



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Delbert Scott
28th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 221
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**A Weekly Column for the
Week of August 29, 2005**

**Contact: Debbie Poire
(573) 751-8793**

Special Session

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri State Senate will kick off the 1st Extraordinary Session of the 93rd Missouri General Assembly next week. Gov. Matt Blunt called on lawmakers to address several issues in the September session.

The most important measure up for consideration will be legislation similar to Senate Bill 2 from the 2005 regular session. That bill contained provisions affecting abortions in Missouri. It would have allowed lawsuits to be filed against people who help minors get abortions in other states. SB 2 worked to enforce Missouri's law requiring anyone under age 18 to receive parental consent before receiving an abortion. The measure also would regulate abortion providers. Under the legislation, physicians at abortion clinics must receive privileges to provide obstetric and gynecological care at hospitals within 30 miles of the clinic. The bill was initially approved by the Senate in April; however, senators refused to pass the bill when several amendments were added to it in the House of Representatives.

Lawmakers also expect to consider a resolution declaring the opposition of the General Assembly to a federal mandate to seasonally raise Missouri River water levels. At issue is a decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requiring the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to release water from a South Dakota dam in the spring in order to raise river levels in an effort to increase spawning by an endangered fish, the pallid sturgeon. Under this plan, Missouri farmers will be under a greater threat of flooding due to higher water levels.

The Legislature plans to revisit a bill signed by the Governor. A provision in Senate Bill 420 prohibits the posting of elected or appointed officials' addresses, phone numbers, and Social Security numbers on public agency web sites without the permission of the officials. Although the governor signed the omnibus legislation into law, he said this particular part of the bill should be removed. SB 420 contains many provisions relating to criminal law.

Lawmakers also plan to reconcile differences in measures approved during the regular session dealing with underage drinking and drunk driving, resolve a difference in two bills relating to the distribution of prescription drugs on school property, and correct a drafting error in the new workers' compensation law.

The Missouri General Assembly begins the special session on September 6. The Legislature also is slated to begin the 2005 veto session on September 14.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at 573-751-8793 or by e-mail at: delbertscott@senate.state.mo.us

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.