



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Legislature Moving Forward on Reforms to Protect Children from Predators

Senate Bill 5 & Provisions of Senate Bill 6 Nearing Passage

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. John Loudon, R-Chesterfield, is applauding the legislature’s actions to move forward on two pieces of legislation sponsored by him designed to set up better protections for Missouri’s children. Key provisions of [Senate Bill 6](#) will be attached to an expected re-vamped House Bill 265, and [Senate Bill 5](#) is close to being sent to the governor’s desk.

“Fifty years ago, chewing gum was the bad behavior,” said Loudon. “Just more than 10 years ago, we wrote the Safe Schools Act of 1996 after a girl was beaten to death in a bathroom. Now, our students face mass terror shootings. We have to take strong actions now to stop the next tragedy from coming home to Missouri.”

Sen. Loudon noted that the legislature recently added \$1.25 million to the Internet Sexual Predators Grant Program, a measure he has championed the last couple of sessions.

“We have put the money, and now the means, in our programs to allow our law officers to do their job and protect our youngest citizens,” said Loudon. “We will take any steps necessary to stop the bad guys before they get our kids.”

[SB 6](#) calls on the state to draft a model policy to encourage the use of armed intruder drills and lockdown procedures by schools. Schools will also get grants of \$10 per pupil per year for new equipment, personnel, and training to protect students.

[SB 5](#) awaits final passage in the State House. Created by Sen. Loudon with input from law enforcement agencies, the bill frees up police detectives to better pursue Internet sexual predators across jurisdictional boundaries and raises the penalties for child pornography offenses.

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