



# NEWS

From the Office of  
Rep. Mark Matthiesen

District 107

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CONTACT: Rep. Mark Matthiesen  
573-751-1470  
[Mark.Matthiesen@House.Mo.Gov](mailto:Mark.Matthiesen@House.Mo.Gov)

## House Passes Additional Protections Against Radioactive Waste Exposure

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** – Today, the House of Representatives passed State Representative Mark Matthiesen’s [House Bill 516](#), which supports radioactive waste exposure victims as well as improves health and safety protections for Missourians in the St. Louis region. Rep. Matthiesen began this work in 2015 and continues to fight on behalf of the victims and their families affected by Coldwater Creek, West Lake Landfill and the Weldon Spring Munitions Site.

“For over a decade I have been working to stop the continued exposure to radioactive material that has infected many communities in my region,” **Rep. Mark Matthiesen**, R-O’Fallon, said. “The Radioactive Waste Investigation Fund will play a key role in identifying areas of concern and help force our federal government to clean up the problem that they brought to Missouri so future generations won’t face the health consequences of today.”

This legislation makes three key changes in support of the health and safety of Missourians in the St. Louis region:

- Granting affected citizens, or groups of citizens, the right to request an investigation by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
- Including water samples to the list of samples DNR can collect and analyze for contamination.
- Removing the \$150,000 cap from the hazardous waste fund.

The State of Missouri will also now seek reimbursement of expenses incurred during radioactive waste clean-up from the federal government.

“I want to acknowledge the impact of the many active citizens who spoke up and helped connect the dots and identify the problem,” **Rep. Matthiesen** continued. “The testimony of victims and their families continue to raise awareness of the issue and make the federal government accountable for the harm it caused and attempted to ignore. We will never stop fighting for safer communities and on behalf of victims.”

The legislation now moves to the Missouri Senate for consideration.

*Representative Mark Matthiesen, a Republican, represents part of St. Charles County (District 107) in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to his first two-year term in November 2016 and re-elected for his second term in November 2022. For more information, please contact Rep. Matthiesen at 573-751-1470 or by email at [Mark.Matthiesen@house.mo.gov](mailto:Mark.Matthiesen@house.mo.gov).*

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