

## Ballot Measure Process

The Missouri House and the Missouri Senate each passed separate [proposals](#) in the 2023 session that would restrict the ballot initiative process. A compromise proposal increasing the majority for passage from a simple majority to 57% was passed in the House. However, the compromise legislation never got approved in the Missouri Senate because of [gridlock](#) related to other legislation. Restricting the process was [identified as a priority](#) by the State Senate Majority Leader. Restrictive legislation returned in bills filed for the 2024 legislative session, but again failed to pass. Attempts to restrict the ballot initiative process are likely to reappear in 2025.

Efforts to restrict Missouri's ballot initiative process are consistent with a [national trend highlighted in a December 12 NPR story](#). Nationally, there has been an increase in legislation introduced to restrict the initiative process, from 33 in 2017 to more than 100 in 2021 and 2022. The article suggests that the increase is a reaction to ballot measures success in marijuana, abortion and medicaid in several states.

