



*Nothing is politically right
that is morally wrong.*

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

*Free and fair discussion
is the firmest friend of truth.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 2006

Bill Blending Ethanol and Gasoline Advances to Governor

Renewable-fuel Standard Benefits Farm Families, Drivers and the Environment

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Senate today approved and sent to the governor a bill that will provide Missouri motorists with a cleaner burning, renewable fuel that lowers prices at the pump and supports Missouri’s farmers. House Bill 1270, handled in the Senate by Sen. John Cauthorn, R-Mexico, requires gasoline sold in Missouri to contain a 10 percent ethanol blend.

“Today we are 10 percent closer to relying on ourselves for our energy needs,” Cauthorn said. “With instability in the Middle East, and skyrocketing petroleum prices, the oil market has proven to be unstable. Missouri’s corn growers are reliable and will deliver renewable fuels we can depend on year after year.”

The measure requires all gasoline sold in Missouri to contain a 10 percent ethanol blend beginning Jan. 1, 2008. Ethanol is a clean-burning, renewable product made from fermented agricultural products, such as corn. Ethanol contains oxygen, which provides a cleaner fuel that burns more efficiently. When used in vehicles, ethanol reduces carbon dioxide, a major contributor to global warming.

All motor vehicles manufactured since the 1970s can run on a 10 percent ethanol blend. Engines do not need to be modified, and many local gas pumps already provide this blend. To make sure the blended gasoline does not cost taxpayers more at the pump, any time the price of ethanol is higher than the cost of gasoline, the 10 percent ethanol standard will be suspended.

“Cleaner living using green power is one of the Senate’s top priorities this year,” said Senate President Pro Tem Michael R. Gibbons. “Using corn to power our cars will give drivers a new choice at the pump that lowers fuel prices, makes our environment cleaner, all while decreasing our dependence on foreign sources of fuel.”

###