

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 11, 2009

Senator David Pearce Appointed to New Senate "2020" Education Committee

JEFFERSON CITY—Senator David Pearce (R-Warrensburg) was recently appointed to serve on the newly created Missouri Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee by Senate Leader Charlie Shields (R-St. Joseph).

The Missouri Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee is responsible for creating long-term plans and strategies for developing an educational system where students learn to be productive and successful citizens and are prepared for global competition. Committee members are assigned the task of defining where the state's educational system should be in the year 2020.

"Missouri ranks in the bottom tier of states in the number of young adults with a degree past high school," Sen. Pearce said. "To get us to the level where we want to be in terms of economic prosperity and growth, we need to promote the importance of higher education and take the steps necessary to make college possible for more Missourians."

The committee is one of three "2020" committees charged with creating strategies for improving Missouri's standing in the areas of education, job creation and health care coverage. Only senators serving in their first term were chosen for the committees because of their vested interest in long-term goals for the state.

The Missouri Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee will serve through December 31, 2010.

Contact: Matt Michelson (573) 751-2272