

State Senator Kurt U. Schaefer - District 19

Weekly Capitol Review

PHONE: (573) 751-3931

Email: kurt.schaefer@senate.mo.gov



[Website](#) | [Email Me](#) | [Biography](#) | [Press Releases](#)

Legislative Highlights from the Missouri Senate – Week of Feb. 16, 2009

Dear friends:

While there is still much legislation making its way through the various committees, some bills are emerging and coming up for passage on the floor before being sent to the House.

[Senate Bill 100](#), a bill I sponsored, received a passing vote by the Senate on Thursday. This is the bill that will require a statutory fee from shippers transporting radioactive waste through Missouri. Currently, Missouri charges no fee for the transport of radioactive products, and many shippers were looking at Missouri as their main route to the waste repositories in Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The fees will fund training for emergency responders for the safety of our citizens in the event of a highway or rail incident involving radioactive waste.

Senator Jack Goodman's [Senate Bill 36](#) was also passed by the Senate. It removes the possibility of probation, parole or conditional release of anyone who rapes or sodomizes a child under the age of 12. Currently, offenders may be considered for release after serving 30 years of their sentence. I feel this is an important piece of legislation to keep our children safe by keeping these offenders behind bars.

The Senate also passed legislation to retain funds provided under the federal economic stimulus package. [Senate Bill 313](#), a bipartisan effort co-sponsored by Sens. Gary Nodler and Joan Bray, creates two separate funds within the state treasury to prioritize funds from the package.

[Senate Bill 1](#), sponsored by Sen. Delbert Scott, also received a passing vote on Thursday. This legislation establishes licensing requirements for pre-need funeral contract sellers, providers and seller agents. It also adds requirements to the pre-need funeral contracts themselves, which allow individuals to pay for funeral and burial expenses prior to death.

[The Senate Select Committee on Oversight of Federal Stimulus](#) met on Monday for a conference call with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) for an update on the

finalized federal economic stimulus bill passed by Congress on Friday, Feb. 13. Legislators continue to receive information about the funding process and how it will affect the various states. The president signed the \$787 billion bill on Tuesday, Feb. 17.

These are just a few of the issues the state Senate is working on to better the lives of Missourians. For a more detailed report of all Missouri legislation, visit www.Senate.mo.gov.

I will continue to keep you updated on bills being introduced that may be of interest to you as well as upcoming events here at the Capitol. As always, feel free to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns about the Missouri Legislature.

###