

Dear Constituents:

In January 2014, the Second Regular Session of the 97th General Assembly will convene in Jefferson City, marking the beginning of what promises to be a historic year in Missouri politics. Because 2014 is an election year, expect the political debate to be intense; and because so much is at stake, expect bitter partisan battles over major issues, such as Medicaid expansion, requiring voters to have ID cards, and student transfers from unaccredited school districts.

Despite the political winds, I will continue my focus on education, economic development, and social justice. In order for you, the constituents of the 5th Senatorial District, to be informed and able to keep track of my efforts as your state senator, I am listing below the legislative bills I have prefiled and that I plan to debate and seek passage of when session commences. I welcome your input, and I look forward to standing strong for you in the next session of the Missouri General Assembly.

- Fair Minimum Wage Act <u>Senate Bill 531</u> would raise the minimum wage in the state to \$10.00 per hour; the current state minimum wage stands at \$7.35.
- Every Child Can Learn Act <u>Senate Bill 616</u>, a comprehensive education bill, would, among other things, end the practice of "social promotions" which is the promoting of students despite not reading at grade level. An omnibus bill, it also contains provisions relating to:
 - o Turnaround options for unaccredited schools;
 - o Accreditation for certain schools in St. Louis and Kansas City;
 - o Student transfers out of unaccredited schools:
 - o Retention efforts in the St. Louis City School District; and
 - o Public schools receiving letter grades for performance.
- Campaign Ethics Bill <u>Senate Bill 555</u> would end the practice of lobbyists providing legislators with tickets such as baseball tickets to any entertainment events.
- Genetically Modified Food Labeling <u>Senate Bill 533</u> is a measure that would

require any meat or fish that is genetically modified to be labeled as such in order to inform consumers of what they are eating.

- Reporting Lost or Stolen Firearms <u>Senate Bill 565</u> would require firearms owners to report any lost or stolen firearms to the appropriate authorities.
- Public Safety Act <u>Senate Bill 556</u> would allow for the expungement, or removal, of criminal records of certain offenses, such as a criminal record for failure to pay child support, and would also, among other things, create a gun buyback program.
- Education and Medical Consent <u>Senate Bill 532</u> would allow the caregiver of a child to give educational and/or medical consent on behalf of a child.
- Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) <u>Senate Bill 557</u> would establish Laclede's Landing as a CID to enhance the economic development of the businesses in the area.
- Term Limits <u>Senate Joint Resolution 35</u> would place a question on a future ballot asking voters to increase term limits from eight years to 16 years total in any one chamber of the General Assembly, enabling a person to serve 16 years in either the Senate or the House, instead of the current eight years in either chamber.

For more information on Sen. Nasheed, visit the Missouri Senate website or email Sen. Nasheed at Jamilah.Nasheed@senate.mo.gov.

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