



# MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Kevin Engler  
3rd Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 428  
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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**Contact: Jarad Falk**  
**(573) 756-5572**

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Sen. Kevin Engler Honored by Missouri Sheriff's Association as Senator of the Year**

FARMINGTON — The Missouri Sheriff's Association has named Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, Missouri Senator of the Year for his efforts during the 2007 legislative session to improve the field of law enforcement.

"Receiving this award is quite an honor, and I thank the Missouri Sheriff's Association for recognizing my efforts this session," said Sen. Engler. "The men and women of law enforcement work hard to protect and serve their areas, and I am proud to represent their interests in the Missouri Senate."

Sen. Engler's selection was due in large part to his sponsorship of legislation to transfer state funds into a grant program that would be utilized to increase the pay of sheriff's deputies. Many counties, particularly 3<sup>rd</sup> class counties, lack the financial resources to pay their sheriff's deputies a decent living wage.

Engler also sponsored and passed legislation criminalizing the distribution of prescription medication to any person not having a valid prescription on school property. Passage of this legislation has provided law enforcement and school administrators with another tool to fight drug abuse among students. Recent studies have shown that teens are more likely to experiment with prescription drugs than illegal drugs, making the legislation particularly significant.

"As an elected official, I work to create and support legislation that makes a difference in our state, and I can think of no better way to do this than to pass provisions that benefit our law enforcement professionals," said Sen. Engler. "These officers put their lives on the line everyday and I will continue to do anything I can to make their jobs easier."

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