

CAPITOL OFFICE

State Capitol – Room 403B
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City MO 65101-6806
Tele: 573-751-1344
Fax: 573-526-7739
E-Mail: tom.loehner@house.mo.gov

HOME ADDRESS

632 Loehner Ln.
Koeltztown MO 65048
Tele: 573-744-5516

Committees

Agriculture Policy
Appropriations-Transportation and Economic
Development
Conservation & Natural Resources

TOM LOEHNER
State Representative
District 112

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 3, 2007

For more information please contact Representative Tom Loehner at 573-751-1344

Hello from the capitol!

Things up here seem to be moving very slowly this year. I know several people think that is not a bad thing but growing up on a farm all my life I am not very comfortable wasting precious time. Granted, there are times when legislation needs to be halted or the process slowed down. However, there is a large amount of good legislation that would be beneficial to the citizens of this state that dies along the way. It is a shame that sometimes leaders let their personal feelings get in the way of the best interest of their constituents.

You can certainly tell summer is just around the corner. For one thing the purple martins are back in force. We have two nests up and the martins seem to enjoy throwing the sparrows out. At last count our son John said there were seven pairs flying around. I love to sit on the carport and listen to all their chatter early in the morning.

Another sign that summer is near is that Becky was busy putting in her garden this weekend. I know most of you have your gardens in already, but as I stated before, not much happens around here until after the end of tax season.

On Saturday morning the kids and I also finished one of my yearly spring time jobs of shearing the sheep. "Oh my aching back."

We had a special treat this past Friday. The Osage County R-III pre-school came to visit the farm. They got to hold baby pigs and little bunnies, watch a sheep being sheared, gather chicken eggs, and also pet some little puppies. They all received a small bag of wool as a souvenir. They were a great bunch of little ones.

On May 2nd I was honored to present the Osage County R-III School District with a resolution recognizing their Distinction in Performance award. I have to apologize to all that were there because I hastily left without letting anyone know that I had to get back to the capitol for a night session. Please accept my apology.

In House floor activity we finally passed a school day forgiveness bill, Senate Bill 64, which has had about five or six language changes over the course of the legislative process. The final version simply states that any school district missing school days between January 11 and January 22, 2007, are not required to make them up.

Also affecting school districts is a section in House Bill 327 that deals with a tax exemption on fuel used solely and exclusively on school buses for transportation of students. This includes buses owned by the school district or anyone under contract to provide bus service for the school districts. This will be a substantial cost savings to our rural districts.

The House passed Senate Bills 62 & 41. This legislation modifies various laws relating to the criminal justice system. A person who is not engaged in an unlawful activity and who is attacked in a place where he or she has a right to be has no duty to retreat and has the right to meet force with force if he or she reasonably believes it necessary to do so to prevent death or great bodily harm or to prevent the commission of a forcible felony.

A person who uses such force as described above is justified in using such force and is immune from civil actions and criminal prosecutions for the use of such force, unless the person against whom force was used was a law enforcement officer who identifies himself or herself, or the person using the force should have known the person was a law enforcement officer.

As always, it is an honor and pleasure to serve as your state representative.