



## MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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# 2005 Special Session a Success for Missouri Youths and Farmers

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JEFFERSON CITY – We have been back in session for the past two weeks in Jefferson City. The Governor called for a special session to address some bills that were passed during the general session. The bills included the posting of names of public officials on the Internet, the strengthening of penalties on adults who provide alcohol to minors, and workers' compensation reform. All three of these bills had been signed by the Governor; however, they contained inconsistent language, which disallowed them to be effectively enacted into law.

Another issue that was passed dealt with the ability to help reduce abortions. This increased the restrictions on where abortion clinics could be located, who can be a decision-maker for a minor, and it also increased penalties on various individuals.

There were other issues that were discussed. One was a resolution to allow the Army Corp of Engineers to release water on the Missouri River in the spring and then reduce or hold back water in the summer. Our farmland and barge traffic along both the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers could very well be negatively affected.

One issue that I am greatly concerned about, which doesn't seem to be getting enough consideration, is the most recent proposal by the Clean Water Commission. The adopted standards that will redefine more than 96 percent of Missouri's classified streams to "Whole Body Contact Recreation" could put an extreme amount of financial burden on cities, businesses and individuals, who will be restricted on the amount and type of waste water that they will be able to release.

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Cities, and constituents really should become more familiar with this proposal. The present standards only distinguish about 10 percent of our streams as areas of “Whole Body Contact Recreation.”

For more information on these issues or any others please contact myself or the staff in my office at Jefferson City.

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