



PRESS RELEASE

**State
Senator**

Robin Wright-Jones



Room 425, State Capitol, Jefferson City, MO 65101 (573) 751-2606 — FAX (573) 751-7638

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS GATHER TO RECRUIT CANDIDATE FOR POTENTIAL SOS RACE IN 2010

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Robin Wright-Jones, D-St. Louis, is organizing a meeting of black elected officials in Missouri to plan strategy for the potential vacancy in the Missouri Secretary of State’s office. Secretary of State Robin Carnahan is seeking the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Christopher Bond. Her election to the U.S. Senate will create a vacancy that is considered a monumental opportunity for Missouri’s first African-American statewide office holder.

“We know the struggle, the fight and the pitfalls of maintaining our positions in local, state and national government,” Sen. Wright-Jones said. “We are more than ready for a statewide challenge, and we must field a responsive and responsible appointee before this short window of opportunity closes.”

The first meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Friday, April 17 at the Drake Plaza Conference Room, 3303 Olive Street, St. Louis. More than a dozen black elected officials from across Missouri have been invited to share their insights and suggestions for recruiting the best possible candidate for Secretary of State.

Sen. Wright-Jones says the second meeting will be held in June, and the third meeting will be held in July in Kansas City at the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus Foundation Conference. She says the goal is to vote on a potential statewide appointee at that time and kick-off a campaign in support of that appointee.

Sen. Wright-Jones was elected to the House of Representatives to fill an unexpired term in March 2002. While in the House, she served as Chair of the

House Democratic Caucus from 2003 to 2007, and in 2004, she served as Chair of the St. Louis Regional Caucus. Sen. Wright-Jones also previously served as Chair of the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus and the St. Louis City Caucus.

In 2008, Sen. Wright-Jones was elected to serve the more than 165,000 constituents located in the 5th Senatorial District in the Missouri Senate.