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Cauthorn Scolds Supreme Court Ruling Forcing Missouri Taxpayers to Fund Abortion

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – Taxpayer dollars will fund an abortion for a prisoner in a Missouri penitentiary after today’s United States Supreme Court decision. State Senator John Cauthorn, R-Mexico, scolded the court’s ruling that a constitutional right to an abortion outweighs state policies.

“When I campaigned for office I said taxpayer dollars should never fund an abortion, and most Northeast Missourians shared that view,” said Cauthorn. “The Supreme Court’s decision is an insult to our values and peoples’ hard earned dollars should not fund abortions.”

Missouri state law prohibits tax dollars from being used to obtain an abortion, and Missouri Department of Corrections policy abides by the law. The prisoner, housed in Vandalia’s female prison, was seeking an abortion in St. Louis. A federal judge in Missouri ruled the state must take the prisoner to get the abortion and pay for the abortion and associated costs. Justice Clarence Thomas issued a stay Friday night to stop the proceedings so the Court could review the case.

“The lawyer for the prisoner claims the legal battle is traumatic for her,” said Cauthorn. “I believe this is traumatic for the unborn baby and for Missourians who do not want to pay for this procedure.”

Cauthorn intends to file legislation in the upcoming session that will protect taxpayer’s from funding abortions in light of the Supreme Court’s ruling.

Sen. Cauthorn represents Missouri’s 18th Senate District. He can be reached at his capitol office at (573) 751-6858. You can also visit his web page by going to www.senate.mo.gov/cauthorn.