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## Senator Wright-Jones Appointed to New Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee

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JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Robin Wright-Jones, 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 this committee. Other members serving on the committee with Sen. Wright-Jones include: Sen. Jane Cunningham, R-Chesterfield; Sen. David Pearce, R-Warrensburg; Sen. Kurt Schaefer, R-Columbia; Sen. Wes Shoemyer, D-Clarence; and Sen. Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis.

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

“These staggering statistics should show those living in our state the importance of educating our youth and preparing young Missourians for their future in our state,” said Sen. Wright-Jones. “This committee will help put the focus on moving Missouri students past high school and onto the path towards higher education that will help our state compete with our surrounding states, as well as the world around us.”

The Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee will begin meeting as early as next week and will serve through December 31, 2010. Visit [www.senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov) to see a complete list of all the committees in the Missouri Senate.

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