



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Bill Alter
22nd Senate District

CAPITOL ROOM 429
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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Contact: Gary Romine
(573) 751-1492

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Bills Protecting Legal U.S. Citizens Advance

JEFFERSON CITY – The following is a statement from Sen. Bill Alter, R-High Ridge, regarding two bills that were voted out of the Senate this week.

Senate Bill 1250, sponsored by Alter, gives more power to state law enforcement so illegal immigrants living or working in Missouri can be effectively identified, detained and deported.

Senate Bill 1014 requires voters to show state-issued photo identification before they can cast a ballot. The measure allows elderly, disabled and those with religious objections to cast provisional ballots, and this fall, voters who don't have proper photo identification must just show an ID with a signature that matches the one on record with county election officials. This bill is similar to language that was included in the original text of Senate Bill 1250.

SEN. BILL ALTER:

“Both of these measures will protect the best interests of legal Missouri citizens. Whether we’re talking about saving state taxpayer money or preserving our system of democracy, it is important to prevent people from undermining the fundamental rights of U.S. citizenship.

“The most important part of Senate Bill 1250 is that certain State Highway Patrol members will be trained by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and have access to the federal database of those who violate their visas. Because there are currently only three or four INS agents per state, these provisions authorize the highway patrol to effectively handle illegal immigration in the Show-Me State so that local law enforcement doesn't have to wait days for federal authorities to step in. Other provisions codify what already exists in federal law. With this legislation, we will raise the awareness of what Missouri can already do to deal with illegal immigrants and encourages the establishment of a contract with Homeland Security, known as the Memorandum of Understanding.

“As for Senate Bill 1014, I am very supportive of the measure, because it will restore faith in the election process. Voter fraud cannot and will not be tolerated in Missouri. Honest voters should be assured that the election is not being skewed in favor of political saboteurs. By requiring voters to substantiate their identities with photo IDs, we can reestablish high standards of reliability in our election system.”

Both measures will now be considered in the House. If approved, they will head to the governor to be signed into law.