



## MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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# Sen. Koster Advances to House Bill Strengthening Abortion Laws

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JEFFERSON CITY – A bill co-sponsored by Sen. Chris Koster, R-Cass, to make safer and ultimately reduce abortions in Missouri received final approval by the State Senate late Thursday night in the 1<sup>st</sup> Extraordinary Session of the 93<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly. The special session was called by Gov. Matt Blunt to address several issues, one of which was strengthening Missouri abortion laws.

Senate Bill 1 prohibits anyone from knowingly helping pregnant minors travel to another state to get an abortion without parental consent. The measure, which awaits similar consideration from the House, also requires doctors to have gynecological-care privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of the clinic where they perform abortions.

“This is important pro-life legislation. It protects the safety of young women and the lives of the unborn,” Koster said. “The measure upholds a parent’s right to be involved in the critical medical decisions of his or her daughter and will ensure that women who get abortions will receive the best care possible.”

The Senate also advanced to the House Senate Concurrent Resolution 1, which declares opposition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s requirement that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers seasonally release more water downstream from a South Dakota dam. A man-made “spring rise” of the Missouri River could cause flooding and drainage problems that delay crop planting and threaten barge travel during dryer summer months. The resolution pronouncing the General Assembly’s resistance received unanimous bi-partisan support.

Additionally forwarded to the House was Senate Bill 4, which corrects a minor drafting error in a bill passed during regular session regarding Missouri’s workers’ compensation laws.

Lawmakers will return to the Capitol to resume the special session at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13.

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