



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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7th Senate District

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Loudon Introducing Legislation to Expand Health-care Access

Senate Bill 556 creates the Missouri Health Insurance Exchange

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. John Loudon, R-Chesterfield, will introduce legislation expanding health-care coverage at a Tuesday, Feb. 27, committee hearing. Loudon will testify on behalf of Senate Bill 556, which creates the Missouri Health Insurance Exchange, to the Senate Health and Mental Health Committee. The public is encouraged to attend the noon hearing, which will be held in the Senate Lounge.

“Senate Bill 556 will provide new opportunities for Missourians to obtain affordable health-care coverage,” Loudon said. “The Missouri Health Insurance Exchange will give incentives to private insurers to offer lower rates for eligible individuals and groups.”

The Missouri Health Insurance Exchange will offer certified health plans to eligible individuals and employer-groups to improve availability of private health insurance plans. The exchange will certify plans offered by carriers and determine the eligibility of potential recipients.

Missouri residents, employers located in Missouri and their employees, students attending institutions of higher learning and others may qualify for plans offered by the exchange. The Department of Insurance will determine eligibility.

The plan will be funded by revenue collected by or on behalf of the exchange. Exchange accounts are separate from Missouri’s general revenue fund, and taxpayer dollars will not be used to fund the service. Assets of the exchange are exempt from state and local taxes.

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“This plan is designed as a win-win for Missourians and health carriers,” Loudon said. “I believe this is a step in the right direction to decrease the number of uninsured without relying on costly and inefficient social welfare programs.”

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