



Senator Kevin Engler

Capitol Report

Majority Floor Leader

3rd District

*Senator Kevin Engler proudly represents the people of
Carter, Iron, Reynolds, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve,
Washington counties and part of Jefferson County*

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Week of April 6, 2009

Major Issues Debated

It was another busy week at the Capitol in Jefferson City which had some very late nights that turned into early mornings as we attempted to work our way through a couple of the important issues this legislative session.

One of the most interesting, and sometimes frustrating, aspects of the job up here is balancing the views of people with different beliefs. For instance, we are working on our job creation bill for this session. While several senators are attempting to reign in our tax credit process, neither side wants to give an inch. It is an interesting dynamic because our most liberal members are working with our most right wing members to kill the bill. It's extremely difficult for me to understand the lack of willingness to compromise on such an important issue. This hardheaded approach that many are taking is not productive and I think runs counter to what the people of Missouri expect out of their elected representatives.

We took up our first debate on SB 228 which is the bill that is being proposed to help build a second nuclear power plant in Callaway County. We are attempting to make sure there are enough protections in the bill to make sure electric rates do not sky rocket if Ameren builds their new plant. I have been really disheartened by the huge amounts of money both sides are spending on TV ads, mail, and phone calls that are really doing nothing but misleading people across the state. It's needless to say that in these final few weeks of this session, there is still a lot of work to be done on this issue.

Although this was a frustrating week, as I look back on the session thus far I believe we have seen a successful session. The Senate has passed over a hundred bills which include several senators' priorities on a number of issues. I hope this success can continue through the final few weeks.

I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who came out and voted in the municipal elections on Tuesday and congratulate all of those who were victorious. I was happy to see teachers, students and parents from Bismarck Elementary who were taking their annual field trip to the Capitol. I was also happy to visit with the family of Clarence Watson II who was memorialized during the Firefighters Memorial Service here at the Capitol.

After this busy week, I am looking forward to spending Easter with my family back in the district. I wish you a happy holiday with your own family and friends.

If you are planning a trip to Jefferson City in the near future, do not hesitate to contact my office. You can call me at 573-751-3455, e-mail me at kevin.engler@senate.mo.gov or write to me at the Missouri Senate, State Capitol, Room 331, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

If you know anyone who would like to receive these updates electronically, please [send me](#) an email.

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