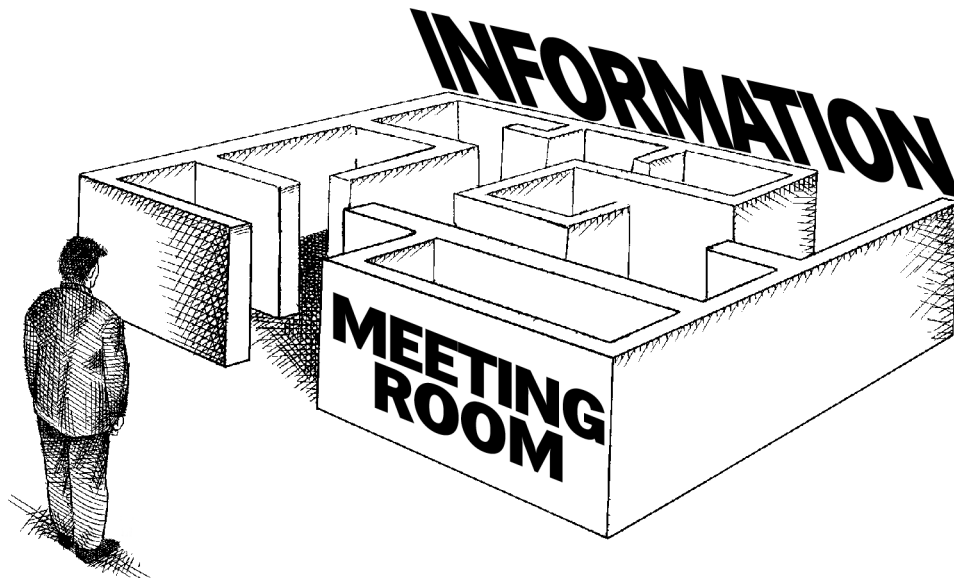


# You don't elect people to keep secrets from you.



**You have the right to know what  
your tax-supported schools, special  
districts, city, county or state  
governments are doing.**

Missouri's Sunshine Law — the open records and open meetings statutes — makes it illegal for elected officials and public governmental agencies to meet in private (closed session), except in specific instances (for example, some personnel issues). Even then, the law states very clearly that meetings **MAY** be closed to the public. The law does not **REQUIRE** any meeting to be closed.



The Sunshine Law is a law for everyone, not just the news media. The Missouri Press Association and this newspaper ask you to support openness in local and state government records and meetings.

Democracy, after all, cannot work if meetings are held in secret or information is difficult to get.

## Missouri Sunshine **LAW**