



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Kevin Engler
3rd Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 428
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

**For Immediate Release:
June 24, 2008**

**Contact: Mike Lodewegen
(573) 751-3455**

Sen. Engler's Bill Honoring Fallen Heroes Receives Governor's Signature

JEFFERSON CITY – Missouri will honor each fallen soldier from the state by lowering flags on its buildings to half staff. Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, today announced that [Senate Bill 806](#), a bill that honors those heroic Missouri residents who gave the ultimate sacrifice in combat, has received the signature of acting Gov. Peter Kinder during a ceremonial bill signing at the Army National Guard in St. Joseph.

“Thankfully the legislation moved through the Legislature quickly and is receiving the acting governor’s signature,” said Sen. Kevin Engler. “When we explained that we did not have the power to lower the flag for our soldiers it received overwhelming support from my colleagues.”

Prior to the legislation, the state only had the power to lower its flags for highway patrol members and prominent Missourians, mostly former elected officials. [Senate Bill 806](#) requires the U.S. and Missouri state flag to be flown at half-staff at all state government buildings whenever a Missouri resident is killed in combat. The Missouri Veterans’ Commission will have the responsibility of determining if any resident of our state has been killed in the line of duty. After receiving notification from the commission, the office of administration will be notified and then order the flags to be flown at half-staff.

“Many of us cannot wrap our thoughts around the severity of losing a loved one in combat,” said Sen. Engler. “By lowering the U.S. and Missouri flag, it is the least our state can do to honor the life and legacy of a fallen Missouri hero.”

Like many other measures, [Senate Bill 806](#) will become law on Aug. 28, 2008, ninety days after the last day of the legislative session as stipulated in the Missouri Constitution.

- END -