



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Senator John Loudon Applauds Passage of National Down Syndrome Legislation Similar to Missouri Law

ST. LOUIS COUNTY — Senator John Loudon (R-Chesterfield) is praising the recent passage by the U.S. Congress of the Kennedy-Brownback Pre-natally & Post-natally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act — a measure that requires accurate, up-to-date information and support for parents who receive a diagnosis of Down Syndrome or other disabilities. President Bush is expected to sign the measure into law.

The bill's passage was the goal of the national Informed Decision Making Task Force, of which Sen. Loudon is a member.

Senator Loudon advanced a similar measure — affectionately known as Sammy's Law — that was incorporated into House Bill 818 in 2007. The measure requires doctors to tell expecting parents how often prenatal testing results in a "false positive" and to provide access to timely referral information, including support services and adoption resources.

Senator Loudon and his wife, Gina, adopted a Down Syndrome child in 2006 that they named Samuel.

“This is an incredible victory for the Down Syndrome community and those who worked tirelessly in Missouri and throughout the country in defense of life for these children — 90 percent of which are tragically aborted. This measure will serve to save the lives of more babies and provide support services to families before and after the child is born.

“Considering this bill was stopped from getting a vote last month and then stalled again in recent weeks, it is an incredible testament to those on both sides of the political aisle who worked to ensure that these deserving children receive every chance for a full and happy life.”

-Senator John Loudon

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