



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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For Immediate Release:
February 17, 2005

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The Cauthorn Report

JEFFERSON CITY, MO - An eventful and progressive week took place at the capitol for Senator Cauthorn this week. Senator Cauthorn's Senate Bill 284, the Dairy Herd Revolving Fund, was discussed during the Senate Agriculture Committee hearing. Dairy farmers will have an opportunity to receive a seven-year loan for the purchase of dairy cows under the program.

"Missouri's dairy industry is in decline, in the last 15 years we have lost half the number of dairy cows and have 70 percent fewer dairy farms," said Cauthorn. "Providing this loan to farmers will help our local communities economically and will provide opportunities for our young farmers."

Dairy farmers and agriculture experts testified on behalf of the legislation and how it will help their fellow farmers. Among them were Tim Echelmeier of the Missouri Dairy Association, Dr. Alan Wesler of the Missouri Dairy Growth Council, and Kenny Lenz of the Dairy Farmers of America. The bill is awaiting a committee vote to be sent to the Senate floor.

For the third time in four years the Missouri Corn Growers Association honored Senator Cauthorn at their annual dinner. Cauthorn received the Friend of Agriculture award for his efforts to promote ethanol which provides a cleaner burning fuel and increases the value of corn.

"Missouri must lead in promoting renewable sources of fuel reducing our dependence on foreign oil," said Cauthorn. "I am honored to receive this award for leading the fight for our farmers, but there is still more work ahead."

Hundreds of small business owners flocked to Jefferson City Wednesday for Missouri Chamber of Commerce Day at the capitol. Senator Cauthorn met with numerous constituents participating in the day's activities.

"Ninety-seven percent of new jobs in the state are created by small business, and many of our state's laws and regulations hinder these business operations," said Cauthorn. "Hearing from business leaders in our local communities is vital to understanding their needs and concerns so they can run their business efficiently and create jobs."

On a lighter note, Monday night did not provide much sleep for Senator Cauthorn. Senator Graham (D-19) led an all-night filibuster attempting to stop the Southwest Missouri State University name change. The 14-hour debate ended after Graham conceded and the night ended with a 6:30 a.m. vote.

Sen. Cauthorn represents Missouri's 18th Senate District. He can be reached at his capitol office at (573) 751-6850. You can also visit his web page by going to www.senate.mo.gov/cauthorn.