

MISSOURI SENATE JEFFERSON CITY

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Engler's Bill to Keep State Parks Safe Takes Step Through Senate

JEFFERSON CITY –Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, today announced that Senate Bill 758 was heard by the Senate Judiciary and Civil & Criminal Jurisprudence Committee yesterday (2/4). The bill would prohibit sex offenders from being within 500 ft. of any playground or campsite within a state park.

"Our state has much to offer families looking for outdoor activities, and I encourage residents to continue to take advantage of the many state parks we have in Missouri," said Sen. Engler. "This bill will make these fun activities a safer for those enjoying them."

Specifically, Senate Bill 758 would prohibit sex offenders who had committed an offense against a child from being in or within 500 feet of a playground or camping ground in a state park. Anyone violating the measure would be charged with a Class A misdemeanor.

"Keeping children safe from those who might try to harm them is certainly one of my top priorities," said Sen. Engler. "I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation so we can work to make sure our state parks are secure for Missouri children."

Senate Bill 758 now needs committee approval before being debated before the full Senate. Majority approval in the Senate moves the bill to the House.

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