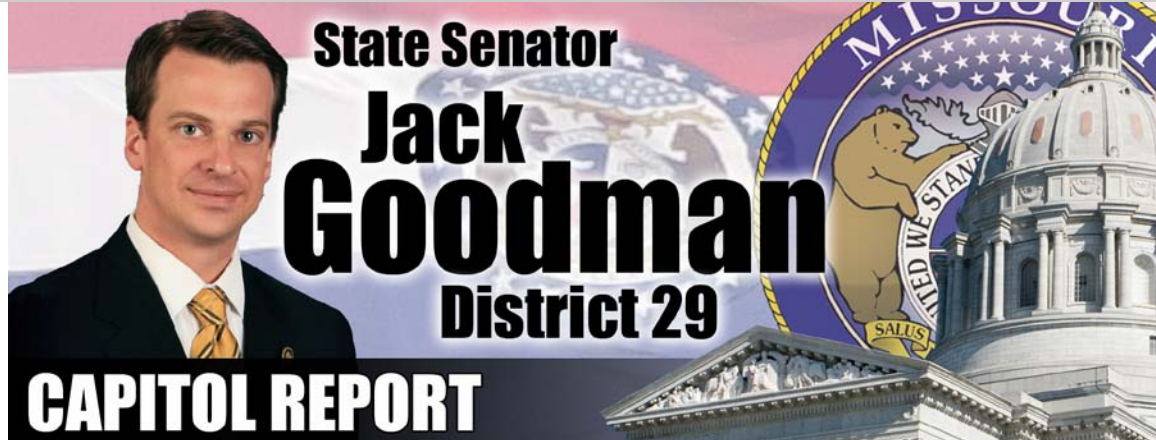


June 14, 2010



Senator Jack Goodman – Serving Barry, Lawrence, McDonald, Ozark, Stone and Taney Counties

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Empowering Mothers and Protecting Life

Now that we are nearly one month into the legislative interim, the focus has shifted from passing bills to waiting for the governor to sign the bills that were sent to his desk this year. The governor has until July 14 to either sign or veto the bills passed by your General Assembly.

This session, I was honored to work with Rep. Jeanie Riddle to pass [HB 2081](#). She sponsored the bill in the House and I handled it in the Senate. Simply put, the measure empowers pregnant women to use deadly force to protect their unborn children from attack. The need for this bill stems from the case of a pregnant woman in Michigan who was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to prison after using deadly force to defend her unborn baby from her boyfriend who was repeatedly punching her in the abdomen and threatening the life of her unborn child.

The Michigan case was eventually overturned, but, in Missouri, we decided to take a proactive step to ensure that Missouri mothers have an undeniable, plainly stated, legal right to protect their babies from violence, even when the mother's life might not be in direct jeopardy.

I would like to thank Rep. Riddle for asking me to handle this legislation in the Senate. It was a unique pleasure to work with Rep. Riddle, as we both spent our childhood in Pierce City. Representative Riddle now lives in Callaway County.

The Missouri Legislature passed this important bill with broad support. I look forward to hearing from the governor about his decision to sign the bill and extend this basic protection to Missouri mothers and their precious unborn children.

As always, I welcome your ideas, questions and concerns about Missouri government. You may contact me at the State Capitol as follows: [573-751-](tel:573751)

2234, jack.goodman@senate.mo.gov or by writing to Senator Jack Goodman, Missouri State Capitol, Room 331-A, [Jefferson City, MO 65101](#).

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