

Robin Wright-Jones 5<sup>th</sup> Senate District

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## Senator Robin Wright-Jones' Legislation Swiftly Moving Through Missouri Senate

Measure Opposes Revocation of Casino License for St. Louis Gaming Attraction

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Robin Wright-Jones, D-St. Louis, recently announced passage of a bill out of a Senate committee that addresses the pending revocation of the casino license of the President Casino. <u>Senate Bill 839</u> would prohibit the imposition of penalties, or the suspension or revocation of a gaming license for inadequate declining income.

The bill was filed in response to a recent announcement by the Missouri Gaming Commission to revoke the gaming license of the President Casino. Earlier this year, commission members met to discuss the President's overall performance and future plans and relayed their concerns on the casino's "inadequate declining performance."

"The Missouri Gaming Commission is not relying on statutory rational that is necessary in this particular circumstance," said Sen. Wright-Jones. "Instead, the commission is relying on an arbitrary standard, which commission members have described as 'inadequate declining performance' as the basis for advancing the revocation of this very important license for the President Casino."

According to the executive director of the Missouri Gaming Commission, the panel ruled out the possibility of moving or replacing the President with another boat and the parent company has continued to operate the casino "at an unacceptable level through a deliberate minimization of offerings with a resulting decline in performance."

"If this ill-conceived revocation is allowed to proceed, the consequence and impact to the citizens of St. Louis would include significant job loss and the cost of tax revenues to the City of St. Louis by approximately \$2.2 million," said Sen. Wright-Jones. "My legislation would prevent this unjust and inequitable action on the part of the Gaming Commission members, thus protecting more than 240 jobs in the St. Louis area."

Senate Bill 839 has been delivered to the full Senate for debate. For more information on this measure, visit www.senate.mo.gov/wright-jones and click on Sponsored Bills.

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