



MISSOURI SENATE

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Senator Smith's 'Green' Legislation Would Enhance Energy-Saving Practices for State Buildings *SB 430 Also Seeks Tax Deductions for Hybrid Vehicles, Energy Star Appliances*

JEFFERSON CITY — The Senate Agriculture, Food Production and Outdoor Resources Committee today considered legislation sponsored by Senator Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis, to improve energy efficiency at state buildings and to provide income tax deductions for the purchase of hybrid vehicles and energy-saving appliances.

Senator Smith's energy-saving measures build upon Missouri's successful energy conservation legislation passed by the General Assembly last year, including Sen. Smith's measure to create an annual "Show-Me Green Sales Tax Holiday" on energy-saving appliances. This is the first year of the sales tax holiday, which runs from April 19 to April 25.

[Senate Bill 430](#) would require any appliance purchased with a portion of state funding to be an energy-saving Energy Star appliance. The proposed legislation also would create an income tax deduction up to 100 percent of the purchase price — up to \$1,000 per taxpayer per year — for the purchase of Energy Star labeled products.

In addition, the bill's proposals include:

- Requiring any state building built or substantially renovated to meet the environmental standards of the U.S. Green Building Council's green building rating system;
- Creating an income tax deduction for consumers who purchase a qualified hybrid motor vehicle for their own use; and

- Awarding grants through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to public schools to assist them in obtaining “green” certification for new building construction or for major renovation projects.

Senator Smith also proposes giving third-class counties the same authority as first and second class counties to adopt energy-efficient building codes.

“Efforts to create and encourage more energy-efficient homes, communities, vehicles, and public buildings are all a necessary part of implementing cost-saving, energy-efficient practices throughout our state and helping Missouri become a leader in energy conservation,” Sen. Smith said.

Senator Smith says one way Missourians can help the environment and save money this spring is by participating in the annual sales tax holiday for energy-saving appliances. Those appliances include Energy Star washers, water heaters, dishwashers, air conditioners, furnaces, refrigerators and freezers costing up to \$1,500.

Cities and counties wishing to provide additional tax savings during the state sales tax holiday can find more information and a complete list of participating entities by visiting the Department of Revenue’s Web site at <http://dor.mo.gov/tax/business/sales/taxholiday/green/>.

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