



Missouri House of Representatives

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House Adopts Portion of Rep. Bob Dixon's Crime Prevention Package

JEFFERSON CITY – The House has adopted half of Rep. Bob Dixon's crime prevention package aimed at strengthening penalties for sex offenders in Missouri. Rep. Dixon, R-Springfield, offered half of the ten-bill package as an amendment to another crime bill before the House on Thursday.

"I'm pleased that my colleagues share my concern for the safety of our children and have adopted this amendment," said Rep. Dixon. "I intend to bring people together for final adoption of this language and ensure safer streets and neighborhoods across Missouri."

One of the new provisions would add to the list of offenses that require a felon to register as a sex offender, including possession or promotion of child pornography. In addition, those who have pled no contest to any of the listed offenses would be required to register. Failure to register as a sex offender would be increased from a misdemeanor to a felony offense. Sex offenders would also be prohibited from establishing residency within 1000 feet of any public or private school or childcare facility. Additionally, the Highway Patrol would be required to maintain a web site linking all online sex offender registries. Finally, law enforcement would be allowed to charge offenders a fee of up to 10-dollars to register, in order to cover the cost of maintaining the local registry.

The ten-bill package consists of House Bills 1385 through 1394. Rep. Dixon expects hearings on the remainder of the package in the near future.

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