

MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Jeff Smith 4th Senate District

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Senator Jeff Smith Named to Senate Education Citizenry 2020 Committee

JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis, was recently appointed to serve on the newly-formed Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee. The committee is responsible for studying how elementary, secondary, and higher education systems prepare students to be productive and successful citizens in Missouri.

Senate President Pro Tem Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph, named senators serving in their first term to the committee. Other members serving on the committee with Sen. Smith include: Sen. Robin Wright-Jones, D-St. Louis, Sen. Wes Shoemyer, D-Clarence, Sen. Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia, Sen. David Pearce, R-Warrensburg, and Sen. Jane Cunningham, R-Chesterfield.

Missouri currently ranks 30th in the nation in the number of 25- to 34-year-olds with a degree past high school, and the United States ranks 10th among industrialized nations in the percentage of young adults with college degrees.

"I look forward to developing long-term plans and fostering the committee's goal of making Missouri one of the top 10 states for education within the next 10 years," Sen. Smith said.

The Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee will serve through Dec. 31, 2010. Visit <u>www.senate.mo.gov</u> to see a complete list of all the committees in the Missouri Senate.

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