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JUNE 29, 2006

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## Sen. Gary Nodler Selected for Interim Panel on Costs of Higher Ed

JEFFERSON CITY— Sen. Gary Nodler, R-Joplin, was appointed by Sen. President Pro Tem Michael Gibbons, R-Kirkwood, as chairman of the five-member Senate Interim Committee on the Cost of a College Education.

The committee is responsible for reviewing the affordability of a college education in the state. The members will make recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the role of the state in funding a college education for Missouri students, improving the mechanism by which tuition rates are set and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of college-savings plans, scholarship programs and student loans.

"The work of the committee will be extremely important when considering next year's legislative agenda," Nodler said. "If we want to do what is best for Missouri students and do what is best for the state, we need to look into all funding resources available towards making college more affordable and accessible to everyone."

Over the next several months, the panel will hold public hearings at various locations throughout the state. The other members of the committee are: Sen. Scott T. Rupp, R-Wentzville; Sen. Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph; Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring; Sen. Chuck Graham, D-Columbia.