

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

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 425 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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## **Senate Resolution Recognizes**

## **Preservation of Historic St. Louis Building**

JEFFERSON CITY – The renovation of the 1885 corner commercial building at 2730 McNair in St. Louis has had many starts and stops. The most recent effort, however, is the one that should last, as the now proud commercial building has recently been given the prestigious Preserve Missouri Award by Missouri Preservation, a state alliance for historic preservation.

To that end, Sen. Robin Wright-Jones (D-St. Louis) issued a Senate Resolution during the 2010 legislative session commending the award-winning renovation as a "showcase of preservation practices," and recognizing the efforts of the Phoenix Redevelopment Group, LLC, who completed the project last year.

According to the Landmarks Association of St. Louis, the commercial building had been named by residents as the "Nemisis Building" — not only for the café that was once there, but for all of the failed redevelopment projects of its past.

Phoenix Redevelopment Group made significant changes to the building, including removing a non-original third floor plywood mansard roof, painting over the recent turquoise and violet exterior paint, reconstructing a failed wall on the first floor, building an entirely new roof, restoring the cast-iron storefront, and refurbishing the display windows based on how the building was originally made. The once-unoccupied building now contains three residential units, a business, and a café and wine bar.

"The renovation that took place there is so dramatic and wonderful that I can't say enough about the great job that was done," said Sen. Wright-Jones. "Not only did they take an eyesore and return it to its original historic glory, Phoenix Redevelopment Group also added quality living quarters, a space for unbounded business opportunities, and a fantastic place to grab a bite to eat and enjoy a cup of coffee. This redevelopment project is a shining example of the impact state historic preservation tax credits make on the city of St. Louis and to our area's deep, rich history."

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2730 McNair Before



2730 McNair After (Photos from Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.)