



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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**For Immediate Release:
February 10, 2005**

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Missouri Senate Gives Final Approval to Senator John Loudon's Workers' Comp Bill

JEFFERSON CITY— A measure sponsored by State Sen. John Loudon, R-Ballwin, to revise Missouri's workers' compensation laws in an effort to lower insurance premiums for businesses received final passage today in the Senate.

Senate Bill 1 is necessary because of the overactive judiciary branch that has been legislating from the bench in the past, which has forced insurance companies to foot the bill for more than workplace injuries. This bill is designed to get our system back to only covering workers' legitimate injury claims.

"This legislation is a significant step toward making Missouri a business-friendly environment," Loudon said. "By decreasing the costs of insurance premiums for employers, companies won't be faced with having to downsize their staffs, close up or move to another state."

The measure also says that anyone found guilty of false claims or other means of fraud in the workers' compensation system will be charged with a Class D felony, which is punishable by a maximum of four years in prison.

"Stricter penalties for system abuse will prevent individuals from undermining legitimate claims of honest workers with false ones of their own," Loudon said. "This law doesn't change the system's purpose, it just will help the system fulfill its purpose in a better way."

The bill is now being reviewed in the House. Approval will send the bill to the governor's desk, where it is expected to be signed into law.

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