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PRESS RELEASE

Sen. Cauthorn asks Gov. Blunt to Include Greenley Research Center in New MOHELA Plan

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – Sen. John Cauthorn, R-Mexico, today asked Gov. Matt Blunt to include a University of Missouri - Greenley Research Center (GRC) construction project in his plan to go forward with funding for higher education capital projects. A Senate-approved spending plan that did not pass the House by the constitutional deadline would have appropriated \$2 million for the construction of a Learning and Discovery Park at GRC.

Blunt has said he will work to implement without legislative approval a plan to sell assets held by the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA). Blunt's original plan did not include the GRC project, though the Senate's plan did, and Cauthorn is asking the governor to include the much-needed development in his new proposal.

"Greenley's research, and their future goals, are a perfect fit for the governor's vision," Cauthorn said. "I ask the governor to remember the importance of this project as he prepares a new plan for MOHELA."

GRC is seeking \$2.4 million for the new Learning and Discovery Park building. Cauthorn is working to secure \$2 million in state funds, while GRC is seeking to procure the rest in matching funds. GRC's Learning and Discovery Park would be a state-of-the-art facility for field testing of value-added transgenic materials for Missouri farmers.

The major objective of the center is to evaluate efficient, profitable crop production in northern Missouri while emphasizing soil conservation, water quality and energy efficiency. Hortense Greenley donated the 700-acre farm to the University of Missouri in memory of her father in 1974.

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.