

PRESS RELEASE



STATE SENATOR MAIDA COLEMAN – 5TH SENATE DISTRICT

ASSISTANT MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

Room 220, State Capitol
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Phone: 573-751-2606



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 17, 2004

Sen. Coleman Sponsors Bill to Change Name of Harris-Stowe State College to Harris-Stowe State University

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Maida Coleman, D-St. Louis, today presented a bill to change the name of the Harris-Stowe State College to the Senate Pensions and General Laws Committee.

“The name change is important not only for the students and faculty of the historical institution but for the entire City of St. Louis,” Coleman said. “By reflecting the growth of the institutions with a new name, we appropriately build on their successes and accomplishments.”

SB 995 would change the name of Harris-Stowe State College to Harris-Stowe State University.

“Harris-Stowe State College is a strong support system for families in metropolitan St. Louis,” Coleman said. “Were it not for Harris-Stowe, many students in my district would not be able to attend college, let alone pursue a Master’s Degree at much needed affordable rates.”

Currently, the college is working with several state universities to establish collaborative Master’s Degree programs. The name change would provide Harris-Stowe with equity in academic standing and would attract the best-qualified faculty, staff and students.

“The name change for Harris-Stowe is important, because it would allow the college to enhance collaborative opportunities with other universities including the University of Missouri, Lincoln University and Southeast Missouri State University,” Coleman said. “This measure is good for higher education and good for our state.”

In 1857, Harris Teachers College was established in St. Louis to enhance white teachers education. In 1890, Stowe Teachers College was also established in St. Louis to prepare African-

- MORE -

American teachers. As a result of the U.S. Supreme Court desegregation ruling from 1954, the two colleges merged as Harris-Stowe College. In 1984, Harris-Stowe was recognized as a historically black college by the Department of Education.

The college also offers degrees in such areas as business administration, healthcare management and urban specialization.

- END -

COMMITTEES

Agriculture, Conservation, Parks and Tourism – Appropriations – Gubernatorial Appointments –
Financial and Governmental Organization – Veterans' Affairs and Elections