

State Senator Norma Champion

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Sen. Norma Champion's Anti-Meth Legislation Passed by General Assembly SB 724 Now Awaits Governor's Approval

JEFFERSON CITY — Missouri will soon become the second state to enact legislation that will make Missouri's fight against meth among the strongest in the nation. Anti-methamphetamine legislation sponsored by Sen. Norma Champion (R-Springfield) was passed yesterday (5/8) by the General Assembly and now moves to the governor for signing into law. Sen. Champion's legislation, which strengthens the monitoring procedures for certain over-the-counter drugs, was folded into <u>Senate Bill 724</u>, an omnibus prescription drug bill.

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 724 requires pharmacies to upgrade to an electronic, rather than a written log, which records when a pseudoephedrine product is purchased and who is the purchaser. 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.

"Widespread meth use and production in Missouri demands that we take the law even further to help put a stop to meth activity in our communities," Sen Champion said. "Individuals intent on producing meth have found a way to get around our current laws. My legislation ensures that people purchasing pseudoephedrines to make meth cannot buy more than is allowed by law."

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

"I'm pleased my colleagues understand the importance of strengthening our current pseudoephedrine laws," Sen. Champion said. "We need to protect our communities, especially our children, from being affected by one of the most destructive drugs out there today."