

Delbert Scott 28th Senate District

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A Weekly Column for the Week of October 23, 2006

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Sex Offender Registry Updated

JEFFERSON CITY – Cracking down on sex offenders was a top priority for the Legislature in 2006. The General Assembly approved House Bill 1698, which imposes mandatory life sentences against certain repeat sex offenders, establishes a toll-free hotline to report sexual abuse, and allows probation and parole officers to have access to registered sex offenders' personal computers to look for evidence of child pornography. Governor Blunt signed the bill into law in June.

This week the governor unveiled the state's new Sex Offender Registry, which has been updated and includes a new toll-free number.

"We are making Missouri's Sex Offender Registry a more powerful tool to protect families, children and neighborhoods," Blunt said.

The Registry has been enhanced and now includes the following information about each registered sex offender: name including aliases, date of birth, physical description including tattoos, home, work and school addresses, information about vehicles either owned or operated by the offender, complete information about the offense including conviction/plea agreement, the age of the victim, and whether the offender is in compliance with the registration requirements.

Updated photographs will be added due to a provision in HB 1698 requiring current photographs to be submitted more frequently. The Registry also includes a function that will map the listed offender's address.

To view the state's Sex Offender Registry on the Internet, visit www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov/MSHPWeb/PatrolDivisions/CRID/SOR/SORPage.html.

Missourians without access to the Internet can get information through the new toll-free number 1-888-767-6747. Missouri State Highway Patrol employees are available to answer questions Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at 573-751-8793 or by e-mail at: delbertscott@senate.mo.gov

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.