

SENATOR CHUCK PURGASON

District 33 – Camden, Howell, Laclede, Oregon, Shannon, Texas & Wright Counties

Capitol Office: Room 420, State Capitol, Jefferson City 65101; Phone (573) 751-1882

Home Address: 2680 County Road 7360, Caulfield 65626

Senate Committees: Health and Mental Health (Chair); Agriculture, Conservation, Parks and Natural Resources; Appropriations; Gubernatorial Appointments

Biography: Senator Charles (Chuck) Purgason, a Republican, represents the 33rd Senatorial District in the Missouri Senate. He was elected to the Senate in 2004 and served in the Missouri House of Representatives from 1996 through 2004.

Senator Purgason was born in West Plains, Missouri, on May 19, 1960, and graduated from West Plains High School in 1978.

In addition to his legislative duties, Senator Purgason is the founder and owner of Ozark Wings Hatchery and Hunting Preserve. He resides on the family farm with his wife, Janet, and three children, Robert, Tracey, and Cory.

Senator Purgason is a member of the Laclede County Community Drug Issues Task Force, West Plains Chamber of Commerce, Mountain View Chamber of Commerce, Willow Springs Chamber of Commerce, National Federation of Independent Business, Missouri Bowhunters Association, National Wild Turkey Federation, Ducks Unlimited, and the Missouri Cattlemen's Association. He attends the First Baptist Church of West Plains.

Senator Purgason held a leadership position in the House Republican Caucus as Majority Whip. He also served as chairman of the Committee on Appropriations for Health, Mental Health, and Social Services, as well as serving on Rules Committee and Workforce Development and Workplace Safety Committee. He was a senior member of the Budget Committee.

Since his election to the Missouri Senate, Senator Purgason has served as Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Mental Health as well as serving on the Senate Appropriations Committee; Agriculture, Conservation, Parks and Natural Resources Committee; Gubernatorial Appointments; Pensions, Veterans' Affairs and General Laws (Vice-Chair); the Medicaid Reform Commission; and the Interim Committee on Availability, Affordability and Wellness Promotion in Healthcare.

Awards and honors presented to Senator Purgason include: Outstanding Freshman Legislator for Government Accountability, 1997; Assistant Whip Republican Caucus, 1998; Chief Deputy Whip Republican Caucus, 2001; Farm Bureau Friend of Agriculture, 1998, 2000, 2002, and 2004; National Multiple Sclerosis Association's Committed Statesman Award, 2004.