



MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

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A Weekly Column for the
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Pre-filed Bills in the Missouri Senate — Senate Bill 2 and Senate Bill 3

Last week I told you about how several members of the Missouri General Assembly prepare for the upcoming legislative session. Lawmakers could start pre-filing bills for the 2009 legislative session beginning December 1. It is custom in the Senate that the most senior member of the upper chamber picks his or her top three priority bills, which are then assigned a number. I am the most senior member of the Missouri Senate for this upcoming session, meaning my legislation has been given the first three bill numbers.

In my previous column, I discussed [Senate Bill 1](#), which relates to preneed funeral contracts. I have also filed [Senate Bill 2](#), prohibiting certain activities on the rivers of this state, and [Senate Bill 3](#), creating the “Business Premises Safety Act.”

Our state has many outdoor recreational activities to offer its citizens. One such popular outdoor activity is floating on our many scenic rivers. These peaceful and relaxing outings with family and friends can turn chaotic with the increase of individuals consuming alcohol while floating on Missouri’s waterways. Several years ago the federal government attempted to solve this problem by passing stricter rules limiting certain alcohol paraphernalia and inappropriate behavior along rivers that run through federal property. However, this just moved these individuals from those waterways to our state rivers — that’s why I filed [Senate Bill 2](#).

The increase of partiers on our state’s rivers has caused a huge problem for law enforcement officers attempting to control the alcohol use and safety on our waterways. My bill would prohibit possessing or using beer bongs or other devices intended for rapid consumption of alcohol; ban possessing or consuming any alcoholic substance that is produced in gelatin form, such as Jell-O shots; prohibit possessing or using any large volume alcohol containers that hold more than one gallon; and ban Styrofoam coolers on or within

50 feet of the river, unless in a campground, picnic area, landing, road, or parking lot. Violation of any of these provisions would result in a Class A misdemeanor.

I also pre-filed a bill for the 2009 legislative session regarding business premises safety. I filed similar language last session in [Senate Bill 1286](#). [Senate Bill 3](#) contains several measures protecting the rights of business owners and consumers in our state.

- Business owners or operators will not be able to restrict any person from lawfully possessing a firearm in a motor vehicle, except for a motor vehicle owned or leased by the business.
- Business owners and operators have no obligation to guard against the criminal acts of a third party, unless they know or have reason to know that the criminal acts are occurring or about to occur on the premises, or if the same criminal acts have occurred on the premises within the prior 24 months.
- A business also has no obligation to implement security measures for the protection of its customers, but will be able to determine if such measures are necessary.
- Business owners or operators will not be liable for injury or damage resulting from compliance with the provisions in the act.

I have also pre-filed several other pieces of legislation regarding educational requirements for certain law enforcement personnel; changing provisions regarding sales taxation of trade-in or exchange transactions; amending requirements for filing financial interest statements; and authorizing municipalities to allow golf carts and motorized wheelchairs to be operated on city streets.

For more information about any of my pre-filed legislation, visit www.senate.mo.gov, click on Session Information, and then [List of 2009 Pre-filed Bills](#). And if you have questions or comments about any other issues involving state government, please feel free to contact me at 573-751-8793 or by e-mail at: delbertscott@senate.mo.gov.

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.

