



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

John Loudon
7th Senate District

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For Immediate Release
March 27, 2008

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Sen. John Loudon Announces John Gaal Named to Missouri Workforce Investment Board

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. John Loudon, R-Chesterfield, today announced that the Senate Gubernatorial Appointments Committee and the full Senate have approved the nomination of John S. Gaal of Ballwin to the Missouri Workforce Investment Board.

There are 14 Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) in Missouri that are part of the Missouri Department of Economic Development's Division of Workforce Development. They include appointed groups of community leaders responsible for developing and directing employment-related opportunities. Their goal is to help create an economically self-sufficient, productive and skilled workforce through partnerships with community, business, and the workforce.

"Dr. Gaal is uniquely qualified to serve on the Workforce Development Board," Sen. Loudon said. "His stellar work in business, training and workforce development and as an educator and community leader makes him an excellent addition to the board."

Gaal is the current director of training and workforce development with the Carpenters' District Council of Greater St. Louis and Vicinity, St. Louis. Previously, he was coordinator for the St. Louis Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Program for which he was a carpentry instructor and curriculum developer. In addition, he served as a labor liaison for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

A longtime educator, Gaal received his doctoral degree in education with an emphasis on organizational leadership in 2007. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Webster and Fontbonne universities, both in St. Louis, and is a frequently requested international business presenter. He is also author for several leadership, workforce development and industry

publications. He is also a member of several trade and educational organizations, including the Missouri Association of Career and Technical Educators and the American Federation of Teachers-Missouri.

Gaal is the recipient of several awards, including the Workforce Diversity Advocate Award presented by the NAACP in 2007; the 2007 Missouri National Education Association's Horace Mann Award; and the Missouri Trade & Technical Association's Outstanding Service Award for 2004.

"The work of the Workforce Invest Board is critical to the economic health of our state and to our local business communities," Sen. Loudon said. "Mr. Gaal will be a great addition to Missouri's team of individuals working to achieve our workforce's needs."



Sen. Loudon at Gubernatorial hearing with Dr. John Gaal, and from L to R in the second row: John Jr., Jak, Leah and Mary Gaal.

For a high resolution jpeg image of the accompanying picture, contact Senate Communications at (573) 751-3824 or by e-mail at kdrummond@senate.mo.gov.