

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## Senator Pearce Successfully Moves Several Bills Through Legislature in 2010

JEFFERSON CITY—By the close of the 2010 legislative session at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 14, several of the measures sponsored or handled by Sen. David Pearce (R-Warrensburg) successfully navigated the legislative process and advanced to the governor's desk for signing into law. The following is a comprehensive list of the legislation Sen. Pearce sponsored and handled this year that received final approval from the General Assembly:

- <u>Senate Bill 733</u>: Equalizes Access Missouri scholarship awards for public and private universities and protects Bright Flight scholarships awarded to military students, among other provisions.
- <u>Senate Bill 777</u>: Authorizes the sale of deficiency waiver addendums and guaranteed asset protection products with respect to certain consumer loans, second mortgage loans and retail credit sales under specific circumstances. Provides for boat slips to be included in appraisals and mortgages for condo sales.
- <u>Senate Bill 940</u>: Relaxes bingo regulations in Missouri including expanding the hours during which bingo halls can operate, increasing the number of games they are able to hold, and raising the cap on the amount of money they are allowed to spend on advertising.
- <u>Senate Concurrent Resolution 31</u>: Encourages students and faculty to promote international education as part of curricular and extracurricular life at Missouri's colleges and universities.
- <u>House Bill 1524</u>: Changes several laws regarding veterans and the military, including allowing overseas service members to request voter registration applications and absentee ballots electronically, and establishes the Missouri Youth Challenge Academy for at-risk high school age youth.
- House Bill 1543: Makes several changes to provisions relating to elementary and secondary education including adding "cyberbullying" and electronic communications to school district anti-bullying policies; changing the funding mechanism for the Career Ladder program by funding it upfront rather than in arrears; and allowing for the Parents as Teachers program to be need-based by serving low-income families first while implementing a sliding scale so those who can afford it can help defray costs.
- <u>House Bill 1544</u>: Allows the state to continue receiving extended federal unemployment benefit funds and expands participation in the state's Shared Work Program (signed into law on March 4).
- House Bill 1612: Makes several changes to the law relating to sewer districts, including increasing the number of members on the sewer district board of trustees in Cass County from eight to 10.
- <u>House Bill 2147</u>: Exempts certain students who are dependents of recently retired military personnel from the three-year attendance requirement under the A+ Schools Program.

"I'm extremely pleased that my colleagues endorsed so many of my bills this year," Sen. Pearce said. "Each measure was carefully crafted to address a specific issue or concern that was brought to my attention at some point, and I believe that once they are on the law books they will have a positive impact on the citizens of the 31st District and Missourians statewide."

Most bills, unless otherwise noted, become law Aug. 28.