



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Senator John Loudon Introduces Government Reorganization Bill

JEFFERSON CITY— State Sen. John Loudon, R-Ballwin, has introduced legislation to consolidate hearing officers and administrative law judges into an Office of Administrative Hearings, which will increase efficiency in a sector of the Missouri court system that affects citizens and businesses on a daily basis.

Whenever Missouri citizens seek out one of the 80 agencies or boards that are within a 15-department state system, they deal with what is often considered as “the invisible court system”— administrative law.

“Whether people want to contest utility rates or discuss their rights when it comes to sales tax, they have to deal with an agency that has a different set of rules from all the other agencies—and that is unnecessary,” Loudon said. “If we combine offices in the administrative law system, we will not only make government far more user-friendly, but save a lot of money for taxpayers.”

Senate Bill 548 creates an Office of Administrative Hearings, which would weed out redundant services and expenses, as well as uphold a consistent set of rules, time limits and standards for all procedures and hearings, no matter which department is involved.

“It shouldn’t be hard to interact with your state government,” Loudon said. “Just about half of the states in the nation have a similar ‘central panel’, and it is time for Missouri to implement the same to save taxpayers money, time and hassle.”

The bill will be heard before a committee in the near future. Committee approval would send the measure to the Senate floor for debate by the full body.