



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

John Loudon
7th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 422
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

For Immediate Release:
Oct. 26, 2005

Contact: Julie Murphy
(573) 751-9763

Sen. John Loudon Vows to Fight Effort to Derail Parental Consent Bill

JEFFERSON CITY— Sen. John Loudon, R-Chesterfield, today announced that he is eager to see upheld in court his pro-life legislation that passed the Missouri Legislature earlier this year. Senate Bill 1 has been challenged in state court by pro-choice activists, and a hearing is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, in Division 10 of the Jackson County Courthouse in Kansas City. A similar federal lawsuit was recently dropped when a Springfield abortion clinic permanently closed its doors.

“There were two lawsuits. Due to the pending closure of the Springfield clinic, they have dropped their federal court challenge. I am hopeful this important legislation will be allowed to pass,” Loudon said. “I am working with the Missouri Office of the Attorney General and other interested parties to ensure that the will of Missourians is preserved.”

SB 1 passed during the special legislative session in September. The legislation reinforces Missouri’s parental consent law, which requires individuals under age 18 who are seeking abortions to show their doctors written permission from a parent or legal guardian or from a judge before undergoing the procedure. SB 1 makes civilly liable individuals who help transport minors across state lines to get abortions, in violation of the parents’ rights.

“This legislation protects young women in Missouri by allowing their parents to take part in one of the most important decisions they could possibly make,” Loudon said. “Should another adult violate the rights of the parents, endangering these young women and circumventing state law, they could be held civilly liable.”

-MORE-

SB 1 also requires physicians at abortion clinics to have admitting privileges at hospitals within 30 miles of the abortion clinic.

A federal judge granted a temporary restraining order on the legislation September 16. But that effort recently ended when the abortion provider, Springfield Healthcare Center, closed its doors and dropped the lawsuit. Loudon anticipates similar success in the state suit.

“This case is another attempt by the abortion industry to subvert the will of Missouri citizens,” Loudon said. “I expect this case to be properly resolved and this measure to be finally added to Missouri law. We will stick with this case and do everything we can to keep this bill out of judicial purgatory. Missouri’s partial birth abortion ban has been held up for six years. Any time the people speak through the democratic process and find their voices scoffed at by a single judge, it is a travesty.”

-END-