

**For immediate release
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Senator Maida Coleman offers resolution requiring all sex predators to report

SJR would require all predators to report despite conviction prior to '95

JEFFERSON CITY – Saying her proposal would close a loophole that allows some sex predators to avoid reporting to local authorities, Maida Coleman, D-St. Louis, filed a resolution Monday that would require sex predators convicted before 1995 to report to local authorities just as sex predators convicted in the last 12 years are required to do.

“Recent case law has allowed dangerous sex predators convicted prior to 1995 to live wherever they want without reporting to local authorities,” said Senator Coleman. “We have an obligation to protect our children. Just because a sex predator was convicted before 1995 doesn’t make that person any less dangerous. If passed, my resolution will require all sex predators to report their residences to local authorities no matter when they were convicted.”

Last year, the Missouri Supreme Court ruled that sexual predators convicted before January 1, 1995, cannot be required to register with local authorities. In a case brought by convicted sex offenders, the Court said Missouri’s sex predator reporting requirement couldn’t be applied retroactively.

Senator Coleman’s proposal, a Senate Joint Resolution, would place the language in the form of a Constitutional Amendment on the election ballot that Missouri voters must approve before it takes effect. With Senate passage of the SJR and voter approval of the resulting Constitutional Amendment, all convicted sex predators would be required to report.