



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Delbert Scott
28th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 416
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**A Weekly Column for the
Week of Sept. 10, 2007**

**Contact: Debbie Poire
(573) 751-8793**

Veto Session

JEFFERSON CITY – The governor of Missouri has 15 days to act on a bill if it is sent to him during the legislative session, and 45 days if the legislature has adjourned. If the governor signs a bill, then it is returned to the house it originated in with a message of approval, and then delivered to the Secretary of State.

If the governor vetoes a bill, it is returned to the chamber where it originated with the governor's objections. A two-thirds vote by members of both the House and Senate is required to override the governor's veto.

The Missouri Constitution requires members to return to the Capitol on "the first Wednesday following the second Monday in September" for the sole purpose of considering bills returned by the governor. This is what is commonly referred to as the "Veto Session."

This year the Veto Session was held Sept. 12. Earlier this year, Gov. Blunt vetoed House Bill 327, the economic development package approved during regular session. It was the only bill he vetoed this year.

On August 16, Gov. Blunt officially called lawmakers back to the Capitol for a special session to consider a stripped-down version of the economic development bill he vetoed. We accomplished that, passing a smaller package of economic incentives to encourage companies to expand or relocate to Missouri. Gov. Blunt signed the measure Sept. 7.

Therefore, there were no vetoes for lawmakers to consider during the annual Veto Session.

However, since the Constitution requires legislators to attend the Veto Session, we took advantage of the opportunity to schedule numerous committee hearings.

Eight committee hearings were held this week, including a new interim committee I have been appointed to – the Senate Interim Committee on Consumer and Financial Protection. I'll discuss the work of this new committee next week.

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.gov.

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.