



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Engler Files Bill to Raise Teacher Pay

JEFFERSON CITY –Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, today announced that he filed SB 1092 to raise the minimum pay rate for starting teachers as well as set floors for teacher pay on a variety of experience levels. A recent survey by the National Education Association ranks Missouri’s average salary for public school teachers 42nd in the nation.

“We can’t expect to hold on to exceptional educators if we continue to inadequately compensate our beginning teachers,” said Sen. Engler. “We need to make sure teachers in Missouri know that we value their hard work in the classroom.”

The bill would increase the state’s minimum starting salary from \$23,000 to \$31,000. The pay plan would also set minimum salaries for more experienced teachers ranging up to \$46,000. The bill creates a state fund that will be there to help out the small school districts who cannot afford to pay their teachers more. It is the intent of the bill to draw highly qualified teachers to Missouri and retain them once they are here.

“It is our goal in the Legislature to make sure that students are receiving a world-class education,” said Sen. Engler. “This bill is an important part of ensuring a quality education is available in Missouri.”

After being introduced on the Senate floor, the bill will be referred to a Senate committee where public testimony is heard and the legislation is discussed.

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