



State Senator  
**Jack Goodman**

**District 29**

**Defending Our Homes  
Caring For Seniors  
Promoting Agriculture  
Streamlining Government  
Protecting Our Children**

# From the desk of Sen. Jack Goodman

Dear Friends in the 29th District,

Thank you for the opportunity to work for you in the Missouri Senate. We have prepared this report to keep you informed of the progress made on your behalf this past session.

The General Assembly faced many important and difficult issues this year. We worked hard to address these issues to bring about meaningful change and reflect our shared belief in personal responsibility, educational opportunity, and common sense values.

We worked to provide Missouri's unborn children every protection allowable. We enhanced alternatives-to-abortion programs, took abortion providers out of our public schools and placed greater restrictions on the operation of abortion clinics. We specifically authorized our public schools to include in their sex education programs the fact that abstinence is the most effective means of birth control and disease prevention. While it seems like common sense to most of us, some school administrators believed they were prohibited from including such vital, life-saving information.

This year, we also enacted MO HealthNet, a comprehensive reform of Missouri's outdated and ineffective Medicaid laws. MO HealthNet empowers people to be involved in their own healthcare decisions. The program will place special emphasis on promoting wellness and prevention, which was not readily available under the old Medicaid plan. In addition, the new program will extend benefits to 90,000 low income women that were previously ineligible.

Before this year, a burglar could break into your house and sue you if you used force to try to defend yourself or your family. Worse still, you could be arrested and charged with a crime for trying to defend yourself or your family in your own home. We fixed this absurd inconsistency by passing SB 62, which gives all Missourians the right to use deadly force to defend their families from illegal intruders in their homes or vehicles.



## SEN. GOODMAN'S COMMITTEES

Governmental Accountability and Fiscal Oversight, Chair



Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel to examine the Missouri Housing Development Commission, Co-Chair



Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence, Vice-Chair



Joint Committee on Corrections, Vice-Chair



Joint Committee on Administrative Rules



Joint Committee on Legislative Research



Ways and Means Committee



Economic Development, Tourism and Local Government



Joint Committee on Economic Development Policy and Planning



Children's Services Commission



Seniors, Families and Public Health

I am pleased to let you know that I was elected by the Senate Republican caucus to serve as Assistant Majority Floor Leader in September, the third ranking position on the majority leadership team in the Missouri Senate. I am grateful for this enhanced opportunity to participate in shaping the direction of our state and to give an amplified voice to the people of the 29th District.

These are just a few of the positive changes we made this year. Please take a moment to continue reading, and you will see there is much more good news.

I am truly excited about these important improvements to the quality of life in our great state. Thank you again for allowing me to serve you in the Missouri Senate. Please contact my office any time you need assistance or want to share an idea. My contact information can be found on page 7.

Respectfully,

Jack Goodman



# Protecting Our HOMES



This year, Sen. Goodman sponsored Senate Bill 62, known by many as the “Castle Doctrine.” This measure, which Sen. Goodman also drafted and filed during his first session in the Senate (2006), was designed to correct a long-standing inconsistency in Missouri’s self defense laws.

Most of us believe that if an intruder breaks into our home, we have the legal right to use all necessary force to protect ourselves and our families. Unfortunately, that was not the case in Missouri until this year.

Although the occupant of a home could use such force while the intruder was breaking in, the law seemed to reward the intruder by putting the home occupant at a severe disadvantage once the intruder had successfully gained entry. Once the intruder was in, the law required the occupant to run away or wait for the intruder to attack someone in the home before the occupant could use full force to defend themselves or a family member in the home.



Senate Bill 62 removed this inconsistency by protecting people from criminal prosecution or civil liability for using deadly force against an illegal intruder.

The legislation also repealed the requirement that Missourians must apply for a permit from their local sheriff before buying a handgun.

In response to the tragedy at Virginia Tech, the bill also made information from court records about debilitating or dangerous mental health conditions available to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System that is used during gun purchases.

After lengthy debate and a filibuster, Sen. Goodman worked with members of both parties to broker a deal assuring passage of this much needed change to Missouri law. Thanks to Sen. Goodman’s hard work, the bill passed in both the Senate and House with overwhelming approval. The governor signed SB 62 into law on July 3rd.

# Streamlining GOVERNMENT



Missouri has plenty of laws that either sunset or are no longer in force by their own provisions. These laws clutter up our state statutes and make it more difficult for the average citizen to know what laws to obey.

Every year, the Joint Committee on Legislative Research prepares a bill called the “revision bill” to take these useless laws off the books. Unfortunately, for the past seven years the bill has gotten bogged down in political maneuvering, which led to a backlog of *almost 200 pages of obsolete laws*.

This year, things were different. Sen. Goodman was tasked this session with sponsoring SRB 613, the Senate version of the revision bill.

Utilizing his ability to develop trust and work with others, Sen. Goodman got the bill passed and signed into law, eliminating 200 pages of clutter from Missouri statutes.



*Sen. Goodman, left, discusses legislation with fellow legislator Sen. Jason Crowell.*

# ALTERNATIVES to Abortion



The General Assembly worked tirelessly in the 2007 session to protect the lives of unborn children. We passed House Bill 1055, which the governor signed into law as an important part of that overall effort.

Education is a critical part of reducing the number of abortions in Missouri. Recognizing this, we included a provision in HB 1055 prohibiting any abortion provider from supplying course material or instruction during sexual education courses in public schools. The measure also gives schools the option to teach that abstinence is the only 100 percent effective way of preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease.



*Sen. Yvonne Wilson discusses legislative matters with Sen. Goodman on the floor of the Senate Chamber.*

The bill creates the Missouri Alternatives to Abortion Services Program, which funds organizations that provide services to pregnant women, mothers, and women looking for adoption services. This program will help pregnancy centers in the 29<sup>th</sup> District that provide life-affirming services to women in need. Such funding will not be available to organizations that perform abortions. House Bill 1055 also creates the Abortion Public Awareness Program, through which state agencies will publicize alternatives to abortion.

In addition, the legislation holds abortion clinics to the same strict safety standards as surgical centers and includes strong penalties for anyone unlawfully inducing or helping to induce an abortion.

Senator Goodman worked hard to ensure the measure also:

- Prohibits abortion providers from teaching sex education or birth control in our public schools.
- Authorizes public schools to include abstinence in instruction on birth control and disease avoidance.
- Places stringent regulations on abortion clinics.
- Enhances state programs on alternatives to abortion.

## Protecting the Unborn



Protecting unborn babies is one of the issues Sen. Goodman works hardest to champion in your state capital. He believes that the most solemn duty of a public servant is to protect those who truly have no voice and no means of defending themselves. This session, Sen. Goodman sponsored SB 676, which would have provided that when a woman, knowing she is pregnant, exposes an unborn child to a controlled substance or damaging levels of alcohol,

the woman is guilty of child abuse, punishable by up to seven years in prison.

Additionally, the bill would have authorized removal of the baby from the offender's custody. Unfortunately, the legislation stalled in committee, but Sen. Goodman has committed to file the bill again in the upcoming session.

This life-protecting initiative dovetails with the related reforms noted in the article above.

# Building Tomorrow's FARMS



Today's new farmers face many different challenges from those of previous generations. Many young Missourians considering a career in farming are forced to pay subdivision prices for real estate, which makes it nearly impossible to turn a profit in farming. Technology brings enhanced productivity, but can also significantly increase the start-up cost of new farms.

Today's farmer must know the latest technological advancements, be aware of fluctuating markets, and efficiently apply strategic business principles to achieve success. All of these factors make education essential to successful farming.

To assist potential young farmers facing these challenges, Sen. Goodman filed SB 417. This legislation would have provided funding for programs designed to provide farmers in all areas

of the state access to ongoing educational opportunities in order to keep them abreast of the latest research in varied farming techniques.

In addition, the program would have facilitated the development of mentoring relationships between aspiring young farmers and more experienced farmers. The program would help ensure that future generations of farmers could benefit from the hard-learned lessons of their elders' experience.

A pilot program employing the ideas of Sen. Goodman's bill was successful in southern Missouri.

While the measure passed easily in the Senate, time ran out before colleagues in the House could finish their work on the bill. Senator Goodman hopes to work on a way to create these opportunities again during the upcoming session.

# Protecting Our DAIRY FARMS



Missouri's dairy industry is a vital part of southwest Missouri's cultural heritage and economic well-being. Unfortunately, Missouri is experiencing an alarming decline in family dairy farms. Families who continue or consider starting a dairy farm today face difficult challenges. In response to these challenges,



Sen. Goodman sponsored Senate Bill 444 to help promote investment in this crucial sector of Missouri's economy. The legislation would have allowed the Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority to pay for the first full year of interest on any applicable Missouri linked deposit program loan for the purchase of dairy cows.

In addition, dairy business planning grants of up to \$5,000 each and no more than 90 percent of the cost of the plan, could have been awarded by the authority. The bill required that Missouri residents must own a majority of each participating dairy.

Senator Goodman attained passage of the bill in the Senate Agriculture, Conservation, Parks and Natural Resources Committee. Unfortunately, the session ended before both chambers could approve the bill.



# Protecting Our Most Vulnerable



Senator Goodman, working closely with Representative Kevin Wilson and other members of the General Assembly, responded to the tragic fire that killed eleven people at the Anderson Guest House, a residential care facility in Sen. Goodman's district. House Bill 952, signed into law on June 1, 2007, requires all residential care facilities with more than 20 residents to install alarms and sprinkler systems and implement effective emergency preparedness plans.

With this bill, fires like the one at the Anderson Guest House are much less likely to result in injury or death. Required alarms will ensure that people are alerted to a fire early, allowing patients to be evacuated sooner. Sprinklers and required partition walls will prevent the spread of the fire. These additional protections will allow vulnerable Missourians and their loved ones to rest easier in greater safety.

#### **Provisions of this bill include:**

- All new long-term care facilities and facilities

completing a major renovation that are licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services were required to install and maintain an approved sprinkler system by August 28, 2007.

- All existing residential care and assisted living facilities with more than 20 residents must install and maintain an approved sprinkler system by December 31, 2012.

- Long-term care, skilled nursing, and intermediate care facilities must install and maintain an approved sprinkler system by December 31, 2012, with some exceptions.

- Facilities that make a substantial effort to install an approved sprinkler system prior to December 31, 2012, may apply for a Fire Safety Standards Loan to complete the project.

- All long-term care facilities must

be equipped with a complete fire alarm system by December 31, 2008, and each floor accessed by residents must be divided into at least two sections by one-hour rated smoke partitions.



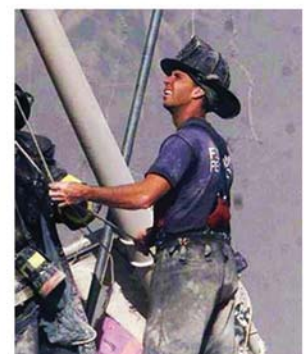
*Sen. Goodman visits with senior citizens from the district to discuss legislative issues.*

## Rewarding Local HEROES

Firefighters are often our first line of defense against natural disasters and against those who would seek to do us harm. In Missouri, these exceptional individuals are often volunteers who receive no compensation for risking their lives to help make us safer.

Recognizing the sacrifices and service of these everyday heroes, Sen. Goodman again introduced legislation to provide a \$200 tax credit for volunteer firefighters who complete at least 12 hours of any firefighter training program approved by the state fire marshal. That credit could double to \$400 if the firefighter had completed at least 30 hours of training after the initial 12 hours of training.

Unfortunately, time ran out on this important measure during the past legislative session, but Sen. Goodman will file and pursue this legislation again in the upcoming session.



# United by our **COMMON LANGUAGE**

In a nation as large and diverse as the United States, a common language is important in promoting communication across cultural and regional divides. However, some states that have large populations of non-English speaking people have begun conducting official meetings in languages other than English. This year, the Missouri General Assembly acted swiftly to forestall this troubling trend. House Joint Resolution 7 was passed to allow voters to mandate that official proceedings in Missouri be conducted in English.

Current Missouri law recognizes that English is the common language of the state and that fluency in English is integral to American culture. The constitutional amendment would use more certain language and would be less vulnerable to court nullification.

If voters approve the measure, official meetings, including state proceedings and public meetings such as city council or school board meetings, would be required to be conducted in English. The law does

not prohibit translators in applicable situations such as court proceedings.

The resolution would, however, require local and state governments to communicate in English and use English as the language of record.



*Sen. Goodman confers with fellow legislator Sen. John Loudon in the Senate chamber.*

## Contact: **Senator Goodman**

If you have any legislative concerns or questions, feel free to contact Sen. Goodman's office.

You can call the Capitol office at (573) 751-2234, the district office at (417) 466-3731, fax to (573) 526-9808, or e-mail [jack.goodman@senate.mo.gov](mailto:jack.goodman@senate.mo.gov). Feel free to stop by his office, Room 331A, at the State Capitol.

**Sen. Goodman's Senate Web page:**  
[www.senate.mo.gov/goodman](http://www.senate.mo.gov/goodman)





# The Buck Stops **HERE**

## The 2008 Fiscal Year Budget

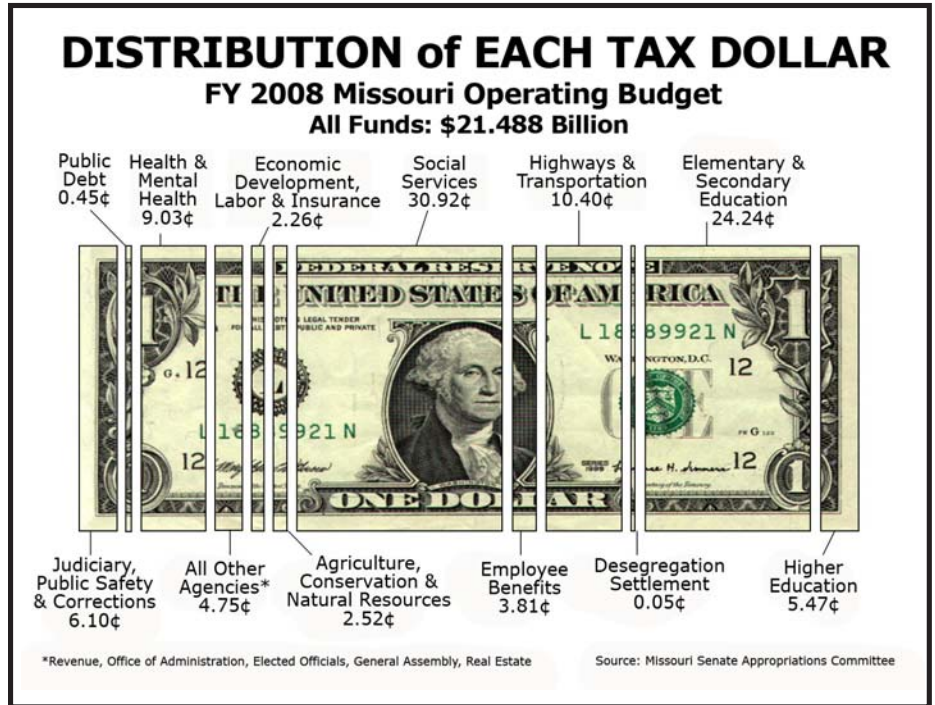
Each year, the General Assembly must determine how to budget taxpayer money for the next fiscal year.

This session, the Legislature passed a \$21.4 billion budget reflecting responsible financial planning.

The 29th Senate District benefits from the budget with, among other things, \$11.6 million for the Missouri Rehabilitation Center, \$9.9 million for the Mount Vernon Veteran's Home, and \$1.1 million for Roaring River, Table Rock and Big Sugar Creek State Parks.

In addition, the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative will add \$7.8 million to the University of Missouri Southwest Center, the Missouri Ozarks Health Center and the Ozark Tri-County Health Consortium.

K-12 schools in the 29th Senate District are receiving the largest appropriation in the form of nearly \$160 million in "Foundation Formula" state funding.



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