

For Immediate Release: Dec. 17, 2010 Contact: Stacy Morse - (573) 751-3599

Senator Keaveny Discusses 2020 Committee's Long Term Goals

JEFFERSON CITY — With a mission of providing quality education to citizens of Missouri, Sen. Joe Keaveny, D- St. Louis, discussed the objectives of the Missouri Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee at a news conference today held at the State Capitol.

Currently, Missouri ranks 30th in the nation regarding the number of 25- to 34-year-olds with a degree beyond high school. With a desire to improve the status of education in Missouri, Sen. Keaveny and committee Chairman Sen. David Pearce, R-Warrensburg, announced the following committee goals:

- Kindergarteners will enter school with the essential skills and knowledge to be successful.
- Seventy-five percent of Missouri students in every school district will demonstrate proficiency on the state's standardized achievement measure.
- Missouri students will perform at comparable levels to the highest performing industrialized countries on international, standardized measures.
- Missouri will increase attainment of postsecondary degrees and credentials to 60 percent for all adults, which will be supported in part by an increase in retention rates in higher education.

"I have found it a pleasure to be on this committee and work with my colleagues and education leaders throughout our state," Sen. Keaveny said. "All members have remained focused and engaged on what is best for Missourians. As we begin the new legislative session and work toward the year 2020, I will remain dedicated to improving education in Missouri."

To read the full report from the Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee, visit www.senate.mo.gov/2020Committees. To watch and listen to Sen. Keaveny's multimedia, visit his website at www.senate.mo.gov/keaveny and click on the "Multimedia" link.

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