ‘I grew up in rural Missouri in a gun culture. I am not interested in taking away people’s guns or limiting the Second Amendment. But I am for if our intelligence community has said someone is so dangerous they can’t fly on an airplane, I’m for them not buying an AR-15. I am for making sure that individuals can’t go to gun shows and sell whatever weapons they want out of the trunk of their cars without there being any background check,’ says McCaskill. ‘I am for helping to figure out a way that we could delay the purchase of a gun or look at the ownership of guns if there is credible or substantial evidence that someone is a danger to themselves or others through due process.’” [Missourinet, [3/5/18](#)]

**McCaskill On Reasonable Gun Safety And Limiting The Second Amendment: “They’re Not The Same Thing.”** “I think that there has been some kind of trance that has overcome way too many of my colleagues, that reasonable gun safety is the same thing as somehow limiting the Second Amendment. They’re not the same thing. Nobody wants to harm the Second Amendment. I

grew up in a rural community. My father had a bunch of shotguns and loved to hunt; that's the culture I was brought up in. Nobody wants to do anything to impair people's right to own guns, but there are reasonable gun safety measures that this country is clamoring for. And that's what we should be doing."

[Vox, [2/15/18](#)]

**McCaskill: "You Do Not Have To Interfere With Gun Ownership Merely By Doing Gun Safety."** "But I hope that the families that have been impacted by this, particularly those who see themselves as Republicans, see themselves as conservative in terms of their viewpoints ... we really need conservatives to speak out about the commonsense idea that you do not have to interfere with gun ownership merely by doing gun safety." [Vox, [2/15/18](#)]

### **HAWLEY SUPPORTED PRESIDENT TRUMP'S TARIFFS**

**Hawley Backed The President's Approach On Tariffs.** "But her opponent, Attorney General Josh Hawley, backs the president's approach. He said Missouri farmers are already getting a raw deal, pointing to Canadian tariffs against dairy exports. He said ultimately he'll judge a deal by the end result, but said Missouri farmers he's spoken to are supportive of Trump trying to 'shake things up.'" [Politico, [6/14/18](#)]

**On Trump's China Tariffs, Hawley Said "The President Is Right To Take On Cheaters."** "Her likely GOP opponent, Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley, has been more supportive of Trump's efforts. 'The president's right to take on cheaters,' Hawley said Friday, referring to alleged currency manipulation by the Chinese government. The Missouri Democratic Party attacked Hawley Friday, saying that his support for 'these damaging tariffs is a slap in the face to the farmers who fuel Missouri's economy.' Hawley contends that farmers will benefit from a more equitable trade deal with China in the future. 'We've got to draw a line in the sand for agriculture... My top concern is to protect our farms and our farm families,' Hawley said." [Kansas City Star, [4/6/18](#)]

**Steve Kraske Of St. Louis Public Radio To Hawley: "You Can't Have It Both Ways...Can't Be Supportive Of The President's Trade Policies And Then Recognize That Farmers Might Be Hurt..."** SK: It's going to be painful in the short term, you're saying? [...] Even if in the short term it hurts the pocketbooks of farmers all across the state of Missouri? JH: Well no, I wouldn't support that, I mean look, I don't want to hurt farmers ever. I think the goal has got to be to get better trade deals and we've got to go about it in a way that help farmers. So you'll never me standing anywhere but with Missouri's farmers and Missouri's farm families. And let's not forget that Claire McCaskill has an "F" rating from the American Farm Bureau, and

this is one of the worst farm economies in years. Kids can't come home to the farm anymore, she bears the responsibility for that. SK: "But you can't have it both ways, though, you can't be supportive of the President's trade policies and then not recognize that farmers might be hurt in the short term by what he's doing." JH: "Well let's see what happens, Steve. [...]"

### **TRUMP'S TARIFFS HURT MISSOURI**

**In McDonald County In Southwest Missouri, 37% Of Workers Are Employed In Industries That Will Be Targeted By Chinese Retaliatory Tariffs.** "In McDonald County in the state's southwestern corner, home to two poultry plants, 37 percent of workers are employed in targeted industries." [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [6/22/18](#)]

**Brookings Institute Estimated That In Missouri, 40,000 People Work In Industries That Will Be Affected By Chinese Tariffs.** "Brookings estimates that 1.4 percent of Missouri workers, or about 40,000 people, work in industries that will be affected by the Chinese tariffs." [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [6/22/18](#)]

**Farmers Said They Could Not Offset Potential Financial Loss From Low Soybean Prices Because It Was Too Late To Switch To Another Crop For The Season.** "People like Danny Murphy, who's been a farmer for his entire adult life in Mississippi, said the trade feud hurts his bottom line. 'If [the current price] was applied to my crop and it remains in effect through harvest [it] would amount to probably \$150,000 for me,' Murphy told Fox News. 'I'm approaching retirement age and you take a \$150,000 out of a retirement plan that you don't have available...yeah it is a significant hit.' Like most farmers, Murphy said it's too late to switch to another crop since he's well into the growing season. He typically sells around \$750,000 worth of product and has to account for the expenses of running his business. About half of his 1,500-acre farm is dedicated to soybeans and the other half is used to grow corn. Brandon Wipf, a South Dakota soybean farmer and member of the ASA board of directors, said many growers around the country may have to come up with a new strategy if things get worse." [Fox News, [6/26/18](#)]

### **HAWLEY OPPOSED THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, WHICH PROVIDED CRUCIAL RESOURCES FOR RURAL HOSPITALS**

**Hawley Said "It's Simple: Obamacare Must Go."** "Obamacare is hurting Missouri families – limiting their healthcare and driving up their bills. And it's hurting jobs. If we want better healthcare and better jobs in our state, it's simple: Obamacare

must go. I've fought Obamacare in the Supreme Court of the United States—and won. As Attorney General, I will keep up the fight until Missourians get real control over their healthcare and Missouri job creators are free to get our state back to work.”

[Hawley For Attorney General, Accessed, [3/20/17](#)]

**Hawley Said “We Have Got To Repeal And Replace Obamacare...To Get Healthcare Costs Down So That People Can Afford Good Quality Healthcare.”** “Number two, health care costs. In my state, and around the country healthcare costs are out of control John. Completely out of control, the Obamacare had the attempted government takeover of the entire healthcare sector has only made this worse. So, we have got to repeal and replace Obamacare, we've got to get healthcare costs down so that people can afford good quality healthcare. They have the ability to go to the doctor they want to go to, make the choices that are good for them and for their families. Not be dictated to by bureaucrats, but be able to afford the healthcare that they need.”

[Hawley Casmatitis Roundtable, [11/12/17](#)]

**Hawley: “The ACA Must Fall.”** “In NFIB v. Sebelius, the U.S. Supreme Court narrowly upheld the core provision of the ACA—the individual mandate—as a “tax.” However, Congress has recently repealed this tax, while leaving the mandate in place. Since the Supreme Court has already held that Congress has no authority to impose the mandate on Americans unless it is a tax, the mandate is now unconstitutional and the ACA must fall. ‘The Affordable Care Act was never constitutional,’ Hawley said. ‘My Office will continue to fight to take health care choices out of the hands of DC bureaucrats and put them in the hands of families and physicians.’” [MO AG Office News Release, [2/26/18](#)]

### **RURAL HOSPITALS WERE FORCED TO CLOSE IN STATES THAT DID NOT EXPAND MEDICAID**

**Rural Hospitals Are Closing In States That Did Not Participate In Medicaid Expansion Offered Under The Affordable Care Act.** "Rural hospitals are closing at an increasing rate, and a new government study shows that the main reason is that the states they are in did not participate in the Medicaid expansion offered under the Affordable Care Act. According to the recently-released study by the General Accountability Office, 64 rural hospitals closed between 2013 and 2017. That's twice as many as closed during the previous five-year period." [KRCG, [10/5/18](#)]

**Hospitals In States That Accepted Medicaid Expansion Are Closing At A Much Smaller Rate Than States Like Missouri That Did Not Accept Medicaid Expansion.** "GAO's analysis further shows that rural hospital closures mostly occurred in the South among hospitals that carry the Medicare Dependent

Hospital payment designation, one of the special Medicare payment designations for rural hospitals. Many rural hospitals depend on money from Medicaid, and cannot meet margins without it. In contrast, hospitals in states that accepted the Medicaid expansion under the ACA are closing at a much smaller rate than those in states that did not, including Missouri." [KRCG, [10/5/18](#)]

**Protect Our Care: 90% Of Rural Hospital Closures Since 2010 Have Been In States That Had Not Expanded Medicaid.**

"A recently released report found that hospitals are six times more likely to close in states that did not expand Medicaid than those that did. A report compiled and released by Protect Our Care, a pro-Affordable Care Act coalition, found that 90 percent of rural hospitals that have closed since 2010 have been in states that had not expanded Medicaid at the time of the hospital's closure." [Missouri Times, [6/13/18](#)]

**Four Rural Missouri Hospitals Have Closed Since 2010.** "Out of approximately 70 rural hospital In Missouri, four have closed since 2010. The most recent closure, Twin Rivers Medical Center in Kennett, was announced just last week. The hospital in Missouri's Bootheel ceased operations on June 11. Patients are being redirected to another hospital, Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center, more than an hour away." [St. Louis Public Radio, [6/20/18](#)]

**CLAIRE HAS SUPPORTED RURAL BROADBAND AND RURAL POST OFFICES**

**McCaskill Introduced A Bill To Fix A Postal Office Issue Requiring Missouri Residents To Have Iowa Mailing Addresses.** "Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill has introduced a bill that would put an end to a Postal Service quirk requiring some rural northern Missouri residents to have Iowa mailing addresses." [Associated Press, [1/10/18](#)]

**Claire Co-Sponsored The Rural Postal Act Of 2015 To Protect Six-Day Delivery And Improve Postal Service In Rural Communities.** "Imposes a two-year moratorium on the closing or consolidation of any postal facility (i.e, a processing and distribution center, processing and distribution facility, network distribution center, or other facility that is operated by the U.S. Postal Service [USPS], the primary function of which is to sort and process mail). Sets forth matters which the USPS must consider in making a determination to close or consolidate a postal facility, including the effect of the closing or consolidation on the affected community, and for using an alternate means of transportation contract. Allows any person served by a postal facility to appeal a closing or consolidation to the Postal Regulatory Commission." [S.1742, [7/9/15](#)]

**McCaskill Introduced The “Community Broadband Act” To Preserve The Rights Of Cities And Localities To Build Municipal Broadband Networks.** “McCaskill has introduced the Community Broadband Act, which would improve internet access in rural areas by protecting the rights of communities to build municipal broadband networks. At the start of 2018, amid controversies involving net neutrality decisions brought forth by FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, another access initiative was put into place to expand broadband access to rural Missouri. The FCC reports that over 105,500 rural homes and businesses in Missouri are currently underserved by high-speed internet access. These areas will now become part of the FCC’s “Connect America Fund” (CAF), which will be used to distribute funds through what they are calling “reverse auction” methods and is scheduled to launch on July 24. This auction style funding will see nationwide providers compete for up to \$2 billion in rural expansion support.” [Waynesville Daily Guide, [4/16/18](#)]

**McCaskill And Sen. Blunt Pushed For Better Rural Broadband Coverage By Meeting With Representatives Of Missouri Electric Cooperatives.** “Senator McCaskill and Blunt are continuing their push for better broadband coverage in rural areas, meeting with representatives of Missouri Electric Cooperatives this week in Washington, D.C. McCaskill addressed the coops representatives to discuss the importance of investing in the state’s rural broadband infrastructure and the role they can play in connecting Missourians. McCaskill and Blunt are in agreement that access in rural areas has to improve.” [Waynesville Daily Guide, [4/16/18](#)]

**“McCaskill Called For Making The Terms Of Broadband Auctions More Favorable To Rural Electric Co-Ops.** McCaskill’s prescription for what ails the Democratic Party isn’t particularly innovative. She doesn’t think the party needs to adopt Bernie Sanders-esque stances, just put more emphasis on kitchen table issues. She wants to make the terms of broadband auctions more favorable to rural electric co-ops before \$680 million in broadband expansion funds become available next year; the co-ops have done a better job at delivering broadband to the so-called last mile than traditional phone companies. McCaskill says it could mean more and better jobs. In Bowling Green, one woman excitedly says if she can get high-speed internet, ‘maybe my grandchildren will come to visit.’” [Politico, [8/30/17](#)]