

## **MISSOURI SENATE**

Luann Ridgeway 17<sup>th</sup> Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

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## Sen. Luann Ridgeway Receives Legislator of the Year Award

JEFFERSON CITY— Senator Luann Ridgeway (R-Smithville) Friday (2/15) was named the Legislator of the Year by <u>Youth With Vision</u>, a Kansas City-based student organization that advocates drug and alcohol abuse prevention among youth. Sen. Ridgeway received the award at the group's annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast held at the Pleasant Valley Baptist Church.

"I'm honored to receive this distinction from a group that has worked so hard in the fight against drug and alcohol abuse," Sen. Ridgeway said. "Our Youth With Vision students have received national recognition as a model in the U.S. for legislative awareness and community action. To receive their Legislator of the Year Award is an honor I will treasure."

Youth With Vision consists of student members who are selected using a set of strict criteria from Missouri counties in the Kansas City area. Student members lead by example as well as educate their peers about the devastating effects of alcohol and drug abuse. The group also plans and organizes alcohol and drug-free activities for other youth in the area.

Sen. Ridgeway is sponsoring legislation this session (Senate Bill 747) that prohibits the use and possession of alcoholic beverage vaporizers as well as changes provisions relating to underage drinking. The initiative was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee and will likely be debated before the full Senate later this week.

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Senator Luann Ridgeway (R-Smithville) with members of Youth With Vision at their annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on Feb. 15. Sen. Ridgeway received the organization's Legislator of the Year Award.

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