

Charlie Shields 34th Senate District Senate President Pro Tem

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Senator Shields Announces Approval of Gubernatorial Appointments Prenger and Smith Confirmed to Respective Appointments

JEFFERSON CITY — Senate Leader Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph, today announced that the Senate has approved the nomination of Jeanette Prenger of Kansas City to the Missouri Workforce Investment Board and Edna Smith of Kansas City to the Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board.

The Missouri Workforce Investment Board provides policy guidance and leadership to advance an integrated, demand-driven workforce and economic development system. Prenger is the president of ECCO Select, an information technology supplemental staffing agency.

"Ms. Prenger's business development skills and management experience will be an asset to the Missouri Workforce Investment Board," said Shields. "Her work with placing jobs in the information technology field will be important to her role the board as we strive to advance Missouri's workforce to meet the needs of emerging and technological industries in our state."

The Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board provides an independent review of child abuse and neglect determinations in instances when the alleged perpetrator is aggrieved by the decision of the Children's Division. Smith holds a Ph.D. in Child and Family Development and works as in independent autism consultant. She has more than 30 years of experience working with children in the field of special education.

"Ms. Smith has valuable experience as an advocate for children with special needs and will be a strong voice as an advocate for all children who are victims of abuse and neglect and the difficult situations that result from those abuses," said Shields. "I believe she will make an important difference in her role on the Child Abuse and Neglect Review Board."

Both appointments were heard before the Senate Gubernatorial Committee on February 3 and were confirmed by the full Senate on February 4. For more information on Missouri's Boards and Commissions, visit <u>http://governor.mo.gov/boards/</u>.