

State Senator
Norma Champion

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## Sen. Norma Champion's Drug Monitoring Bill Passed by House Committee

SB 732 Now Eligible for Debate on House Floor

JEFFERSON CITY — After receiving unanimous approval from the Senate in March, wide-ranging anti-methamphetamine legislation sponsored by Sen. Norma Champion (R-Springfield) was passed today by the House Crime Prevention & Public Safety Committee. <u>Senate Bill 732</u>, which strengthens the monitoring procedures for certain over-the-counter drugs, is now eligible to be taken up for discussion by the full House.

Under current law, pharmacies are required to maintain a paper log and document any transactions where the customer purchases products that contain pseudoephedrine, a key ingredient used in the production of methamphetamine. Senate Bill 732 requires pharmacies to upgrade to an electronic, rather than a written log that records when a pseudoephedrine product is purchased. The act also specifies that the photo ID provided by the buyer of pseudoephedrine products be issued by a state or the federal government and shown prior to the purchase.

"High levels of meth use and production in Missouri requires us to strengthen our restrictions on pseudoephedrine product purchases," Sen Champion said. "The regulations currently in place are not demanding enough to curb Missouri's meth activity and dissuade producers from purchasing pseudoephedrine in mass quantities."

Sen. Champion sponsored groundbreaking anti-meth legislation in 2005, which successfully moved products that contain pseudoephedrine behind the pharmacy counter and imposed the paper logs.

"I'm please my legislation is a priority for lawmakers this session," Sen. Champion said. "Swift legislative action will help protect our communities from the devastating effects of methamphetamine."

The Senate passed the companion bill to SB 732, House Bill 1619, this week, with amendments.