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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Attorney General Schmitt and Grocers Association Work Together to Combat Price Gouging**

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** - Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt and the Missouri Grocers Association are working together to combat price gouging across the state. In a letter sent to the Missouri Grocers Association, Attorney General Schmitt lauded the work done by grocery stores and their employees in this time of uncertainty and opened the line of communications to hear what stores are seeing relating to price gouging.

“Our grocers are working overtime to feed the citizens of Missouri in this time of uncertainty, and their efforts are truly remarkable and should be applauded. The vast majority of grocers are working within the law to provide essential goods to their communities” said Attorney General Schmitt. “Unfortunately, there are a few bad actors that may cast Missouri’s hardworking grocers in a bad light. I appreciate the Missouri Grocers Association in working together with my office to help identify these bad actors and combat those issues if they’re seeing them in their communities.”

“The grocery industry is working tirelessly to continue to serve their communities in this time of need” said Dan Shaul, State Director of the Missouri Grocers Association. “Our grocers are committed to ensuring the consumers they serve are treated fairly. The Missouri Grocers Association is committed to working with Attorney General Eric Schmitt and his team through this situation to ensure both consumers and businesses are treated fairly during these trying times.”

The letter provides a definition of what price gouging is according to statute, and states, “The Missouri Attorney General’s Office is committed to ensuring that all Missouri consumers, both individuals and businesses such as yours, are treated fairly and not subjected to price gouging as we work through this unprecedented time.”

Consumers are asked to report price gouging by calling the Consumer Protection Hotline at 1-800-392-8222 or online at <https://ago.mo.gov/civil-division/consumer/price-gouging>.

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