



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Maida Coleman
5th Senate District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Statement from Senator Maida Coleman on the filing of her bill to eliminate the Transition Board:

"Today, I introduced a bill that would abolish the Transition Board, an entity poised to administrate the St. Louis Public Schools. I cannot in good conscience allow the State Board of Education to install a Transition Board that would effectively eliminate the representative democracy enjoyed by other school districts around Missouri.

"Furthermore, I am alarmed at the apparent moving target the State Board of Education has been using to determine if the St. Louis Public Schools should lose its provisional accreditation. It appears the State Board is predisposed to installing a Transition Board. It also seems that when the school district's data would support continued provisional accreditation, the State Board is seeking additional data that would jeopardize the district's status.

"Finally, the State Board's remedy will be no panacea for the ills of the St. Louis Public Schools. In fact, the installment of the Transition Board is a dangerous precedent that could result in the degrading of our schools in St. Louis and around the state."