Nothing is politically right that is morally wrong.



Free and fair discussion is the firmest friend of truth.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 9, 2010

## Resolutions to Protect Missouri Taxpayers on Federal Issues Get Senate Approval

## Senate Encourages Federal Balanced Budget Amendment

JEFFERSON CITY – In an effort to stand up for Missouri taxpayers, the Missouri Senate approved two Senate Concurrent Resolutions Monday addressing actions of the federal government. Senate Concurrent Resolution 36 urges Congress to pass a balanced budget amendment and SCR 37 urges the Missouri attorney general to join the 15 other state attorneys general from across the nation in challenging the "Nebraska Compromise." Senator Eric Schmitt, R-Glendale, sponsored both measures.

Schmitt said while Missouri is constitutionally obligated to spend no more than it has, the United States government currently has accumulated approximately \$12 trillion in debt thanks to over spending. He added that Senate Concurrent Resolution 36 urges Congress to reject the current way of doing business and start acting responsibly with taxpayers' dollars.

"The debt that we are racking up today is being passed on to our children and our grandchildren." Schmitt said. "It's time for the federal government to follow common-sense fiscal policies and do what every household in America has to do — balance its checkbook and live within its means."

Senate Concurrent Resolution 37 is a reaction to the special deal made by U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Nebraska, that would permanently exempt Nebraska from bearing the costs of newly eligible Medicaid enrollees under the U.S. Senate's federal healthcare proposal. The resolution urges Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster to challenge the special deal and to investigate its constitutionality if it is passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama.

"This deal violates basic notions of fundamental fairness," said Schmitt. "I will not allow Missouri taxpayers to be stuck shouldering the bill for another state's Medicaid expansion thanks to this special deal. This resolution is a way for us to protect Missouri taxpayers and calls on the attorney general to do the same."

Schmitt sent <u>a letter to the attorney general</u> in early January requesting that he take action, but filed the resolution when Koster offered no response.

Both resolutions have now been reported to the House for similar consideration.