



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Loudon's Cyber Crime Fund Bill Signed by Governor

Senate Bill 932 Also Expands Search Warrant Time for Collecting Evidence

JEFFERSON CITY – Child-protection legislation sponsored by Sen. John Loudon (R-Chesterfield) that creates a Cyber Crimes Investigation Fund to provide more resources for law enforcement to pursue and arrest Internet predators and child pornographers was signed by the governor today.

Senate Bill 932 creates a new fund that provides \$3 million per year for an existing Internet Cyber Crime Grant (ICCG) program that Sen. Loudon created two years ago. It also increases the amount of time allowed for search warrants for collecting forensic evidence necessary in prosecuting these kinds of cases.

“We score another victory for Missouri kids by creating this vitally necessary fund and equipping prosecutors and law enforcement officers with more time to retrieve and examine computers and other equipment used in these horrible crimes,” Sen. Loudon said. “With these measures, we will go a long way toward preventing and fighting sexual crimes against our kids.”

During the first four months of this year, more than 80 people have been arrested statewide, and nearly 200 have been arrested since the program began — thanks in part to funding provided by the grant program.

The Department of Public Safety will administer the new funding, which is set to begin in 2010. The measure also provides funds for Internet sex crimes training for prosecuting and circuit attorneys.

“We are making tremendous progress in building a statewide wall of protection of cyber detectives standing between sexual predators and our kids,” Sen. Loudon said. “Our children

deserve every protection available to keep them from these types of sick individuals who pursue them for sexual exploitation.”

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