



# STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 31

# DAVID PEARCE



## 2010 Legislative Session Accomplishments

### Senator Pearce's Passed Legislation

#### Sponsored

- **Senate Bill 733:** Equalizes Access Missouri scholarship award amounts for public and private universities and protects Bright Flight scholarships awarded to military students.
- **Senate Bill 777:** Allows for the sale of certain financial products and plans associated with certain loan transactions. Provides for boat slips to be included in appraisals and mortgages for condo sales.
- **Senate Bill 940:** Relaxes bingo regulations in Missouri, including expanding the hours during which bingo halls can operate, increasing the number of games they are able to hold, and raising the cap on the amount of money they are allowed to spend on advertising.
- **Senate Concurrent Resolution 31:** Encourages students and faculty to promote international education at Missouri's colleges and universities.

#### Handled in Senate

- **House Bill 1524:** Allows overseas service members to request voter registration applications and absentee ballots electronically; requires state and local governments to give a measured preference to service-disabled veteran businesses when contracting a job or service; and establishes the Missouri Youth Challenge Academy for at-risk high school age youth (signed into law on May 27).
- **House Bill 1543:** Adds "cyberbullying" and electronic communications to school district anti-bullying policies; changes the funding mechanism for the Career Ladder program by funding it upfront rather than in arrears; and allows for the Parents as Teachers program to be need-based by serving low-income families first and implementing a sliding scale so those who can afford it may defray costs.
- **House Bill 1544:** Allows the state to continue receiving extended federal unemployment benefit funds and expands participation in the state's Shared Work program (signed into law on March 4).
- **House Bill 1612:** Makes several changes to the law relating to sewer districts, including increasing the number of members on the sewer district board of trustees in Cass County from eight to 10.
- **House Bill 2147:** Exempts certain students who are dependents of recently retired military personnel from the three-year attendance requirement under the A+ Schools program (signed into law on May 27).

### Other 2010 Legislative Highlights

#### Protecting Taxpayers with a Balanced Budget

- Protected taxpayers in this tough economy and did not increase taxes, as promised.
- Passed a \$23.3 billion budget for FY 2011 with nearly half a billion in cuts from the governor's proposed budget.
- Maintained K-12 education funding at current levels.
- Eliminated millions of dollars by cutting more than 1,000 state jobs, equipment and expenses, and placed a moratorium on new spending.

#### Rebooting Government

- Began efforts to reduce the size and scope of government through the "Rebooting Government" initiative, which involves consolidating state agencies and changing or eliminating programs to cut costs.
- In 2011, lawmakers will continue to look at ways to drastically streamline government to create a sustainable budget situation in future years without a tax increase.
- Missourians can submit their ideas or view the ideas being considered by visiting the Senate's website ([www.senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov)) and clicking on the Rebooting Government logo.

#### Passed Top Priorities

- **Health Care Freedom Act (HB 1764):** If approved by Missourians on the August ballot, no federal law could force a patient, employer or health care provider to participate in any government or private health care system designed by the state or federal government.
- **Autism Insurance for Missouri Families (HB 1311):** Guarantees Missouri families that health carriers will provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism.
- **Ethics Reform (SB 844):** Brings a new level of accountability and transparency to Missouri's political environment by allowing the Missouri Ethics Commission to investigate violations without an outside complaint being filed; tightening the contribution reporting requirements; and limiting the transferring of contributions among most committees.

### Senator David Pearce

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