

# **The Loudon Times**

**A Weekly Report from the Missouri State Senate**

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## **Governor's State of the State Address**

Last night in Reagan fashion, Governor Blunt spelled out how he will shrink State Government and give power back to the people of Missouri. In his speech, Senator Loudon's legislation was prominently featured. Governor Blunt proclaimed that he wanted to see Workers' Comp reform, legislation to stop minors crossing the state border for an abortion, and tax credits for those who adopt. All these issues are in bills that Loudon pre- filed in December. They are SB1, SB2, and SB3. All three bills are sure to be signed because the Governor has made these issues a priority in his administration. Also laid out last night was the Governor's budget, which has proposed an increase in for education.



## **“We Report, You Decide” Fox News comes to Jeff City**

The debate has thickened amongst the media concerning SB54. SB54 would eliminate straight ticket voting. Missouri has had straight ticket voting since 1899. As early as the 1960's half of all states allowed it. Now only 16 states allows STV. The trend has moved towards eliminating it all together. Fox News interviewed the Senator about this and the program should be aired on Tuesday or Wednesday.

## **Senate Bill 1 “Workers’ Compensation Reform” headed to the Floor**

SB 1 has been voted out of committee and will go to the floor before the full Senate. . The committee vote was split right along party lines 6 to 3. Senate Bill 1 will continue to foster an atmosphere friendly to business in Missouri. This atmosphere is the Governor’s vision for Missouri and SB 1 should be signed into law.

## **Loudon hosts Press Conference for SLAPP Legislation**

The Senator called his first press conference today. In it he spelled out how a bi-partisan informal panel over the summer worked out new language for the law. This legislation will protect all citizens from being sued for using their right to free speech. The new wording also keeps the plaintiffs from suing, then withdrawing the suit after the defendant has incurred large attorney’s fees. Loudon compared this to attackers lobbing a mortar round at their victims and then running for cover. Under this bill once someone is SLAPPED that individual would have a right to recovery.



## Quote of the Week

"America must remain freedom's staunchest friend, for freedom is our best ally and it is the world's only hope to conquer poverty and preserve peace. Every blow we inflict against poverty will be a blow against its dark allies of oppression and war. Every victory for human freedom will be a victory for world peace. So, we go forward today, a nation still mighty in its youth and powerful in its purpose. With our alliances strengthened, with our economy leading the world to a new age of economic expansion, we look to a future rich in possibilities. And all of this is because we worked and acted together, not as members of political parties but as Americans." --Ronald Reagan