Nothing is politically right that is morally wrong.



Free and fair discussion is the firmest friend of truth.

MISSOURI SENATE JEFFERSON <u>CITY</u>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recent Census Population Outcome Means Changes to Missouri Congressional Districts

Senate is Prepared to Draw New Congressional Map During 2011 Session

JEFFERSON CITY — The loss of a Missouri U.S. Representative in Congress and new Congressional District lines are some of the results of data released from the 23rd Decennial Census. In a news conference today, the U.S. Census Bureau concluded that the outcome of the 2010 Census resulted in Missouri's population growing 7 percent to 5,988,927 persons. Despite this growth, Missouri will lose a Congressional seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, resulting in a drop from nine to eight Missouri Congressional seats.

Senate Leader-elect Robert N. Mayer, R-Dexter, expressed discontent in the loss of an elected representative to Congress from Missouri, but noted the Missouri State Senate is prepared to redraw the district lines in a fair and balanced way in the upcoming legislative session. To lead the effort, Mayer announced that Sen. Scott T. Rupp, who currently serves as chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting, will continue in his leadership role as chairman of the Senate Committee on Redistricting for the 2011 legislative session. The committee is responsible for performing all duties necessary for the General Assembly to prepare for its role in the 2010 Decennial Census, including determining Congressional redistricting to reflect the recently announced changes in shifting populations in Missouri.

"I am disappointed in Missouri's loss of a voice in Congress," said Sen. Mayer. "But I trust in Sen. Rupp's leadership, preparation and knowledge when it comes to the Legislature drawing new district lines. I know he will do all he can to ensure the new district lineup will be above board and in the best interest of Missourians."

"I am honored once again to be appointed as chair of this extremely important committee in the Missouri Senate," said Rupp. "Much work lies ahead for committee members, and we are committed to a redistricting process that is open and transparent, and that ensures all citizens are appropriately and fairly represented."

Missouri's current nine Congressional Districts include the following: 1st District held by Rep. William "Lacy" Clay, Jr.; 2nd District held by Rep. Todd Akin; 3rd District held by Rep. Russ Carnahan; 4th District held by Rep. Ike Skelton (Rep.-elect Vicky Hartzler); 5th District held by Rep. Emanuel Cleaver; 6th District held by Rep. Sam Graves; 7th District held by Senator-elect Roy Blunt (Rep.-elect Billy Long); 8th District held by Rep. Jo Ann Emerson; and the 9th District held by Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer.

According to a **2010 Census map** that represents the mail participation rate by counties in Missouri, overall a majority of Missouri counties had participation rates above 50 percent, with many counties reaching participation levels into 70 and 80 percent. However, even with these high percentage rates, news forecasts projected, and were ultimately correct, regarding Missouri losing a Congressional seat. According to a *Boston Globe* article, Missouri was one of eight states projected to lose a seat as a result of a shifting population base throughout the country.

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