

STATE SENATOR MAIDA COLEMAN



SERVING THE CONSTITUENTS OF ST. LOUIS CITY, 5TH SENATE DISTRICT



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Dear Friends,

This newsletter marks my last as your State Senator. For about 30,000 of you, I also served as your State Representative.

While serving only in the House of Representatives for one year before joining the Senate, it was indeed a valuable experience and training ground. I have been proud to carry on the legacy of the great senators from the 5th district — J.B. "Jet" Banks and Paula J. Carter.

For the past four years I've also had the privilege to serve as Senate Minority Floor Leader, having been chosen by my caucus to lead the charge and negotiate on behalf of our constituents. Our caucus members hail from all areas of this state and represent rural, urban and metropolitan districts. We are men and women from vast backgrounds and hold a variety of political beliefs. Our caucus is made up of farmers, ranchers, union members, Realtors, educators, attorneys, and business men and women. Because we ARE so different, it makes me especially humble to have been twice elected to this position.

Please know that it has been even more of an honor to serve you in the Missouri General Assembly. I knew as a very young girl that I wanted to comfort and advocate for those who need a voice — to be a public servant. My life seems most complete when I'm helping others. I have appreciated the opportunity to make St. Louis City and the state of Missouri the best that it can be while at the same time protecting the citizens of this great state.

Thanks for making my dream come true. All my best.

A handwritten signature of Maida Coleman in cursive script.



Sen. Coleman addressing media during a press conference. She is accompanied by Sens. Rita Heard Days of St. Louis and Frank Barnitz of Lake Spring.

Advancing Education Opportunities for St. Louis

Although most think of the A+ Schools Program as a scholarship program, it was created by the Outstanding Schools Act of 1993 as an incentive for improving Missouri's high schools. The primary goal of the A+ Schools Program is to ensure that all students who graduate from Missouri high schools are well prepared to pursue advanced education and employment.

Students who graduate from a designated A+ high school may qualify for a state-paid financial incentive to attend any public community college or career/technical school in Missouri if they successfully meet certain requirements.

Under prior law, only public community colleges and public vocational or technical schools can receive A+ Schools Program reimbursements. House Bill 2191 allows any two-year public or private vocational or technical school to obtain A+ Schools Program reimbursements if those schools meet certain guidelines.

In light of all of the turmoil surrounding the St. Louis Public School District, I have been concerned that students were being denied opportunities offered to pupils in other districts. To ensure students in St. Louis do not suffer because of the administrative turnover and unaccreditation, I sponsored legislation to expand the A+ Schools Program. My legislation was ultimately included in House Bill 2191, which allows a school district to participate in the A+ Schools Program "regardless" of its accreditation classification by the State Board of Education.

This legislation is necessary because two St. Louis public schools were advancing toward A+ certification when the State Board of Education rescinded accreditation for the St. Louis School District last year, resulting in a takeover by the state. The loss of accreditation unfairly harmed students caught in the middle of a political fight between

the school district and the Board of Education.

This is the kind of school district that really needs to participate in the A+ Schools Program. Students attending an unaccredited school should not have their higher education options taken away from them through no fault of their own.

The measure also allows for the continuation of annual deposits of \$50,000 from the Division of Workers' Compensation into the Kids Chance Scholarship Fund. To be eligible for the scholarship, a child's parent must have sustained a serious injury or a fatality in a Missouri work-related accident covered by workers' compensation. The parent's injury or death must be covered by Missouri workers' compensation law.

House Bill 2191 was sponsored by Rep. Jamilah Nasheed of St. Louis.

Returning Heroes' Education Act

When our fathers and grandfathers returned home from military service during WWII, the G.I. Bill helped them get a college education so they could better themselves in the country they served.

In order to carry on this helpful service and say "thank you" to the brave men and women from Missouri who answer this nation's call to duty, I sponsored Senate Bill 830 this year, — also known as the "Missouri Returning Heroes' Act."

My measure limits the tuition that may be charged by a higher education institution to certain combat veterans. It requires all higher education institutions in Missouri that receive state funding to limit the tuition charged to combat veterans to \$50 per credit hour.

The bill defines a "combat veteran" as any person who served in armed combat after Sept. 11, 2001, who was a Missouri resident when he or she first entered the military, and who

was honorably discharged from the military.

Under Senate Bill 830, an eligible combat veteran would receive the tuition limitation as long as that veteran achieves and maintains a cumulative grade

point average of at least 2.5 points on a 4-point scale or its equivalent. The eligibility period for the tuition limitation expires 10 years from the date of the veteran's last discharge from military service.

By advancing Senate Bill 830 into law, we are ensuring that when our veterans return home to Missouri, they have every opportunity to resume their education.





Hot Weather Rule

The excessive heat and humidity that Missourians experience during the summer months is not just uncomfortable — it's life-threatening.

Many Missourians cannot afford to keep their homes cool during severe conditions. In response, I sponsored legislation creating a "hot weather rule" similar to the "cold weather rule" already in effect in Missouri.

Senate Bill 720, which includes my "hot weather rule," makes a number of changes to utilities that operate in Missouri. The hot weather rule simply prevents utility companies from disconnecting service during weather extremes. The hot weather rule will apply from June 1 to Sept. 30.

During this time, natural gas or electricity providers are prohibited from disconnecting service to residential customers on days when either the temperature is expected to rise above 95 degrees or the heat index is expected to rise above 105 degrees for the following twenty-four hour period, or on days when service personnel will not be available to reconnect service.

Homes that qualify for the cold-weather rule are eligible under SB 720.

Press accounts put the number of heat-related deaths in the St. Louis area in 2006 from 12 to 14. By August 8, 2006, there were six heat-related deaths in Kansas City. Many of these were elderly Missourians found dead in their homes.

These folks — all Missouri citizens — are the parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters of residents of this state. It is unacceptable that in modern times we still have senseless deaths such as these.

Missouri had the third-highest number of heat-related deaths in the nation in 2006. Only the desert states of Arizona and Nevada had more.

To elderly and needy people, to hard-working families that have trouble making ends meet through the summer, this legislation provides a small step forward to ensure that our most vulnerable citizens are not the victims of preventable heat-related deaths.

Breast Cancer Awareness Trust Fund

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in Missouri and accounts for nearly one-third of all cancers diagnosed in women, excluding all cancers of the skin. According to the Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) program, an average of 3,951 cases of breast cancer per year were diagnosed among Missouri women between 1996 and 2000. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) says Missouri has one of the highest rates of death from breast cancer in the nation.

That's why I sponsored legislation during the 2008 legislative session to create the Breast Cancer Awareness Trust Fund. Senate Bill 1105 allows any individual or corporation that is entitled to a tax refund to designate a portion of that refund to the trust fund. Money in the Breast Cancer Awareness Trust Fund will be directed to the Friends of Missouri Women's Council to be used solely for breast cancer services.



Photo by
Joshua A. Bickel/Missourian

Senator Maida Coleman converses with Sens. Wes Shoemyer of Clarence (left), Ryan McKenna of Crystal City, and Dan Clemens of Marshfield during session.

The CDC reports 186,772 women and 1,815 men were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004, the most recent year for which statistics are available. Nearly 41,000 women and 362 men died from breast cancer that year.

This bill creates a check-off on your state income tax return which allows you to donate a portion of your refund for breast cancer services. Early detection of breast cancer is the key to surviving the disease. By helping women get mammographies and clinical breast exams, we can ensure they receive treatment at an early stage of the disease.

Senators approved SB 1105 on a 32-0 vote and the House followed suit with a unanimous vote to send the measure to the governor, who signed SB 1105 into law on June 5 at the Siteman Cancer Center in St. Louis.

For more information on breast cancer awareness, visit www.cancer.gov or call 1-800-4-CANCER.

Support for St. Louis Public Schools

If I have demonstrated anything during my tenure in the Missouri Senate, it is my firm belief in providing our children with a first-class public education.

As you are well aware, I was, and am, firmly against the disenfranchisement of the voters of our city and the conditions under which the Special Administrative Board was implemented. It is the worst kind of politics that utilizes our children as pawns. During the previous two sessions, I introduced legislation (SB 551 in 2007 and SB 1085 in 2008) to repeal the law authorizing the Special Administrative Board, thereby returning control of the district to our locally-elected school board. Our schools need to be governed by a school board elected by the City of St. Louis, not by the governor of this state.

In spite of the traumatic take-over of our schools, I was able to bring about positive change for our educational system in numerous ways. It is gratifying to see some encouraging results of my hard work in the Legislature. Back in 2005, I was the Senate handler of HCR 24, which proposed a mandated high school course in personal finance education. I feel a great sense of pride in this bill's passage. Today, all Missouri high school students must pass a semester of personal finance education in order to graduate.

In 2008, I passed an amendment that instituted a layer of needed oversight with regard to the \$20 million professional development appropriation. Before my amendment became law, the commissioner of education essentially had a \$20 million slush fund to spend as he saw fit. Now, the commissioner must stand before the Joint Committee on Education and defend the spending of each and every education dollar that essentially belongs to our children.

Also last session, I passed SB 830, which limits the amount of tuition that may be charged by higher education institutions to our returning combat veterans. Increasing access to higher education is the least we can do for our selfless heroes when they return home from serving our country.

Also in 2008, I was the Senate handler of HB 2191, which became law. The bill allows students from

the City of St. Louis to participate in the A+ Schools Program — a program that pays tuition and fees for students to attend community college.

During the past few years, I have offered several other education bills, such as Senate Bill 722 (2008), which would have exempted motor fuel used for school buses from the motor fuel tax. I also offered SB 623 (2007) and SB 831 (2008). Senate Bill 831 would have increased education funding in general, directed additional funding for students who live in poverty, and provided a separate funding stream for gifted education. Senate Bill 623 would have given retired teachers additional retirement benefits, including cost-of-living adjustments.

I have done all of the above, and much more, because I truly care about the education of our children. The concept that each citizen possesses an inalienable right to a free public education is a cornerstone of our American democracy. Public schooling creates good citizens, unites society, and helps prevent crime and poverty.

However, in recent years this intrinsic American concept of a free public education has been attacked by some lawmakers who want to dismantle our public institutions and privatize the education of our children. These anti-public education crusaders argue that tax-supported private education, by means of tuition tax credits or vouchers or some other scheme, is the only available means to improve the educational outcomes of our children. Every time one of these regressive bills rears its ugly head, I have proudly stood up and fought against them. I believe in supporting our public schools. Our tax dollars should not be diverted to private schools at a time when our public schools are in dire need of funding.

Happily, I can end this article the same way I am ending my career in the Senate: on an optimistic note. I am confident that my successor will continue my fight to provide our children with a first class public education. I have come to understand that there is no responsibility more vital for an elected official than providing the most successful future possible for our children.



Gubernatorial Appointments
Left: Gwendolyn Crimm, Mo HealthNet Oversight Committee — Jan. 23, 2008
Right: Dr. Zelema Harris, Missouri Workforce Investment Board — May 7, 2008





General Assembly Passes Fiscal Year 2009 State Budget

The General Assembly worked hard to pass a fiscally responsible budget that reached the governor's desk balanced and ahead of schedule. Lawmakers passed a \$22.4 billion budget, which went into effect July 1, with the St. Louis area receiving more than \$971 million from the 2009 operating budget. With a constitutionally-mandated budget deadline of May 9, 2008, the General Assembly passed a budget that included increased funding for K-12 schools, public colleges and universities, transportation, agriculture, health care, and life sciences, among other areas.

Funding for the 5th District and St. Louis Area

Education

I'm pleased that I was able to secure \$750,000 in general revenue dollars to help fund the costs of the St. Louis Public Schools' intra-district student transportation program.

St. Louis public schools have several unique challenges, some of which are caused by poverty. From the district's 2007 statistics: one in ten students are homeless; two in ten are precariously housed; and three in ten will be homeless at some point during the school year. These numbers are confirmed by the district's high mobility rate, which among St. Louis City high school students is 77 percent. Additionally, 85 percent of the city students are eligible for free and reduced-cost lunches.

The extreme mobility of the St. Louis Public Schools' student population poses several challenges for the district. Studies suggest that student performance is negatively affected when children switch schools in the middle of the academic year. I wanted to help the St. Louis public school district ensure that all students have the opportunity to finish

the school year at the same building in which they started. This is a win-win situation for all.

House Bills 2002 through 2013, along with House Bill 2001 (passed in April 2008), comprise the state budget for fiscal year 2009 (that began July 1, 2008) and each of these House bills allocate funds to specific state programs and departments.

For instance, House Bill 2001 appropriates money to elementary and secondary education, and provides a \$121.3 million increase to fully fund the state's Foundation Formula. The bill also increases funding for the A+ School Program by \$3.5 million (mentioned on page 2 in this newsletter). House Bill 2003, the higher education budget bill, allocates an additional \$48.7 million increase for the Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program.

Our state's 2009 operating budget includes approximately \$821.9 million set aside for education in the St. Louis area, including \$754.7 million for K-12 schools, \$50.2 million for St. Louis Community College, \$10.9 million for Harris-Stowe State University, \$6.1 million for the Missouri School for the Blind, and \$3.4 million for the Gateway State School for the Severely Handicapped.

Health Care and Civil Services

Funding for health care services, such as an additional \$7.4 million for autism services and \$13 million to provide better access to health care for low-income women, was also included in the overall budget.

A portion of the 2009 operating budget for the 5th Senatorial District for civil services included \$4.3 million for the St. Louis Community Release Center, and \$1.8 million for personnel reimbursement for the St. Louis City Juvenile Court System.

Roads, State Parks, and Additional Highlights

The Department of Transportation's construction program received a \$483.3 million increase in funding to maintain our state's roads and other transit infrastructure.

State parks and historical societies in the 5th Senatorial District also received funding from the 2009 operating budget, including \$220,591 for the Scott Joplin House State Historical Site.

Other highlights of this year's budget include \$12 million for the Regional Convention & Sports Complex Authority (Dome), \$4.4 million for state office buildings in the St. Louis area, a 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment for state employees, a \$7.5 million increase in spending for biodiesel subsidies, and a \$21 million increase for life sciences research.

Photo Pages

1 - Sen. Coleman poses in a handshake with Ben Stein, who visited the Capitol back in April. Stein is a political figure and entertainer who served as a speechwriter for former U.S. presidents.

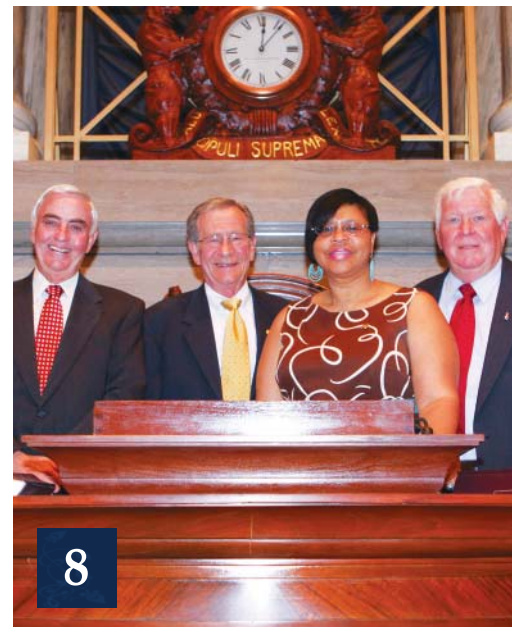
2 - Music has always played an important part of Sen. Coleman's life, starting with playing the piano and singing in her church choir when she was a little girl. Sen. Coleman shared her support for the arts by wearing a Mizzou Marching Band hat.

3 - Sen. Coleman presents a resolution to members of the St. Louis area Boys & Girls Club.

4 - Former district office intern Issac Robinson visits Sen. Coleman at the State Capitol.

5 - Sen. Coleman stops for a picture in the Senate's Bingham Gallery with two of her 2008 legislative interns, Mizzou students Melissa Chapman (left) and Tracy Johnson. Interns get the opportunity to see state government first-hand, learn about the legislative process, and have the chance to get an exclusive look at the inner workings of the Missouri General Assembly.

6 - Students from the Muhammad Islamic Academy and chaperones spent a day in Jefferson City learning about our state. They are joined here by Sen. Coleman on the stairs leading to the Capitol Rotunda.





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7 - Each year, many senators and staff members gather to raise money for the American Cancer Society through an annual bowling tournament. Here, Sen. Coleman joins her fellow bowling colleagues, Sen. Victor Callahan of Independence and Sen. Luann Ridgeway of Smithville.

8. Sen. Coleman stands on the dais in the Missouri Senate chamber with three former senators who all served as Senate President Pro Tem during their tenure in the Senate. [From left to right: James L. (Jim) Mathewson, Edward E. Quick, Sen. Maida Coleman, and John E. Scott.]

9 - Thirty-four senators serve in the upper chamber of the Missouri General Assembly. Of those 34 members, seven of them are women and are featured here. [Top row (from left to right): Sen. Rita Heard Days of St. Louis, Sen. Yvonne Wilson of Kansas City, Sen. Norma Champion of Springfield, and Sen. Jolie Justus of Kansas City. Bottom row (from left to right): Sen. Luann Ridgeway of Smithville, Sen. Maida Coleman, and Sen. Joan Bray of St. Louis.]





Reflections

I write this column during homecoming weekend for Lincoln University, my alma mater. It is almost midnight, Oct. 12, and I am enjoying the solitude of our beautiful State Capitol. This is normal for me. Throughout my legislative service I regularly sought this quiet, peaceful and majestic setting during the evening hours to catch up on my legislative reading, study bills, prepare my comments to my colleagues on the Senate floor, work on special projects, or return important phone calls.

Yes, it was surprising for those constituents who called during these late hours when I answered my office phone. Many callers only wanted to leave a message imploring me to vote “yes” or “no” on a particular issue coming before the Senate, but instead, they got the opportunity to enlighten me on the issues they cared so much about. I have enjoyed those late night one-on-one conversations with those of you who elected me to serve — the voters.

My three wonderful children

often ask why I work so hard. There are two reasons: I love my job, and I’m not afraid of a challenge or any hard work that may come my way.

As a child growing up in Sikeston, I spent many days in the fields — chopping or picking cotton and beans. My favorite memories include waiting for the truck to pick me and my neighbors up early in the morning to work in the fields — sometimes before the sun peaked above Missouri’s horizon. The best part of the day was at lunchtime when we would load up in the back of the trucks to go to the store and buy a really cheap meal of bologna, cheese, crackers, and an ice cold soda pop. Boy, how easy it is now to forget about the hot sun blazing down on our backs as we bent over working our hoes and feeding burlap bags with cotton and those ugly black spiders.

I guess I’m just a little nostalgic tonight. This must be what happens when you close the book on one chapter of your life and begin preparing for the next. There will be many times, I’m

sure, when I think back over the contentious debates on the Senate floor and the long 18-hour days and smile — recalling them as “the good old days.” That’s just the way life is.

I am proud of the legislation that I advanced during my time in the General Assembly. It was always done with two goals in mind — using common sense and making Missouri a better place to live, work and visit.

The next few pages of this newsletter review some of the legislation I sponsored during my tenure in the Missouri Senate that were enacted into law.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve you. I hope you feel that I met your expectations and fought to the core to protect you, your family, and the City of St. Louis.

God bless you and keep you.

Legislation Through the Years: 2002-2008



Addressing License Plate Tab Theft

In 2007, the governor signed legislation that I sponsored in the Senate that makes it easier to get replacements for stolen license plate tabs. License plate tab theft was a growing problem in our state. From 2005 to 2007, more than 11,000 people in the St. Louis area alone reported their tabs stolen.

Senate Bill 384 makes it easier for drivers to replace their stolen license plate tabs by changing the regulations in order to receive free plates after a person reports their license plates stolen. Under the law in effect now, in order to receive two free tabs from the Department of Revenue, you only need to provide a notarized affidavit. (An affidavit and a police report are required for license plates issued after January 1, 2009.) My measure also allows drivers to encase their license plates in transparent covers as long as the plates are plainly visible and their reflective qualities are not impaired.



Sen. Coleman discusses legislation on the Senate floor with Sen. Jolie Justus of Kansas City.

Retirement Legislation for Law Enforcement and Firefighters

The citizens of our state depend on law enforcement and firefighters to help protect their lives and their property. Many of these officers in the St. Louis area perform these selfless duties throughout their entire career. That's why in 2006, I sponsored Senate Bill 871. My legislation makes a number of changes to the St. Louis City police retirement system.

- The bill requires minimum distributions to members of the system.
- If the officer passes away before the distribution begins, the measure determines who will receive the member's distributions as well as the timing of the distributions.

In 2006, I also handled House Bill 1344 in the Senate that expands the investment options of the Firefighter's Retirement System of St. Louis by allowing the board of trustees to invest in property of any kind, real or personal.

The governor signed Senate Bill 871 and House Bill 1344 within weeks of each other, ensuring our finest law enforcement officers and firefighters can retire after serving the great citizens of this state.



Serving the Citizens of Missouri

One of my most important bills signed into law in 2005 made huge advancements for the abatement of lead poisoning in St. Louis. Senate Bill 95 stiffens the requirements of property owners, lead inspectors, risk assessors, lead abatement supervisors, lead abatement workers, project designers, and lead abatement contractors with regard to lead-paint removal.

The bill also creates a \$1 check-off on the Missouri income tax return for the Childhood Lead Testing Fund. In addition, the measure requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to provide on its website educational materials explaining the rights and responsibilities of the property owners, tenants, lead inspectors,

risk assessors, and lead abatement contractors.

Because of my strong advocacy for combating lead poisoning, I was chosen the same year to be a keynote speaker at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference on Eliminating Childhood Lead Poisoning and Combating Indoor Environmental Hazards.

In 2005, I also sponsored legislation that made changes to the superintendent and teachers of the St. Louis Public school system.

Senate Bill 298 modifies the superintendent's supervision of the school system, making it subject to policies established by the school board.

Senate Bill 299 removes school



Sen. Coleman presides at the dais in the Senate Chamber on the last day of the 2008 legislative session.

principals from a section of the Metropolitan school district's teacher tenure statute.



Addressing Key Measures in 2003

Highlights of the 2003 session included improvements in the quality of life for Missourians and their families, such as foster care reform, nursing home reform, and the implementation of a statewide AMBER alert to help locate missing children.

Strengthening the Ballot Process

The Legislature also passed several of my measures. Senate Bill 50 gave election authorities more time to verify initiative and referendum petition signatures. Before my bill was signed into law, there were only two weeks provided for the verification process; Senate Bill 50 extended that timeframe to 30 days.

By allowing more verification time, this bill

helped put the voting process into the hands of the people it governs.

Resolving Park Boundary Conflicts

Senate Bill 606 granted the Department of Natural Resources the power to convey up to five acres of land as part of a land trade with adjacent land owners in order to resolve park boundary conflicts.

This practice was only permitted as long as the Department of Natural Resources received land of equal or greater fair market value in exchange.

By advancing this legislation into law, administrative efficiency was increased in terms of resolving park boundary conflicts.

Strengthening Our State in a Time of Crisis

Our country was in the midst of a recession in 2002, which was made even more severe by the tragic and devastating events of Sept. 11, 2001. Many families were concerned with the money they were spending on even the basic necessities, such as food to put on the table, rent and mortgage payments to keep a roof over their heads, and keeping up with the bills. However, despite the constant reminder of our nation's troublesome future, lawmakers in the General Assembly were focused on working hard for their constituents on present and future issues affecting citizens across the state.

The Legislature passed Senate Bill 1217, a measure I sponsored in the Senate and the governor signed into law. The legislation, drafted in response to an issue brought to my attention by St. Louis Comptroller Darlene Green, clarifies that a taxpayer filing a return for tangible personal property must do so by April 1, and if April 1 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, then the last day for filing is the next business day. This act only applies to St. Louis City.

The governor also signed Senate Bill 1241, a measure I sponsored in the Senate. This bill allows individuals to receive "Breast Cancer Awareness" license plates after making an annual \$25 contribution to the Friends of Missouri Women's Council. As a member of the Missouri Women's Council for many years, this was an important issue that the council wanted to address. The contribution can only be used for breast cancer services. In addition to the \$25 contribution, the contributor must pay \$15 in addition to the regular registration fees. However, no additional fee will be assessed for the personalization of these license plates.



Sen. Coleman and Sen. Wes Shoemyer of Clarence serve together on the Senate Agriculture, Conservation, Parks and Natural Resources Committee.

"Serving the citizens of my district has always been my top priority during my tenure in the Legislature, whether it's sitting on a committee, working in a leadership position, or debating my measures on the floor of the Missouri Senate."

— Sen. Maida Coleman



During her time in the Senate, Sen. Coleman:

- Served four years as Senate Minority Floor Leader, the Senate's first woman and African American to serve in this position.
- Sponsored and co-sponsored more than 325 bills.
- Served on more than 25 committees, boards, and commissions.

Senator Coleman Receives Honorary Degree

Senator Maida Coleman was awarded an honorary Doctoral Degree of Humane Letters from Harris-Stowe State University on May 9, 2008. Harris-Stowe is St. Louis' only historically black university.

University Board of Regents member and Executive Director Emeritus of the St. Louis Zoo Charles H. Hoessle and Harris-Stowe State University President Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., presented the honorary doctorate to Sen. Coleman during the university's 151st Commencement Exercises.

Harris-Stowe State University, located in midtown St. Louis, is a four-year institution that offers 13 degree programs, ranging from early childhood education to urban specializations. Ranked by *U.S. News* as one of America's Best Colleges in the Midwest, the university — which has been in existence for more than 150 years — offers the most affordable bachelor's degree in the metropolitan area.



Harris-Stowe State University President Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., presents Sen. Coleman with her honorary Doctoral Degree of Humane Letters.

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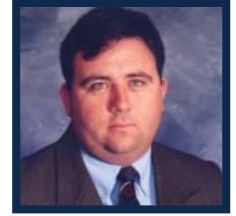
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My staff and I are available to help you, whether you come to the office, or contact us by mail, telephone, or e-mail. We are always ready to answer any questions or concerns you may have. The Missouri Senate and House of Representatives websites have archives where anyone can easily access all of the bills any lawmaker has filed. If you have any questions about my legislation, or any aspect of my legislative record, please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail at maida_coleman@senate.mo.gov.

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