

This WEEK in the Missouri HOUSE

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February 25, 2008



Floor Action...

The following bill was third read and passed:

- **HJR 55** - proposes a constitutional amendment guaranteeing a citizen's First Amendment right to pray on public property and reaffirming a citizen's right to choose any or no religion. (2.21.08)

The following consent bills were third read and passed:

- **HB 1380** - provides statutory authority to tax boards established by the Senior Citizens' Services Fund to allocate money to senior centers and other senior programs. (2.19.08)
- **HB 1313** - gives preference in state purchasing contracts to certain disabled veterans doing business as Missouri companies. (2.19.08)

- **HB 1311** - ensures write-in candidates for municipal office meet all required qualifications, deadlines, and tax obligations for holding elective office. (2.19.08)
- **HB 1305** - allows individual school districts to exempt high school transfer students from the requirement to pass certain government courses. (2.20.08)
- **HB 1656** - changes the law regarding the assistance given to nursing home residents who transition back to their communities. (2.20.08)
- **HB 1670** - removes the requirement for certification by the DNR before a sales and use tax exemption applies to the purchase or lease of certain items used to monitor water and air pollution. (2.20.08)

Committee Updates...

- **Special Committee on Family Services** heard **HB 1831** which would change the laws regarding consent requirements for obtaining an abortion and creates the crime of coercing an abortion. (2.19.08)
- **Special Committee on Government Affairs** heard **HB 1440**, which would require certain public officials to receive training regarding open meetings, open records and public information laws. (2.19.08)
- **The Special Committee on Tax Reform** passed **HB 1773**, which would authorize an income tax dependency exemption for stillborn children. (2.19.08)

Fast Facts:

- By coincidence, exactly the same number of bills filed to date for the 2008 session - 969 - had been filed a year ago today.
- Currently, 482 bills have been filed in the Missouri Senate. The Senate has reported 75 bills Do Pass.
- In addition to the 21 House members not eligible for re-election in 2008 due to term limits, 4 Missouri Senators are also ineligible.

2008 House Actions as of 2/25/08 9:00 a.m.

# House Bills Filed	969
# HBs Reported Do Pass	31
# HBs Reported Do Pass Consent	39
# HBs Perfected	7
# HBs Third Read	8
# HBs Third Read Consent	10
# HBs Reported Do Pass in the Senate	5
# HBs Third Read in the Senate	1



Did you know?

According to the architects who designed the Capitol, the Whispering Gallery in the Missouri Capitol was the first purposely designed one. All other previous whispering galleries were simply architectural accidents.

Photo of the Week

House Speaker Rod Jetton, Clark Hunt, Sabra Tull Meyer and Daniel Hunt unveil the bust of Lamar Hunt, who was inducted into the Hall of Famous Missourians last week.



Upcoming Dates of Interest

- March 13 - Spring break begins
- March 25 - Spring/Easter break ends - Reconvene at 4:00 p.m.
- April 1 - Last Day for Introduction of Bills
- May 9 - Appropriation Bills must be Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed - 6:00 p.m.
- May 16 - Session Ends - 6:00 p.m.
- May 30 - Adjournment per Constitution