



State Senator

Norma Champion

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 5, 2008

Sen. Norma Champion's Drug Monitoring Bill Receives First-Round Approval by Senate

JEFFERSON CITY — Today the Missouri Senate gave first-round approval to a bill sponsored by Sen. Norma Champion (R-Springfield) that would require stricter monitoring of the dispensing and purchasing of certain over-the-counter and prescription drugs.

Sen. Champion sponsored anti-meth legislation in 2005, which effectively moved products that contain pseudoephedrine, a key ingredient in the production of methamphetamine, behind the pharmacy counter. This legislative session, the senator is hoping to take the current law a step further and strengthen drug monitoring procedures already in place. Currently, pharmacies maintain a paper log and document any transactions where the customer purchases pseudoephedrine products. [Senate Bill 732](#) mandates that pharmacies switch to an electronic, rather than written, log and that the real-time log include the signature of the buyer, the name of the product, and the date and time of the purchase.

“The last few years have shown us that we still need to strengthen the regulations on pseudoephedrine products,” Sen. Champion said. “People will always find a way around the system in place, so the law must continue to evolve as they do. Missouri has the unenviable distinction of being high on the list among the states in meth activity. By preventing individuals from purchasing more than their limit allowed by law, we will make meth more difficult to manufacture — essentially dissuading people from producing this destructive substance.”

According to the Missouri Highway Patrol, law enforcement seized 1,285 active and previously occupied meth labs in 2007. In Greene County, where Senator Champion resides, 21 illegal meth operations were uncovered in 2007.

A second approving vote by the Senate would move SB 732 to the House for similar consideration.

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