

State Senator Delbert Scott

Representing the 28th Senatorial
District in the Missouri General Assembly



2008 Mid-Session Report

The legislative session is in full swing and I want to take a moment and thank you for allowing me to serve you in the Missouri Senate. Session started in early January and several of my pieces of legislation have already been voted out of the Senate and sent over to the House of Representatives. I am committed to hearing from and serving all of my constituents. I would like to invite you to visit our State Capitol anytime during the year. So far we have had many special guests drop by and visit our office, and I, as well as my office staff, welcome you to visit Jefferson City and see your Legislature in action. I am both honored and humbled to be entrusted with the responsibility of being your voice here in the Missouri Senate.

Take care and God Bless,

Protecting Missouri Property Taxpayers

The Missouri Senate has advanced a bill to the House that would end back door tax increases, close tax increase loopholes, make sure taxpayers are informed, and expand tax relief for low-income seniors and the disabled. Senate Bill 711, sponsored by Sen. Michael Gibbons, R-Kirkwood, would require taxing entities, such as cities and school districts, to roll back levy rates when reassessments boost revenue beyond inflation rates — regardless of whether the entity was levying the tax at its tax rate ceiling. The bill would also expand communication with the taxpayer by requiring assessors to notify taxpayers of assessment increases.

Prescriptive Authority for Nurses

Currently, advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) have the authority to administer, dispense and prescribe certain drugs while operating under a collaborative practice agreement. One of the bills I am sponsoring this session, Senate Bill 734, would authorize APRNs to prescribe schedule III through V controlled substances. In other words, when you go in to see your doctor, APRNs would be allowed to prescribe the medications you need under an agreement with a physician. This is extremely important in both rural and urban areas of our state. This measure would also allow quicker treatment to patients when doctors are unavailable in medically underserved areas, both urban and rural. In many rural areas of Missouri it can be difficult to find a hospital or doctor. Advanced practice nurses often handle our routine health care needs. Sending this bill to the governor to become law would be one small step toward more affordable, efficient health care delivery for the citizens of Missouri.

Fighting Copper Theft

Legislation is moving through the Senate and House that would short-circuit efforts of thieves who steal copper and aluminum in Missouri. Senate Bill 1034 would require stronger record-keeping by scrap dealers and make it a felony to steal or sell stolen copper or aluminum. If approved, the new law would require scrap dealers to obtain driver's license and vehicle information from the people who sell them copper. Also, sales records must include the date, time and place of transaction, be kept for two years after the date of purchase, and be available for inspection by any law enforcement officer. Scrap dealers who violate record-keeping requirements would face a class A misdemeanor and thieves who steal copper and aluminum scrap metal would be charged with a class D felony.

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Senator Scott serves Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas,
Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk, and St. Clair Counties.

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Illegal Immigration

Many lawmakers have filed legislation this session dealing with illegal immigration in order to create provisions for those in this country illegally from finding a safe haven in our state. One such bill prohibits the Department of Revenue from issuing any driver's licenses to illegal aliens or to any person who cannot prove lawful presence. Another bill presents a three-pronged approach to tackling illegal immigration by ensuring that individuals, the state government, and private employers are not helping those who should not be in this country maintaining an illegal status. Employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens would be held accountable for their actions. Those employers who receive state-administered or subsidized tax credits, tax abatements, or loans from the Missouri and employ illegal aliens would be subject to criminal prosecution. Illegal immigrants would not be allowed to attend public universities in our state and legislation filed this session would reiterate the federal law stating illegal aliens may not receive state or local public benefits with certain exceptions. Those individuals applying for benefits would only qualify if they can provide proof of citizenship, residency, or lawful presence.



If we had known grandchildren were so much fun, we would have started having children sooner!

Child Abuse Investigations

Another piece of legislation I am sponsoring this session would modify provisions relating to child abuse investigations, including requiring the Children's Division of the Department of Social Services to maintain a list of pending criminal charges and display the fact that such a list exists on the child abuse and neglect registry. Senate Bill 1106 would also require the Children's Division to complete a child abuse investigation within thirty days.

Senate Bill 1106 would also require the Children's

Pro-Life Legislation: Protecting the Unborn

A measure that would create stronger penalties to protect pregnant women and unborn children in Missouri has been considered in the Senate. Senate Bill 1058, sponsored by Sen. Rob Mayer, R-Dexter, would expand Missouri's abortion law to include providing a broader range of educational materials to pregnant women considering an abortion as well as make it a crime to coerce an abortion. The proposed legislation modifies the informed consent requirements for an abortion by adding new requirements that must be obtained at least 24 hours before an abortion. Some requirements include reviewing printed materials or videos detailing the risks of an abortion and the physiological characteristics of an unborn child. The bill also seeks to punish those who knowingly coerce a woman to seek or obtain an abortion. Such coercion ranges from committing or threatening to abuse or stalk the woman to refusing to pay child support or provide financial support.

Missouri's Budget and Economy

This year, the Legislature will consider a budget that includes an increased investment to improve math and science education, expanded access to scholarships for students in our state, help for working Missourians to purchase quality health insurance, and a tax cut for our veterans. Below you can find the governor's recommended operating budget for Fiscal Year 2009. These are preliminary numbers as the Senate will continue work on the budget once it is passed by the House.



Senator Scott's Committees

Administration
Financial, Governmental Organizations, and Elections (Chair)
Pensions, Veterans' Affairs and General Laws
Transportation
Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence
Joint Committee on Legislative Research
Joint Committee on Public Employee Retirement
Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight