

For Immediate Release: August 27, 2009 Contact: (573) 751-2606 Capitol Building, Room 425 Jefferson City, MO 65101

Senator Wright-Jones Stresses Need to Focus on 21st Century Jobs in Recent Committee Meeting

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Robin Wright-Jones, D-St. Louis, recently attended the second meeting of the <u>Missouri Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee</u>, held at the State Capitol on Tuesday, Aug. 25. A series of "2020" committees was created this past session to implement plans for improving major areas of development in Missouri.

The Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee (established under <u>Senate Resolution</u> <u>304</u>), among other charges, has been assigned to develop a long-term strategy for an education system in Missouri that provides children access to quality education.

During the meeting, members shared their goals for how they see the committee's long-term strategy laid out. Topics included how the committee was going to develop its vision for education in Missouri and how to create the principles and values that will guide lawmakers in that process.

"As a former classroom teacher, I know the importance of laying a strong foundation for students in our state — no matter where they are in their educational timeline," Sen. Wright-Jones said. "Technology continues to grow at an amazing rate and I believe we should focus on 21st Century jobs so Missouri graduates can compete with emerging careers."

To view audio and video of Sen. Wright-Jones during the committee meeting, please visit <u>http://www.senate.mo.gov/Newsroom/Pages/DailyAudio-VideoClips.html</u>. Also included are comments from other members of the committee.

For more information about the Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee, you can call Sen. Wright-Jones' Capitol office at (573) 751-2606 or her district office at (314) 533-8000 or e-mail the senator at <u>robin.jones@senate.mo.gov</u>.