



MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

Delbert Scott
28th Senate District

Capitol Building, Room 416
Jefferson City, MO 65101

A Column for the Week of:
Aug. 24, 2009

Contact: Debbie Poire
(573) 751-8793

Celebrating Labor Day

National Day Recognizes the American Worker

Created more than a century ago, Labor Day is a holiday set aside to honor hard-working citizens throughout our country. Without the hard work and dedication of the millions of Americans who do their part to provide for themselves and their families and contribute to our economy, our country would not be the nation we are blessed to live in today.

The General Assembly recognized our troubling economy and the hardships Missouri workers were enduring this year. My colleagues and I made it our goal this past session to pass a bill that would strengthen our state's economy by helping employees maintain work and employers create jobs.

[House Bill 191](#) — a wide-ranging jobs bill — was designed to give Missouri's economy a much-needed boost, and the measure was enacted into law upon receiving the governor's signature June 4. The legislation allows for the annual maximum limit on the [Quality Jobs Program](#) to be raised from \$60 million to \$80 million, and gives tax credits to job-creating businesses that provide better health care coverage and have a higher wage than the county average. For more information on the Missouri Quality Jobs Program, please visit the Department of Economic Development's website (www.missouridevelopment.org) and click on BCS (Business and Community Services) Programs. A list of programs, including the Quality Jobs Program, can be found on the left side of the site.

The legislation also defines the amount of tax credits the [Missouri Development Finance Board](#) (MDFB) can award during the calendar year. The board was designed to assist infrastructure and economic development projects in our state by providing the critical component of the total financing for projects that have a high probability of success, but are not

feasible without the board's assistance. To find out more information about the MDFB, including programs and meeting times, you can go to www.mdfb.org.

House Bill 191 also provides funding for pre-employment training under Missouri's Job Training Program and provides that bonds be given out by the MDFB to issue Build America Bonds. In addition, the measure includes the Big Government Get Off My Back Act, which prohibits any state agency from increasing user fees within four years of the passed date of the legislation. The act also protects the rights of small business owners with 25 or less employees.

The General Assembly recognizes the vital force of labor that allows Missouri to compete with its surrounding states by maintaining quality jobs, reliable employers, and dedicated employees. This Labor Day, I honor all of those who contribute to our nation and state's workforce — building on the foundation created by generations before us who honored strength, leadership, and hard work.

If you have any questions about any legislative matter, please feel free to contact me at (573) 751-8793 or by e-mail at: delbertscott@senate.mo.gov.

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.


