



MISSOURI SENATE

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Kevin Engler
3rd Senate District

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Input from Constituents Leads to Legislation for Sen. Kevin Engler

October and November Listening Posts Lead to Planned Legislation for 2008 Session

FARMINGTON – Since taking office in 2005, Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, and his staff have been hosted hundreds of listening posts throughout the 3rd District to listen to the concerns of constituents. During the months of October and November, Sen. Engler asked constituents to provide him with their ideas for legislation in the upcoming session. These sessions produced numerous suggestions, many of which Sen. Engler has decided to file as bills for the 2008 session.

"I'd like to thank everyone who participated in these listening posts and took the time to offer suggestions on laws they feel will benefit our community and our state," said Sen. Engler. "I am always interested in hearing feedback from my constituents, and I am especially pleased when I am able to act on their suggestions."

Constituents gathered at locations around the 3rd Senate District during October and November to meet with Sen. Engler. Some of the suggestions that will lead to legislation to be discussed during the 2008 session, which begins on January 9, include:

- Permitting the Department of Revenue to issue an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal license plate. This will honor those veterans who were awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, which was presented to veterans for service in conflicts or operations such as Bosnia / Kosovo, Operation Northern Watch, and Operation Southern Watch.
- Transferring land owned by the state to Habitat for Humanity—helping low-income families realize the dream of home-ownership.
- Prohibiting sex offenders who have committed an offense against a child from being present in or loitering within 500 feet of any playground or designated camping area of a state park, unless the offender provides notification of his or her presence in the park to the superintendent.
- Changing the name of the Division of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities to the Division of Developmental Disabilities. The term "retardation" is not only politically incorrect, but is hurtful to those with developmental disabilities. To have a division of the state with "retardation" in its name is unacceptable.
- Honoring those Missourians who make the ultimate sacrifice to keep us free, by flying flags at half-staff at all state buildings for a 24-hour period when a resident of Missouri and an active member of the military is killed in the course of service to the country while serving in a war zone.

“Please feel free to contact me with your comments on how we can work to make the 3rd Senate District a better place to live, work, and raise a family,” said Sen. Engler. “I am looking forward to a successful legislative session, which would not be possible without constructive input from my constituents.”

Prefiled legislation will be numbered and available to the public on December 1st. March 1st is the final day for Senators to introduce legislation for the 2008 legislative session. The Second Regular Session of the 94th General Assembly begins on January 9 and ends on May 16.

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