



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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John Griesheimer
26th Senate District

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Sen. Griesheimer's Recognized for Efforts to Strengthen Wine Industry

JEFFERSON CITY— Sen. John Griesheimer, R-Washington, was honored earlier this year with the “Friend of the Industry Award,” presented by the Missouri Wine and Grape Board at the Mid-America Wine & Grape Conference.

The board selected Griesheimer as the award recipient because of his legislative commitment to the wine industry. In 2005, he sponsored Senate Bill 355, which established the board and empowered it with the ability to promote its own activities and choose its own leadership.

“Missouri’s grape-growing industry is a vital part of the state’s economic health, so having a board that has the authority to control its own destiny is crucial in the upkeep and future growth of this part of the ag-tourism sector,” said Tim Puchta, president of the Missouri Wine and Grape Board. “Because Sen. Griesheimer has been a super friend to us, he has earned the board’s appreciation, and he has earned the award.”

The Missouri Wine and Grape Board is a part of the Department of Agriculture and is funded by a 12 cents-per-gallon tax on wine sales.

“I am happy and honored to be a part of helping the board foster a vigorous wine and grape market right here in the Show-Me State,” Griesheimer said. “As chairman of the Senate Economic Development, Tourism and Local Government Committee, I understand the significant role that the grape-growing business plays in the state’s tourism industry and will continue to support the wine and grape board in my future legislative efforts.”

Picture on following page

**Pictured below from left to right: Sen. John Griesheimer;
Fred Ferrel, Director of Agriculture; Tim Puchta, Chairman of the MO Wine and Grape Board.**



To obtain a jpeg version of the photo, please contact Chris Sutherland at 573-751-3678.