

*Nothing is politically right
that is morally wrong.*



*Free and fair discussion
is the firmest friend of truth.*

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senate Republicans Elect Leadership

Spurring Job Creation and Passing a Balanced Budget with Education as Priority Top Agenda for 2011 Legislative Session

JEFFERSON CITY – Senate Republicans today endorsed Sen. Rob Mayer, R- Dexter, to serve as President Pro Tem of the Missouri Senate for the 96th General Assembly beginning Jan. 5, 2011. Mayer must be elected to the post by the full Senate when they convene. He has most recently served as Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

“I believe we can continue to work together, both in our caucus and as Republicans and Democrats to advance priorities early that will help put Missourians back to work,” Mayer said. “We are also committed to weathering these tough financial times for government and citizens alike by passing a balanced budget, saying no to new taxes and keeping education as our top funding priority.”

The role of president pro tem is being vacated by outgoing Sen. Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph due to term limits. The pro tem is responsible for appointing committee members, assigning legislation to committees, and ruling on points of order raised during debate in the Senate Chamber, among other powers.

Also elected to Senate Majority Caucus leadership positions include:

- Sen. Tom Dempsey, R-St. Charles, elected as Majority Floor Leader. The position is responsible for setting the schedule of bills up for consideration by the full body, the time allotted for floor debate on legislation, and session meeting times and dates.
- Sen. Jack Goodman, R-Mt. Vernon, re-elected as Assistant Majority Floor Leader. The position is responsible for assuming the majority floor leader’s role in their absence.
- Sen.-elect Mike Parson, R-Bolivar, elected as Majority Caucus Whip. Mimicked after Congress, the whip traditionally makes sure caucus members are present to cast votes.
- Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, re-elected as Caucus Chair.
- Sen. Eric Schmitt, R-Glendale, elected as Caucus Secretary.

Mayer said the leadership of these senators will play an important role in the state’s ability to pass meaningful legislation that will keep and create good-paying jobs with benefits.

“Our caucus has continuously picked up new seats, even in years going against the national trend, and maintained a strong majority because we have worked to pass real reforms that benefit the everyday lives of the people of Missouri,” Mayer said. “Our leadership team and caucus will continue to work for the people by accomplishing our priorities of spurring job creation through sound economic policies, passing a balanced budget with no new taxes and continuing to make education our top budget priority.”

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