

SB 973

LAND BANK MODERNIZATION

Land Banks are a tool used by cities and counties to get abandoned, tax-delinquent property back to productive use. Missouri Senate Bill 973 modernizes Missouri land bank laws, expanding access to the whole state and pairing land banks with a judicial foreclosure process that resolves title issues and better protects both property owners and buyers. **The law takes effect on August 28, 2026.**

What you need to know

What is a land bank?

A land bank is a government entity created to acquire, manage, and repurpose vacant, abandoned, or tax-delinquent properties. Land banks help communities convert problem properties into productive use—whether for affordable housing, green space, or economic development.

What does SB 973 mean for land banks in Missouri?

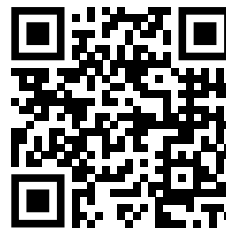
SB 973 allows more places to have land banks. Counties can now opt-in to a tax foreclosure process that clears title issues before a public tax auction. Once a county opts-in, any city within the county can establish a land bank to handle properties that don't sell at public auction. The land bank can then use those properties to support community goals.

What does this mean for REALTORS® and buyers?

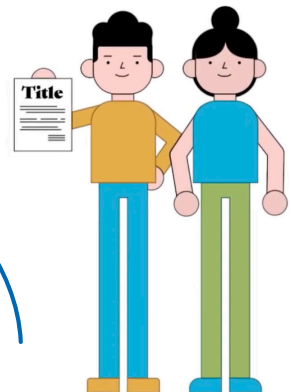
Expanded land bank tools mean more properties can be cleared of title and tax issues and returned to the market. This can increase housing inventory, support local property values, and create new homeownership opportunities for buyers working with REALTORS®.

Why does Missouri REALTORS® support this legislation?

Empty lots and tax-delinquent properties drag down neighborhoods and limit housing options. Land banks give communities a practical mechanism to address both. Missouri REALTORS® supports expanding access to these tools because more properties in productive use means a stronger market for everyone.



Scan here for a quick
and easy-to-understand
video about land banks!



Questions? Contact Missouri REALTORS® Government Affairs
at missourirealtors.org.

