



Missouri House of Representatives

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Governor signs sentencing bill supported by Rep. Dixon

JEFFERSON CITY –Representative Bob Dixon, R-Springfield, joined Sen. Harold Caskey, D- Butler, Greene County Prosecutor Darrell Moore, R-12 School Board Member Mary Norman and Governor Bob Holden as he signed SB 5 into law.

“I feel this is a victory for all victims of crime across the state of Missouri,” said Rep. Dixon. “I believe that if the defendant has the right to be present in the courtroom at all times, then the victims should be afforded that same right.”

The provisions of SB 5 include: Giving victims the right to be present at all criminal justice proceedings even if such victim is called or may be called to testify as a witness in the case; removal of the one year residency requirement for Kansas City police officers; makes tampering with a prescription drug a Class A felony; and adds alcohol treatment to substance abuse programs for offenders. The treatment must be at least 12 months and no more than 24 months. The Department of Corrections has the ability to determine the nature, intensity, duration and completion criteria of the programs provided. The bill contained an emergency clause meaning it went into effect with the governor’s signature instead of the standard August 28th set by the Missouri Constitution.

“I would really like to thank Sen. Caskey for his hard work on this piece of legislation,” said Rep. Dixon. “I am really proud to have played a part in the passage of this bill.”

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