



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator Schaefer Announces Signing DWI Reform Bill by Governor

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – Senator Kurt Schaefer is pleased to announce the recent signing of House Bill 1695, which will create sweeping reforms in Missouri’s DWI laws.

The bill received wide bipartisan support not only from lawmakers, but from prosecutors, judges, law enforcement personnel, victims of alcohol-related offenders and citizens involved in DWI issues.

“As the bill’s handler in the Senate, I got to see firsthand how my colleagues on both sides of the aisle pulled together in support of this legislation,” Sen. Schaefer said. “With no opposition in either chamber, we delivered a bill to the governor that emphasizes the fact that it is not safe to drink and drive.”

Among other provisions of the law, the bill allows the creation of DWI courts within municipalities and removes existing leniency towards those with previous intoxication-related offenses. In addition, arrest information from local law enforcement agencies will be forwarded to the highway patrol to centralize information regarding alcohol-related traffic offenses.

“This bill will go a long way towards keeping Missouri’s highways safer,” Sen. Schaefer said. “And, it will help keep offenders who continue to drive under the influence of alcohol, despite previous convictions, off the roads.”

The governor signed the legislation today at the Missouri Highway Patrol Training Academy in Jefferson City. Along with most measures signed by the governor, the bill will become law Aug. 28.

Please contact Sen. Schaefer’s office if you have questions or concerns about this or any other facet of the Missouri Legislature.

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