

# **Missouri General Assembly News Release**



Sen. Wes Shoemyer



Rep. Paul Quinn

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **MONROE CITY PLANT TO SHUT DOWN IN 60 DAYS**

MONROE CITY — One of the cornerstone industries of Monroe City announced today it will shut down operations. Pace Industries, a division of Leggett and Platt, gave its workforce notice that it will close in 60 days.

“I’m just really heartbroken over this,” said 9<sup>th</sup> District State Representative Paul Quinn, D-Monroe City. “This shutdown affects people I’ve known all my life, people I care about. It hurts families and the entire community. It’s devastating.”

Quinn has been working his contacts on the state and federal levels since the news came down today. He’s working with U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Claire McCaskill, U.S. Congressman Blaine Luetkemeyer and Senator Wes Shoemyer, D-Clarence, to see if there’s any way the federal government can help. He’s also working with the Director of Employment Security and the Director of Economic Development to find options for job training and assistance.

Locally, Quinn is working with city officials in Monroe City and with John Coats of Pace Industries.

“We will do everything in our power to help Monroe City and Pace employees,” Quinn said. “We have to give them some options so they can continue to live in Monroe City and raise their families here if at all possible.”

The announcement from Pace comes at a difficult time for Monroe City, which has been struggling with layoffs at its other largest employer, Internet. Both companies make parts for the automotive industry and have taken hits with downturn in the economy.

“This is just another round of bad news for folks who are already hurting from the downturn in the national and state economies,” said Sen. Shoemyer. “I will be working with Rep. Quinn and others to help these employees and their families get through this difficult period.”

Quinn encouraged the residents of Monroe City not to give up hope.

“Monroe City is filled with people who look out for each other. It’s one of the reasons our community is so outstanding. Times will be tough, no doubt about it, but we’ll get through it together.”

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