



## MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Delbert Scott  
28<sup>th</sup> Senate District

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**A Weekly Column for the  
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# Helping Missourians Get to the Doctor

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JEFFERSON CITY – For the past few years I have sponsored legislation designed to help elderly Missourians get to the doctor for scheduled appointments. I was pleased Governor Blunt signed this important legislation last week.

House Bill 98, the measure signed by the governor, is similar to legislation I have sponsored in the Senate. This bill authorizes each area agency on aging to establish a volunteer program for the transportation of elderly individuals to scheduled, health care-related appointments. Participating volunteers must use their own vehicles and may be reimbursed by the agency at the same rate as state employees for any mileage allowance or reimbursement due. Each area agency may request funding of up to \$1,000 annually from the Department of Health and Senior Services to assist with the administrative costs of the program.

In rural areas of the state, like much of the 28<sup>th</sup> Senate District, elderly residents have difficulty getting to their doctors. Some do not have cars, while others can no longer drive. Too often, elderly Missourians must rely upon friends and neighbors to drive them to the doctor.

Elderly Missourians who live in urban areas can often use public transportation to get to their doctors, but public transportation is rarely an option in rural areas of the state. By helping those who help others to get to their local doctor's office, we can help ensure more Missourians have access to health care services in a timely fashion.

If you have questions or comments about this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at 573-751-8793 or by e-mail at: [delbertscott@senate.mo.us](mailto:delbertscott@senate.mo.us).