

# Senator Ryan McKenna

22nd Senatorial District

Safer  
Bridges  
in the  
22nd District

Missouri's Budget:  
Your Money

Legislation Benefitting You

## 2010 Legislative Newsletter

The 2010 legislative session marks the end of my first term as your state senator. This year was particularly difficult because declining revenue collections caused us to have to make tough choices while crafting the state's budget. However, even with these fiscal complications, we were able to successfully pass legislation to help veterans, teachers, and those dealing with autism.

The state's budget woes don't seem to be going away any time soon, but we can make sure to address the most pressing budget priorities. While making reductions in state spending, we remained dedicated to supporting education and programs that benefit those most in need in our state. We were able to cut costs by streamlining state departments, including eliminating items such as equipment, travel, and expenses. This work to reorganize and minimize state government will continue next year as efforts to reduce spending continue.

This newsletter contains information on funding for our area, my contact information, and information on how you can provide your input on state government, as well as information on legislation during my first four years representing the 22nd District. It is an honor to serve you in the Missouri Senate, and I thank you for the opportunity. Please know that I am always available to help you and answer your questions.

Sincerely,

*Ryan McKenna*



*The McKenna family expanded this year with the addition of Kellan Patrick. Here, Senator McKenna and his wife, Angela, pose with Kellan during a visit to the Capitol.*

# 2010 Legislation

## Autism Insurance

House Bill 1311 requires health carriers that issue or renew health benefit plans on or after Jan. 1, 2011, to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. The bill also prohibits health carriers from refusing to cover an individual or dependent solely because the individual is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder.

## Military and Veterans

House Bill 1524 changes several laws regarding veterans and the military. One of the main provisions allows overseas service members and other overseas voters to request voter registration applications and absentee ballots electronically. The Secretary of State will also develop a free access system by which these voters may determine whether an absentee ballot has been received by the appropriate election authority. The bill also establishes the Missouri Youth Challenge Academy—a residential, military-based academy that will provide work experience and training in life skills, citizenship, life-coping, and academic skills to at-risk high school age youth.

## Educational Programs in Tough Budget Years

House Bill 1543 takes actions to make sure important educational programs in the state will survive these challenging fiscal times. The bill changes the funding mechanism for the Career Ladder program by funding it up front rather than in arrears if an appropriation is made. The legislation also allows for the Parents as Teachers program to be need-based by serving low-income families first, while also implementing a sliding scale for services.

## 2010 Facts

**The final gavel fell at 6 p.m. on May 14.**

**This year's budget was passed a week before the Constitutional deadline.**

**At the conclusion of the 2010 legislative session, the Legislature passed 106 of the more than 1750 bills filed.**



## Safe and Sound Bridges



The bridge on Route 30 over Dulin Creek.

The Safe and Sound bridge program plans to repair or replace 802 bridges in the state and then maintain them for 25 years after work is complete. In 2007, the Legislature changed the bonding laws in the state so that the project could begin. To date, 152 bridges have been completed and 54 are under construction. In Jefferson County, we have seen results with the rehabilitation of the bridge on Route 30 over Dulin Creek. You can see more about bridge projects planned in our area by visiting [www.modot.mo.gov/safeandsound](http://www.modot.mo.gov/safeandsound).

## Better, Safer Roadways

This spring work began on Interstate 55 between Route M and Route Z in Jefferson County. Interstate 55 in this area narrows from an eight-lane (four lanes in each direction) to a four-lane facility. Interstate 55 in this area currently has a high crash rate due to congestion, lane reduction, the design of the existing Route M interchange, and the distance to a nearby weigh station to Route M. Plans are to provide a transition from an eight-lane facility, to a six-lane



Interstate 55 at Barnhart looking north.

facility, then to a four-lane facility. Long range plans for the interstate are to continue the six-lane roadway to Highway 67 as funds become available.

## Projects in Our Area

The following projects are located in the 22nd District and received funding in the 2011 fiscal year budget.

**Jefferson College**  
receives \$8 million.

**Mapaville State School**  
receives \$1 million.

**Mastodon State  
Historic Site**  
receives \$203,223.

**Juvenile Court,  
Jefferson County**  
receives \$132,546.

**Sandy Creek  
Covered Bridge**  
receives \$8,420.

## The Budget Breakdown

The budget this year totals \$23.275 billion. This was a tough budget year, but the Legislature was able to work together to get the state's spending plan completed.



1. Judiciary, Public Safety & Corrections 6.06¢
2. Public Debt 0.21¢
3. Health & Mental Health 9.11¢
4. All Other Agencies\* 4.35¢
5. Economic Development, Labor & Insurance 1.75¢
6. Agriculture, Conservation, & Natural Resources 2.14¢
7. Social Services 32.90¢
8. Employee Benefits 3.87¢
9. Highways & Transportation 11.29¢
10. Elementary & Secondary Education 23.04¢
11. Higher Education 5.29¢

\* Revenue, Office of Administration, Elected Officials, General Assembly, Real Estate

## Rebooting State Government

**We are working to find ways to better efficiency in government. Some ideas, submitted by the public, have already been implemented. You can still submit your idea on how to streamline state government by visiting [www.senate.mo.gov](http://www.senate.mo.gov) and clicking on the "Rebooting Government" link.**

## Don't Text and Drive

Senator McKenna has worked hard to make sure drivers know about the dangers of texting and driving. For several years, he has sponsored legislation to make it illegal for all drivers in the state to text while driving on Missouri highways. In 2008, a variation of his legislation passed, making it illegal for drivers under 21 to text while driving. Senator McKenna will continue to educate the public on this dangerous practice as well as work to pass legislation banning all drivers from texting while driving, regardless of their age.





Senator Ryan McKenna  
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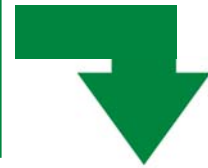
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Jefferson City, MO 65101  
Permit No. 220

## A Term of Success

**2006:** In 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that governments can seize private property for economic purposes, such as an increased tax base or jobs. The Legislature responded by passing HB 1944. This law protects citizens by prohibiting eminent domain from being used in projects solely for purposes of economic development, preventing farmland from being labeled as "blighted" for eminent domain purposes, and ensuring that when eminent domain is used for traditional public use, compensation will be based on several factors, including costs of relocation and replacement, heritage value, and willingness to sell the property.



Protecting  
Your  
Home



### Local Law Enforcement



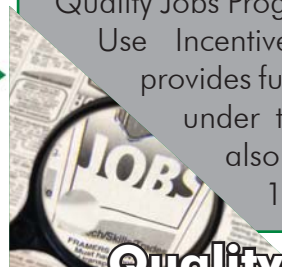
**2008:** Sheriffs' deputies in Missouri saw an increase in their salaries thanks to legislation co-sponsored by Sen. McKenna. The bill allows sheriffs to receive an additional \$10 fee for processing any civil summons, writ, subpoena or other court order. This money will go into the newly created "Deputy Sheriff Salary Supplementation Fund," which will be used to bolster the pay of county deputy sheriffs.

**2007:** House Bill 444 began an end to taxation on Social Security benefits, Social Security disability, and non-private retirement benefits. The exemption is being phased in over a six-year period. Benefits will be completely tax exempt by 2012. Seniors have been taxed their entire working careers, so the state has no right to ask them to pay a second time when collecting their benefits.

For Missouri Seniors



**2009:** The Legislature enacted HB 191, which expands the Quality Jobs Program, expands the Missouri BUILD (Business Use Incentives for Large-Scale Development), and provides funding for pre-employment training activities under the state's job training program. The bill also eliminated the franchise tax for more than 16,500 Missouri small businesses.



Quality Jobs

## Contact Senator McKenna

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