

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FEBRUARY 9, 2004

**SEN. JOHN GRIESHEIMER SPONSORS  
GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT OF DR. MOREY BLINDER**

JEFFERSON CITY -- Sen. John Griesheimer, R-Washington, has successfully sponsored the gubernatorial appointment of Dr. Morey Alan Blinder, Wildwood, to the Missouri Genetic Disease Advisory Committee.

“Missouri is fortunate to have a physician with Dr. Blinder’s credentials serving on this committee,” said Griesheimer. “His vast experience in medical research will allow him to provide unique insights into genetic diseases.”

Blinder is currently the medical director of the Wohl Hematology Laboratory, Department of Pathology and Immunology at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He is an associate professor of Medicine and Pathology at Washington University and is an associate member of the Alvin J. Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis. Blinder has published numerous articles in medical journals and is the author of several books.

A graduate of the St. Louis University School of Medicine, Blinder received his BS from the University of Notre Dame.

Made up of 15 members, the majority of which are licensed physicians, the Missouri Genetic Committee was created to advise the Department of Health and Senior Services in all genetic programs including metabolic disease screening programs, hemophilia, sickle cell anemia and cystic fibrosis.

The committee insures that genetic programs are responsive to the needs of the entire state.

Among the areas the board examines:

- That the department advised on methods and implementation of genetic services.
- Duplication of services is eliminated.
- Yearly evaluations of genetic programs are completed to ascertain how successfully the goals of the programs are being achieved.

The governor makes appointments to state boards and commissions with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Senate Committee on Gubernatorial Appointments usually meets weekly during the legislative session. Their sponsoring senator presents each appointee to the committee.

Once the committee has approved appointments, the chairman reports on the committee's action to the floor for consideration by the full Senate.

Appointees must be approved by the committee and confirmed by the full Senate before taking the position on the board or the committee.