



Senator Jim Lembke
1st Senatorial District

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

Capitol Building, Room 428
Jefferson City, MO 65101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 29, 2010

Senator Jim Lembke's Firefighter Residency Bill Becomes Law

New Law Will Eliminate Long-time Residency Requirements for St. Louis Firefighters

JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Jim Lembke, R-St. Louis, announces his proposal to relax residency requirements for St. Louis firefighters has been signed into law.

“[Senate Bill 739](#) relaxes what I consider to be an unfair restriction on our fire departments,” Sen. Lembke said. “We always seek to hire the best of the best to handle emergency services. Now, the city will no longer be able to dictate where these fine men and women can live.”

Currently, upon approval of the board of aldermen, a fire department employee does not have to live within the department boundaries if the only public school district in the area is unaccredited or provisionally accredited, and has remained that way for the last five years of the person's employment.

Under Senate Bill 739, no employee who has worked for the department for seven years will be required to live within the department boundaries if the only public school district in the area has been unaccredited or provisionally accredited in the last five years of the person's employment. Employees who have satisfied the seven-year requirement and who choose to reside outside the department boundaries must live within a one-hour response time.

“I applaud my colleagues for helping me pass this bill during the regular session,” Sen. Lembke said. “I look forward to seeing this legislation make a difference to the many hard working men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our state's citizens and their property.”

The measure will take effect August 28, 2010.

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