

STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 18  
2003

JOHN CAUTHORN

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW



Dear Friends,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you as your state Senator. This session has been challenging and difficult due to the impact of a slow economy and a tight budget. During the session, I fought hard to protect programs and policies that make a difference for you, your family and all of rural Missouri.

Inside you will find out about a plan to reform how budgets are put together, information on a tough new law aimed at fighting meth producers, a new award program and a short review of the 2003 veto session.

I would like to thank everyone that sent a letter, an e-mail or called the office to voice their concerns or offer encouragement. It is my hope that together, we can make Missouri a better place.

Respectfully,

John Cauthorn

## Improving Our Rural County Governments

Sen. Cauthorn's bill, SB 186, revises the structure of the Marion County circuit court clerk and recorder of deeds offices in a manner that gives voters a voice in choosing who takes – and keeps – public office.

“America's track record of democracy shows improvement each time voters are given more of a say in how they are governed,” Cauthorn said. Under current law, the Marion

County circuit court appoints the circuit clerk, who also serves as the recorder of deeds. SB 186 makes the position of Marion County circuit court clerk, and

therefore recorder of deeds, an elected position chosen by the will of those served.

Voters will have significant input on this important local government issue. The first chance to exercise the expanded powers would be in the 2006 general election.

Written with the Marion County public office structure in mind, Cauthorn's act also makes clear that in any county

where the circuit court clerk and the recorder of deeds offices have been separated, the office of recorder of deeds will be elected at the next general election.

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# Fighting Methamphetamine Production

*Cauthorn introduces legislation to increase the battle against "meth"*

SB 39 will help accelerate the eradication of the illegal, addictive drug methamphetamine from Missouri's streets. Sen. Cauthorn sponsored this bill, which is designed to tighten controls on legal ingredients used in making the illegal drug.

Working together with members of the Missouri Sheriffs Association, Cauthorn was able to pass this bill to protect Missourians from illegal methamphetamine sales and manufacture.

The bill also creates a special team to battle the production and distribution of methamphetamine. It brings together a group of five top-level law enforcement officials to create the Missouri Sheriff's Methamphetamine Relief Team (MoSMART).

The bill requires cold and allergy medicine con-

taining methamphetamine precursors such as ephedrine, pseudoephedrine or phenylpropanolmaine to be stored either behind the counter or within 10 feet of the register. This will help reduce the theft of these items.



*Senator Cauthorn in front of a Senate hearing room discussing legislation with U.S. Senator Christopher (Kit) Bond.*

In addition, the unlawful release of anhydrous ammonia, an agricultural fertilizer stolen to make meth, will become a Class B felony. If the release causes injury or death, the charge would be increased to a Class A felony. The bill also contains strong penalties to protect children. Under this law, manufacturing controlled substances in a residence occupied by a child or within 2,000 feet of a school will become a class A felony. These measures took effect Aug. 28, 2003.

## Addressing Missouri's Rural Health Care Shortage

Access to health care is critical in outstate Missouri. This shortage is especially serious when it comes to surgeries. This session, Sen. Cauthorn won approval for HB 390, which helps address a shortage of anesthesiologists that is contributing to a crisis in the availability of surgical health care.

This measure creates a system of assistant anesthesiologists who can be licensed to assist in surgeries under the supervision of a licensed anesthesiologist. The qualified assistants can assist with administering an anesthetic treatment program, but cannot administer or prescribe medicine beyond that authorized by the license of their supervising anesthesiologist.

The measure also expands reciprocal agreements with anesthesiologists in other states who wish to practice in Missouri, further increasing the qualified personnel who can assist in providing surgical health care to Missourians.

## Better Protections For Missouri Taxpayers

Co-sponsored by Sen. Cauthorn, SB 299 & 40 establish a series of performance-based budget procedures for state agencies to follow and places a six-year lifespan on all newly enacted state programs. Included in this legislation were provisions from SB 544 containing the Sunset Act.

It is designed to streamline state government and require reauthorizations of new programs within six years. At that point, a program could then be re-authorized by lawmakers for a period of up to twelve additional years.

SB 299 requires budget officials to develop and implement a system establishing goals and objectives; provide detailed measures of program and fund performance against attainment of planned outcomes, and provide ongoing program evaluation.

The act would require every department and agency to conduct a performance-based budget review at least once every five years beginning in 2005.

Sen. Cauthorn said Missouri families develop their household budgets based on similar practices. The state should follow their example.

This bill is significant because at a time when deficits, shortfalls, and cutbacks are impacting the economy and are creating a budget crisis for many Missourians, this legislation will put checks, balances and accountability in the budgetary process.



*Sen. Cauthorn listens to ideas and concerns from the citizens of his district.*

## Rebuilding Transportation in Missouri *Increasing Accountability to Citizens and Lawmakers*

HB 668 is designed to increase oversight of, and generate further accountability within the state's transportation department. It also enables the Legislature's Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight to hire a director to perform specific investigations, reviews and audits within MoDOT. The joint committee's director would issue detailed summaries of complaints received by MoDOT and an annual performance review of the department. This type of oversight will give Senate and House members an opportunity to more closely monitor policy and strategy based on reports submitted from an independent inspector general's perspective.

The bill also prohibits members of the Highways and Transportation Commission, who are appointed by the governor, from engaging in election campaigning and campaign fundraising, and removes politics from the business of building roads.



*Sen. Cauthorn, center, discusses legislation with fellow senators Dan Clemens, left, and Maida Coleman, right.*

## Senator Cauthorn Earns Law Enforcement Endorsement: *Named 'Senator of the Year' by the Missouri Sheriffs' Association*

The Missouri Sheriffs' Association has named Senator Cauthorn Senator of the Year for 2003.

"This is an unexpected and tremendous honor for me," Cauthorn said. "I really enjoy advancing the mission of Missouri's law enforcement agencies, and working with our county sheriffs has been especially rewarding and productive."

Established in 1945, the Missouri Sheriffs' Association (MSA) each year identifies lawmakers demonstrating the strongest and most effective support of law enforcement efforts and the office of sheriff in particular.

"John has already built up a solid law-and-order track record during his short time in the Senate," said Camden County Sheriff and MSA President John Page. "Once our director and our board members tallied up all the work John has done to help us, choosing Senator of the Year was an easy decision to make."

Cauthorn met and worked with many sheriffs from Missouri's 114 counties over the past two years while advancing legislation to fight the production and distribution of methamphetamine and tighten controls on ingredients used in making this dangerous and highly addictive drug.

"Our sheriffs gave me a front-line account of the challenges they were facing, and what it would take to give them the upper hand," Cauthorn said. "Armed with this knowledge, I went to work and simply didn't let up until we got them what they needed."

Encountering hurdles in last year's session, Cauthorn redoubled his efforts to aid Missouri law enforcement in the war on drugs. This year, his model legislation easily cleared the General Assembly and was signed into law on June 24.

"MSA members were hugely instrumental in helping me develop and advance this legislation," Cauthorn said. "This was a classic case of working together to better protect Missourians and it is something we'll continue to do in the future."

Cauthorn was the guest of honor during the MSA's annual conference, this year held in Branson on Aug. 13.

"It was an honor to receive this award and I look forward to continuing my work with the Missouri Sheriffs' Association and all Missouri law enforcement teams throughout my time here in the Capitol," Cauthorn said.

## Senator Cauthorn's 2003 Gubernatorial Appointments

Each year, citizens from throughout Missouri are appointed by the governor to serve on state boards, commissions and councils. Sen. Cauthorn sponsored 7 gubernatorial appointments from the 18th District during this year's session. Appointments must receive the advice and consent of the Senate. The committee and the full Senate approved all 7 of Sen. Cauthorn's nominees.

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*Senator Cauthorn introduces Linda Conner to the Senate panel, hearing her appointment to the Missouri State Board of Nursing. Ms. Conner is from Greentop, Missouri.*

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## Senator Cauthorn Tapped For Ethanol Commission

Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Peter Kinder, R-Cape Girardeau, appointed Senator Cauthorn to the Missouri Ethanol and Other Renewable Fuel Sources Commission. Kinder made the appointment early this year after taking into consideration Cauthorn's commitment to agribusiness and ethanol production.

"I'm honored to represent the Senate on this important and influential commission," Cauthorn said.

The commission is composed of two members from the House, two members from the Senate and three at-large appointees. The panel will make annual reports to the General Assembly regarding the commission's recommendations for legislation promoting the ethanol industry.

"I'm fighting hard to expand the market opportunities for ethanol producers in our state and I believe our work on this commission will expand the opportunities of those in the business of producing other ag products, as well," Cauthorn said.

### Interns Learn While They Work



Interns play a vital role in the legislative process. In addition to performing various duties for the senators and their staff, the interns learn a great deal about the Missouri legislature, helping them make choices to further their educations and careers. Assisting Senator Cauthorn during this legislative session were Matthew Crowell from Harrisonville, and Lesley Lehenbauer from Palmyra, shown above left, and Amanda Daggs from Ewing, right.

### Stay In Touch With Senator John Cauthorn

To get in touch with me, simply call (573) 751-6858 or write:

Room 426, State Capitol, Jefferson City, MO, 65101

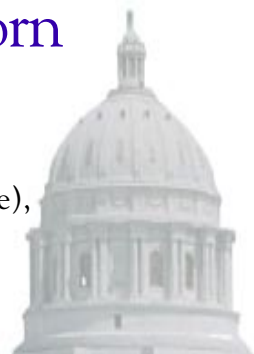
Log on to my Senate website: <http://www.senate.state.mo.us/cauthorn>

To find out more about the Missouri Senate in general (legislation, legislators and more),

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To use the legislative hotline, call toll free: (800) 877-5982. (Jan. through May.)



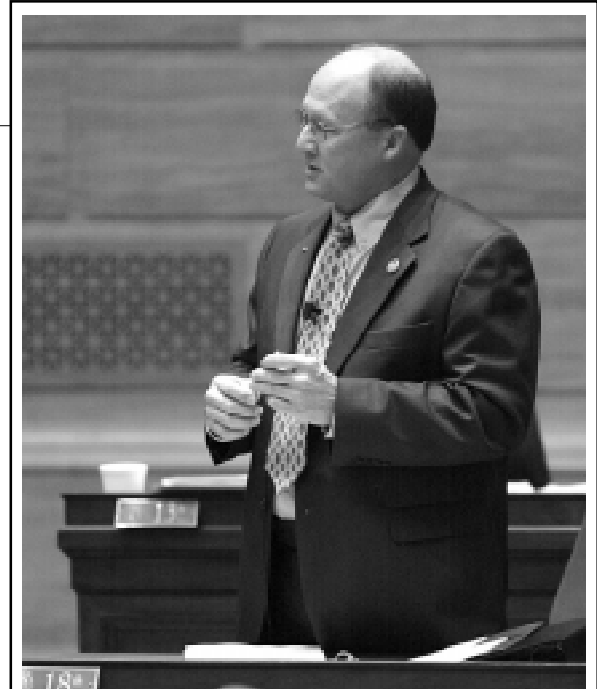
## Historic Veto Session: *Legislature Overrides Governors Vetoed Bills*

The September veto session brought with it three overrides of the governor's vetoes; an event that is historical given the fact that since the Civil War, only three vetoes have been overturned by the Missouri legislature. The last came in 1999, when lawmakers reversed then-Gov. Mel Carnahan's veto of a "partial-birth" abortion ban.

Two important overrides that the Senate and Sen. Cauthorn focused on were the concealed weapons and abortion bills. Both bills had been sponsored in the Senate during regular session by Sen. Cauthorn, and were vetoed by Gov. Holden.

The override of the concealed weapons bill clears the way for Missouri citizens to carry concealed weapons, which will go into effect Oct. 11. The Senate's 23-10 vote to override the veto met the requirement for a two-thirds majority.

HB 349 establishes a permit system to allow qualified individuals 23 and older to obtain legal-carry permits after passing a training course and extensive background check. Anyone with a felony conviction, violent misdemeanor conviction or who was subject to a protection order would not qualify. The measure also addresses the issue of applicants with a history of mental illness. The permits would not be valid in schools, playgrounds, sporting events, arenas, bars or any facility posted against them.



*Sen. Cauthorn debating a piece of legislation in the Senate chamber.*

With 44 states having a license-to-carry system and more on the way, a license system in Missouri seemed crucial in giving Missourians the right to keep and bear arms.

Sen. Cauthorn was also successful in acquiring an override for HB 156, which would have required women to wait 24 hours after consulting a doctor before having an abortion.

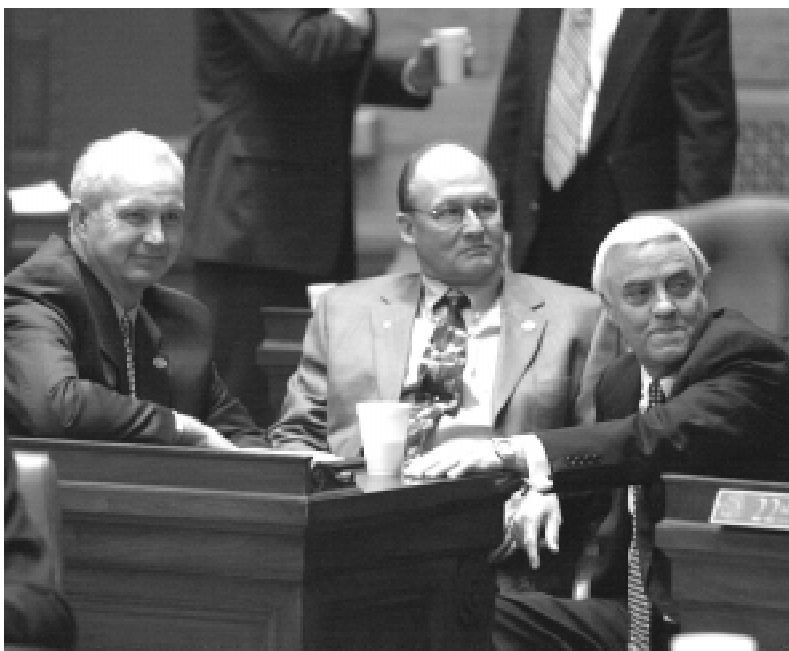
The Senate voted 25-8 to override Holden's veto on the 24-hour waiting period. The bill requires the doctor and woman to sign a consent form stating they have discussed any physical or psychological risk factors of having an abortion.

The bill ensures that women having an abortion are well informed and have quality health care.

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*Sen. Cauthorn converses with fellow Senators David Klindt, left, and James Mathewson, right, on the senate floor.*

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## Senator John Cauthorn Presents 'Golden Goose Egg Award' to Transportation Head

State Senator John Cauthorn this year presented Department of Transportation Director Henry Hungerbeeler and Former Chief Engineer J.T. Yarnell with a *Golden Goose Egg*, an honor the director earned by deciding to fly on a state owned plane to a conference in Washington, D.C.

"The bill to taxpayers for this flight of fancy is more than \$6,400," Cauthorn said. "The bill for a taxpaying couple flying coach on a commercial airliner to D.C. is about \$1,100.

Now, what would you do with an extra \$5,000 or so?"

Chairman of the Senate's Government Accountability and Fiscal Oversight Committee, Cauthorn earlier this year launched the *Golden Goose Egg Award* after the actions of a former U.S. Senator, William Proxmire, D-Wisc., who handed out monthly "Golden Fleece" awards to government agencies and entities executing less-than-capable fiscal policy.

Recent awardees joining MoDOT in the field of fiscal imprudence include the Department of Conservation and the Office of Administration, both two-time winners in this calendar year.

In fact, Hungerbeeler's high-flying trip to the nation's Capitol was the inaugural winner of this new award program. MoDOT followed up its win with Ollie Gates, Chairman of the Transportation Commission taking home an award for nearly \$38,000 in travel on state-owned jets



*Transportation Director Henry Hungerbeeler is shown accepting the Golden Goose Egg Award from Sen. Cauthorn.*

for the year 2002, rather than driving across the crumbling asphalt and concrete he is charged with overseeing.

"Look, this award thing is obviously a tongue-in-cheek deal," Cauthorn said. "But it's meant to spotlight some very serious problems within the ranks of the taxpayer-funded state bureaucracy and to help ensure that we correct these misuses of the people's money."

Events leading to the senator's award were beneficial to Missouri taxpayers, according to Hungerbeeler, "We understand that the taxpayers are our bosses, and this has encouraged us to develop a flight policy that saves money and is efficient for business."

"It is encouraging that this award has led to a review of MoDOT's flight policy and new accountability measures setting guidelines for state plane use," Senator Cauthorn said.



*Gerald Ross, of the Conservation Dept., graciously accepts his award from the senator.*

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All departments can be accessed through  
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- Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102.....(573) 751-4212
- Department of Health P.O. Box 570, Jefferson City, MO 65102.....(573) 751-6001 or (573) 751-6420
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- Department of Mental Health P.O. Box 687, 1706 E. Elm, Jefferson City, MO 65102.....1-800-364-9687
- Department of Natural Resources P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102.....(573) 751-3443
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- Department of Revenue P.O. Box 311, Jefferson City, MO 65105.....(573) 751-4450
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