

- UNITED STATES - SENATOR KIT BOND



**END OF THE TERM REPORT
1999 - 2004**

Dear Fellow Missourians:

Much has changed since I began my third term as your Senator six years ago. Our nation has survived and grown stronger through the horrifying terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and war with Afghanistan and Iraq. We have faced - and met - tremendous challenges ramping up a public health and safety system to protect Americans from future threats.

Through it all, our great national spirit of self-sacrifice and optimism is still very much alive. We see it in our young people like my son, Sam, who are willing to forego safer careers to join the Armed Forces to take their turn protecting American freedoms.

At the end of each term, we have compiled a record of the work we have done on behalf of our state during the previous six years. What follows is a record of our accomplishment, together.

As I have said many times, the best ideas come from Missouri. Many of you have shared your problems - and potential solutions - with me, and I have gone to work on your behalf in Washington. Whether the issue is protecting jobs in Rolla and Poplar Bluff from being driven abroad by overreaching regulations, ensuring that the weapons systems defending our soldiers continue to be built by Missouri's fine engineering and production work force, or working to make Missouri the premier plant biotechnology and life sciences corridor in the country, I have fought for the economic security of our state.

Similarly, whether the issue is ensuring that Mallinckrodt workers receive the health care compensation they deserve for radiation exposure, making the highly-acclaimed Parents as Teachers program available to more families, or providing Missouri sheriffs the resources they need to fight methamphetamine, I have worked to protect the health and safety of all our citizens, especially our children.

Together we have overcome many challenges and accomplished good things for our state and for our country.

There is still much work to be done. I look forward to continuing our partnership on homeland security, job creation, health, education and the many other challenges we face.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Bond

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SECTION I

Building a Stronger Missouri



Chapter 1

Jobs for Missouri Part I - Job Creation and Economic Growth

*The work of the individual still remains the spark that moves mankind forward.
- Igor Sikorsky*

Missouri is home to many of America's leading companies and growth industries, particularly in the areas of health, aerospace, and biotechnology. Missouri is also home to more than 130,000 small businesses, a strong engine of economic growth for the state.

But most important, Missouri is home to a well-educated, highly-motivated work force. The men and women comprising the state's labor force bring success to their companies, support to their families, and investment to their local communities. Whether entrepreneurs, construction workers, teachers or service workers, individual Missourians at work move the state, and the nation, forward. Senator Bond's top priority is to support policies and programs to keep Missourians working.

Reducing Taxes to Revitalize the Economy

At Issue

Throughout the 1990s, Missourians shouldered significant tax burdens that hindered their ability to provide for their families, save for their children's education, and plan for retirement. Small-business owners endured similar challenges when it came to retaining enough of their earnings to invest in their business' future. In addition, Senator Bond repeatedly heard from small businesses about the daunting task they faced in complying with a tax code that most accountants and tax lawyers could barely understand and in dealing with an IRS that assumes they have the same resources as large corporations.

As the new millennium arrived, it became clear that the tax system was sorely out of balance, with Congressional Budget Office projections showing that Americans were paying far too much in taxes to the Federal government trillions of dollars more than necessary for the first decade of the new century. At the same time that Washington was collecting these overpayments, the country was feeling the growing pain of the economic downturn that began at the end of the Clinton Administration.

Bond Action - Lower Taxes for Individuals and Families

To address these pressing issues, Senator Bond joined President Bush in calling for a significant tax cut for all Americans. During the debate of the *Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act* in May 2001, Senator Bond championed the benefits of the legislation for Missouri families and small businesses across the nation.

For Missouri families, the bill returned the over-payment of taxes that led to the large federal tax surplus. Specifically, the bill created a new 10 percent tax rate and bracket, which produced up to a \$600 tax cut for every American family beginning in 2001. As a result, an estimated 1,793,000 Missouri taxpayers received rebate checks that year. Senator Bond stressed that these checks were real money that families could use for car payments, utility bills, and school clothes and supplies for their children.



Bond celebrates tax relief with a St. Louis family.

The bill also tackled the marriage penalty in the tax code, especially for couples claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit and the standard deduction. The child-tax credit was doubled over the next 10 years, with a \$100 increase in 2001. The bill also addressed the growing problems of the individual Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), by exempting the increased child-tax credit from being reduced by the amount of AMT, and increasing the exemption amount for single taxpayers and married couples. In addition, for families struggling to finance their children's educations, the new law provided higher contribution limits on education IRAs and tax-free withdrawals from prepaid tuition plans for educational expenses.

In 2003, Bond supported legislation passed by Congress accelerating the tax relief so families would feel it sooner. The *Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003* accelerated the individual-rate reductions, marriage-penalty relief, and the \$1,000 child-tax credit. The bill also reduced the tax rate for dividends and capital gains Missourians receive on their investments to 15 percent for most taxpayers.

Bond Action – Lower Taxes for Small Businesses

For small businesses, the bill answered Senator Bond's call for significant tax relief. Small businesses primarily benefited from the new 10 percent tax rate and the rate reductions within the upper tax brackets. According to data from the IRS, 92 percent of small businesses with receipts under \$1 million were pass-through entities businesses that are taxed only at the individual owner level. Consequently, the bill's reduction in the individual tax rates directly benefited Missouri's sole proprietors, partners, and S-corporation shareholders.

Another critical feature of the bill was its repeal of the estate tax, which has long been a significant burden on small businesses both in terms of additional tax strains on the business and substantial compliance and planning costs. The bill provided for the ultimate repeal of the estate tax to allow more small businesses to pass from one generation to another without significant tax burdens often requiring sale of the business.

While the 2001 tax cut was pumping \$771 million back into Missouri's economy through the rebated checks alone, the nation's already sagging economy was dealt a significant blow following the tragic terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Recognizing that small business was key to revitalizing the economy and restoring critical jobs for Missouri families, Senator Bond introduced the *Small Business Leads to Economic Recovery Act of 2001*. Among its provisions, the bill called for an increase in the amount of equipment (including computer software) that small businesses could expense from the 2001 level of \$24,000 to \$100,000, and an increase in the phase-out limitation from the previous \$200,000 limit to \$500,000.

As the Senate struggled to overcome procedural roadblocks, Senator Bond worked as the Chairman of the Small Business Committee to ensure that the 2001 economic-stimulus package included meaningful relief to the nation's small businesses, which were responsible for three-fourths of the jobs created between 1999 and 2000. As he stressed in his October 1, 2001, letter to the Senate Finance Committee, "In the end, our goal must be to strengthen the public's confidence in the nation's economy and encourage the business community to continue normal business operations and long-term investments."

Small businesses received a modest boost through depreciation relief in the *Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002*. Significant legislation to revitalize the economy, however, was finally achieved in 2003, through the *Jobs and Growth Tax Reconciliation Act (JGTRA)*. In a major accomplishment for small businesses, Senator Bond was instrumental in securing an increase in the amount of equipment that the smallest businesses can expense to \$100,000 per year.

Tax relief for families and small businesses has paid off. Today, more Americans are working than at any time in this country's history: 138 million people. Since the summer of 2003, the economy has created more than 1.4 million net new jobs. Also since the summer of 2003, the economy has grown at a rate of nearly five percent, the fastest growth in almost 20 years.

Fighting for Safer Highways and New Jobs

At Issue

Missouri is home to the third worst roads in the nation, with 59 percent of its major roads in either poor or mediocre condition, requiring immediate repair or reconstruction. Similarly, our state has the second worst bridges in the nation, with 26 percent of bridges 20 feet or longer structurally deficient. These deplorable road conditions negatively affect commerce, congestion, jobs and overall quality of life. More important, they are unsafe. More than 1,000 people die on Missouri roadways each year; in many of these accidents roadway conditions are a factor in the fatalities.

The Department of Transportation estimates that every \$1 billion in new federal investment creates more than 47,500 jobs. For safety and for the economy, Missouri and the nation need a new highway bill.

Bond Action

Senator Bond has fought for additional federal highway funding for Missouri and for Missouri's fair share of funding throughout his 18-year Senate career. When he was first-appointed to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in 1995, Missouri was only getting about a 76-cent return on every dollar Missourians paid in gas taxes at the pump. Now, thanks to Bond's efforts, Missouri receives more than 90 cents and growing -- on the dollar.



Senator Bond meets with transportation stakeholders in Columbia to discuss the next step in the highway bill debate.

In 2003, Senator Bond took the chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which is responsible for drafting the new highway bill.

Prior to writing the new bill, Bond toured the state, hosting a series of forums to gain a better grasp of the transportation needs and desires of local communities.

Later in the year, faced with an under-funded budget, Bond offered an amendment to the Senate budget resolution increasing highway spending to \$255 billion (\$318 billion, including safety and mass transit.) The amendment was overwhelmingly adopted and eventually became the basis of the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA)*, the new highway bill.



Senator Bond is presented with 43,000 signatures from across Missouri urging the passage of the federal highway bill.

The new Senate highway bill, authored by Bond and several colleagues, would stimulate the U.S. economy by generating nearly \$100 billion more in output of goods and services and more than two million new jobs. The bill elevates safety to a core program by providing new investment to reduce the nearly 43,000 lives lost annually on our nation's highways. It provides relief from traffic congestion that is costing the economy \$70 billion annually and robbing time from families and negatively impacting our quality of life.

For Missouri, the Senate-passed bill would mean \$250 million more in highway funding each year than the state currently receives. Over the six-year life of the bill, more than \$1.4 billion in new funds would be spent to repair Missouri highways and bridges, creating 69,000 new jobs in the state, improving roads and saving lives. A comprehensive six-year bill at \$318 billion would sustain more than two million new jobs.

The Senate passed the new highway bill in the spring of 2004. But Senate Democrats threw up a procedural roadblock, delaying appointment of conferees to negotiate an agreement with the House of Representatives. During the delay, the Missouri Transportation Coalition presented Senator Bond with 45,000 signatures from across the state encouraging final passage of his transportation bill, legislation critical to Missouri's economy.

Next Steps

Unfortunately it took months to appoint conferees after the Senate passed its bill, jeopardizing the chance to finalize legislation this year. A Senate-House Conference Committee is meeting daily in an effort to complete the bill this year.

The Promise of Biotechnology

In today's global economy, continued progress in science and engineering and the transfer of the knowledge is vital if the U.S. is to maintain its competitiveness and keep good-paying leading-edge jobs here at home. New products, processes, entire new industries, and future employment opportunities depend on the advances in research and their movement into the marketplace.

Senator Bond and Senator Barbara Mikulski, together as bipartisan leaders of the Subcommittee which funds the National Science Foundation, have increased science funding over 50 percent in the past five years for: information and technology research; plant biotechnology; nanotechnology; underrepresented populations (minorities, women, rural areas); and workforce needs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Many adults alive today were born at the end of the industrial age. They reached maturity during the information age. And they and their children are poised to take advantage of what Senator Bond believes is the next major worldwide revolution, now underway: biotechnology.

“Now, at the threshold of a new technological revolution, we are poised to be leaders in the production and dissemination of life sciences and renewable fuels know-how that will change the world. The difference between sickness and health, a nutritious harvest and crop failure, and between economic growth and poverty is in the balance. We want the food, health and energy solutions of tomorrow to be produced here in Missouri by U.S. workers. Improving science improves our standard of living and it begins here at home by improving our educational capacity and educational prospects for our young.”

- Senator Kit Bond

Biotechnology has breathtaking possibilities for improving human health, the environment, and enhancing agricultural production to feed the world.

For thousands of years, farmers have fought numerous species of insects that have destroyed crops and hurt production. Biotechnology is bringing hope to those in the developing world by providing crops that are more tolerant of drought, and more resistant to insects and weeds. 160 million acres in the world have been planted with high-technology crops.

Bacillus thuringiensis, a gene known as Bt, a natural insecticide in the soil, can be transplanted into corn and potatoes, allowing farmers to produce more food with fewer chemicals. In the United States, use of transgenic seeds has reduced pesticide application on our fields by 47 million pounds.

Increased production is not the only benefit. According to the International Food Policy Research Institute, more than 800 million people worldwide go to bed hungry. More than 170 million preschool children are undernourished, and 5 million of them will die every year from nutrition-related illnesses.

Biotechnology will also increase the nutritional value of foods produced by increasing the vitamin and mineral content of crops grown. In fact, world-health experts predict that development of genetically-modified rice will prevent the deaths of as many as 2 million children and 500,000 cases of blindness each year caused by vitamin A deficiency.

Already, more than 325 million people worldwide have been helped by the more than 130 biotechnology drugs and vaccines approved by FDA. More than 370 drugs and vaccines are currently in clinical trials targeting more than 200 diseases.

At Issue

Missouri is home to the pioneers of exploration in biotechnology, leading agriculture and the world in this new age. How can we ensure that our state continues to be a leader in this area, bringing hope to the sick and starving in the world?



Senator Bond visits the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in St. Louis.

“Senator Bond has been a tireless advocate for international agricultural biotechnology. Through his work, organizations including the U.S. Agency for International Development and the National Science Foundation have received funding to spark more biotechnology research in the developing world, where new agricultural technologies are desperately needed. The biotech industry has always considered Senator Bond a champion of biotechnology’s potential, which is reflected in the industry’s growth in his home state of Missouri.”

- The Biotechnology Industry Organization on naming Senator Bond a Legislator of the Year in 2002.

revolution resides in Missouri with the jobs, economic benefits, and prestige that accompany such standing. Working with farmers, the private sector, academia and the scientific community, Bond has provided record levels of research funding to expand the benefits of the new technology at home and abroad.

Within budget constraints, Bond has poured more than half a billion dollars into agencies over the last five years to support biotechnology: \$465 million for genomics research at NSF and \$100 million for the “Biotech for the Developing World Initiative” at USAID.

Bond has also secured the following in appropriations for Missouri:

- \$31 million for the Life Sciences Center at the University of Missouri;
- \$4 million for the greenhouse at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center; and nearby expanded wet lab space;
- \$7 million for research facilities at Missouri Botanical Garden.

Senator Bond has also worked hard to increase public awareness of the benefits of the new technology. He has addressed numerous science groups urging their activism to counter the myths surrounding biotechnology, debated the issue on popular television programs like *Crossfire*, and has spoken to institutional investors on the future of biotechnology.

He has also been a tireless advocate in promoting biotechnology at home and abroad, writing letters in support of new product

And how can we ensure that information about the new technologies is based in science, not unfounded hysteria? Despite the remarkable promise of biotechnology to improve the plight of the world’s hungry and sick, vocal, aggressive, and -- in some cases, lawless -- groups of advocacy organizations seek to discredit and eliminate biotechnology. These groups fear that genetically-modified plants may pose risks to the environment, but scientific studies show that these fears are unfounded.

Because their concerns are not based on sound science, but on fear, the opponents have resorted to intimidation and vandalism to get their point across. Such tactics threaten lives and lead to diminished public understanding of the benefits versus the risks of biotechnology. Regrettably, these tactics work in some places. Some policymakers, particularly in Europe, have been intimidated and consumer fear has been generated without scientific basis.

Bond Action

Since the mid 1990’s, Senator Bond has pursued an aggressive and broad-based strategy to ensure that the heart of the plant biotech

“Senator Bond’s longstanding leadership in Missouri’s plant and life science initiatives is a natural extension of his support of science at the national and international level, in particular the plant sciences. He is a rare policymaker who recognizes and appreciates the importance of fundamental science for the success of biotechnology. This insight has been key to his support for the plant and life sciences in Missouri: his vision of a ‘biotech alley’ that connects the leading research industries in the state influenced his decision to support the growth of Donald Danforth Plant Science Center and the BioBelt, as well as growing the life sciences at the University of Missouri, and other organizations around the state. The State and region are fortunate to have a champion, Kit Bond, working with and for us, and for the nation.”

- Dr. Roger N. Beachy, President of Donald Danforth Plant Science Center.

approval to the Environmental Protection Agency, briefing Clinton and Bush Administration officials on the importance of keeping biotechnology viable, and hosting European, Asian and African delegations to promote the benefits of biotechnology for their regions.

“To Senator Bond, with deep appreciation for your tireless support of science and genome research.”

- Note from Dr. James Watson, Nobel Laureate credited with discovering DNA and starting the biotechnology revolution, 17 June 2003

It has not always been an easy ‘sell.’ Senator Bond was inadvertently gassed when confronted by a crowd of violent protestors on his way to a plant-biotechnology press conference at the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle in 1999.

After the European Union placed a moratorium on approval of agricultural biotechnology products, Senator Bond cosponsored Senate passage of a resolution offered by fellow Missouri Senator Jim Talent expressing the support of the Senate of efforts in the World Trade Organization to end the moratorium, an effort which is beginning to see daylight as the science in support of biotechnology becomes more overwhelming.

The following organizations have honored or recognized Senator Bond for his work on plant genomics and agricultural research: Agricultural Research Institute, American Farm Bureau Federation, American Society for Nutritional Sciences, American Society of Agronomy, American Society of Plant Physiologists, Coalition on Funding Agricultural Research Missions, Crop Science Society of American, Federation of Animal Science Societies, National Association of State Universities & Land-Grant Colleges, National Coalition for Food & Agricultural Research, National Cotton Council, U.S. Rice Producers Association, USA Rice Federation, National Corn Growers Association, National Association of Wheat Growers, and others.

Advancing Regulatory Fairness for Small Businesses

At Issue

Small businesses are the backbone of Missouri’s economy and generate many new jobs.

A significant challenge for small businesses across the nation is the volume and complexity of regulations that Federal agencies impose on them. Unlike large corporations, small firms do not have a separate staff to decipher the regulatory maze, fill out the required forms, and keep up to date with the constant flow of new rules. Those responsibilities fall to the small-business owner who must take valuable time away from other activities that would make his or her business successful in order to do the government’s business, and who will be held accountable for any failure to comply with the government’s rules and regulations.

Bond Action

While Chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business, Senator Bond made regulatory fairness a top priority. Following on the successful enactment in 1996 of his *Red Tape Reduction Act*, formally known as the *Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act*, Senator Bond continued to hold Federal agencies’ feet to the fire to ensure that they take the impact of their requirements on small businesses into account.

One of the most significant victories for small businesses under the *Red Tape Reduction Act* involved the ergonomics regulation proposed by the Department of Labor’s Occupational Health and Safety Administration

(OSHA) in November 1999. While recognizing that workplace safety is essential, Senator Bond heard significant concerns from small businesses about the scope of the proposed rule and its potential impact on small firms. Accordingly, he introduced the *Sensible Ergonomics Needs Scientific Evidence Act (SENSE)* in May 1999 to ensure that any final ergonomics regulation was based on sound scientific data.

In November 2000, just before leaving office, the Clinton Administration issued its final regulation on ergonomics, notwithstanding that both houses of Congress had indicated with bipartisan majorities that OSHA should not finalize the proposed ergonomic rule. The final regulation represented a dramatic departure from the proposed rule and was much more burdensome and troubling. It was met by criticism from all sectors of the business community, and legal challenges were immediately filed. Senator Bond characterized the regulation as a monument to regulatory excess and predicted that it would devastate small businesses.

Shortly after becoming effective in January 2001, the ergonomics regulation was invalidated by a joint resolution of Congress with bipartisan majorities in both Houses of Congress pursuant to the *Congressional Review Act (CRA)*, a component of Senator Bond's *Red Tape Reduction Act*. While hailing this action as a victory for small businesses and the removal of an unworkable and unnecessarily burdensome regulation, Senator Bond continued to work with small business advocacy groups and John Henshaw, a fellow Missourian and new head of OSHA, to develop a new strategy to replace the invalidated regulation. That effort has led to the current 'win-win' approach of improving workplace safety by helping small businesses implement plans that reduce injuries and achieve a safer working environment.



Senator Bond is recognized by the Science Coalition for his work to increase federal support for basic science and engineering research.

Improving Opportunities for Women-Owned Businesses

In June 2000 more than 400 women entrepreneurs and business leaders from across the country attended the first women's business Summit hosted by Senator Bond in Kansas City. The purpose of the Summit was for policymakers to learn about the aspirations, goals, and needs of one of the most dynamic professional groups in the nation - women small-business owners.

The Summit recognized women's success as business leaders and invited them to share their insights and first-hand knowledge about their working lives, the challenges they face, and the action that could be taken to enhance their opportunities in the business world. The story of women entrepreneurs is especially inspiring and also a uniquely American one, typifying the American dream.

In September 2002 Senator Bond hosted a second women's small-business Summit attended by more than 400 women entrepreneurs in St. Louis. At the Summit, Senator Bond stressed that progress had been made on a number of the recommendations raised at the 2000 Kansas City Summit: namely, repealing the estate tax and increasing the contribution limits for retirement plans. He also pledged to continue his effort in the Senate to ensure that the needs and concerns of the country's estimated 6.2 million privately-held, women-owned businesses are not only heard but implemented.

Assisting Small Business Development through the SBA

At Issue

Many entrepreneurs, especially those starting a new small business, face significant obstacles in identifying the resources and management advice to make their business ventures successful. One of the greatest, ongoing challenges facing Missouri's small-business community is access to sufficient capital to start-up, operate and expand their businesses.

Bond Action

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has proven to be a valuable resource. As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, which oversees the SBA, Senator Bond worked diligently to ensure that the SBA is an efficient and effective federal agency that meets the needs of small enterprises and their employees.

Through legislation in 2000 and 2003 to re-authorize the agency, Senator Bond worked to strengthen and expand the SBA's flagship credit program, the 7(a) guaranteed-business-loan program, which furnishes critical operating capital for small enterprises. He also sponsored legislation that was essential to ensure the solvency of the 504 loan program, which provides capital for buildings and large equipment. Together, these two programs have generated \$46.3 billion in loans to small businesses and created or retained more than 1.7 million jobs in America between 1999 and 2002.

Senator Bond has also led efforts to provide critical funding for the SBA's Small Business Development Centers and Women's Business Centers, which offer valuable business advice and counseling to Missouri's small-business owners.

Senator Bond has long understood the critical role played by the nation's military reservists and veterans in the small-business community. In 1999, while Chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business, he worked to enact the *Military Reservist Small Business Relief Act*, which allows businesses to delay repayment of SBA-guaranteed loans when they were adversely affected by the departure of an essential employee who is a military reservist called to active duty. Today, this program plays an important role in stabilizing small businesses, whose owners and key employees are supporting our nation overseas.

Similarly, the *Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act*, which Senator Bond guided through the Senate in 1999, established the Federal government's policy to provide assistance to veteran-owned small businesses to enable them to start-up and expand their businesses, with a special emphasis on small firms owned by service-disabled veterans.

Creating Procurement Opportunities for Small Businesses

At Issue

For many small businesses, a tremendous business opportunity lies with the nation's largest con-

sumer: The federal government. In 2001 the federal government awarded nearly \$235 billion in contracts to purchase the products and services—from office supplies to fighter-jet parts—necessary to operate its agencies and maintain our national defense. Despite the potential of this marketplace, however, small businesses continue to receive less than their fair share because of the government's tendency to bundle contracts, which makes them too large for most small firms to undertake. The impact on small businesses has been devastating: In 2001 alone, small businesses lost out on \$13 billion in federal contracts as a result of contract bundling.

Bond Action

Through his position on the Senate Committee on Small Business, Senator Bond has been a strong advocate of creating more procurement opportunities for small businesses, playing the lead role to increase the government-wide procurement goal from 20 to 23 percent in 1997.

Bond has fought hard to limit the government's use of contract bundling. In 2001, he supported provisions in the *National Defense Authorization Act* to close loopholes that developed in response to the anti-bundling law that he included in the *Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997*. Most recently, Senator Bond worked to include provisions in the 2003 SBA reauthorization legislation to reduce contract bundling and increase the amount of government contracts going to small businesses.

One of the most significant improvements in the procurement area, and one that holds tremendous potential for Missouri's underserved communities, is Senator Bond's Historically Underutilized Business Zone or HUBZone program. Enacted in 1997, the program provides an incentive for companies to locate and provide critically needed jobs in the nation's inner cities and depressed rural areas by giving them a government contracting preference.

To date, the results have been impressive. According to the SBA, there are 9,600 HUBZone firms that are eligible for the program since the SBA began accepting applications in 1999. In fiscal year 2001, each dollar spent on the program yielded a return of \$288 in contract awards. Moreover, the SBA reports that in the same fiscal year, the program helped to create 12,782 jobs in the United States, approximately 70 percent of which were located in the nation's distressed areas.

Economic Development Administration

At Issue

Even as the economy continues to recover overall, there are areas of economic distress and hardship. The Economic Development Administration (EDA) was created in 1965 to assist distressed communities in developing and implementing their own economic development and revitalization strategies. EDA has invested more than \$115 million on more than 300 projects in Missouri in the last decade, including improvements to the Cornerstone Industrial Park in St. Louis and the renovation of a blighted neighborhood outside Kansas City.

These funds have leveraged an additional \$684 million in private sector funds and \$83 million in state and local funding, creating real partnerships to transform communities and create new jobs - more than 5,000 in Missouri since 1998. Recently EDA has invested in several initiatives that have continued to diversify the job base with a focus on high-tech, high-growth industry. For example, the city of Laddonia received a \$1 million grant in 2004 to construct an ethanol plant.

Jobs for Missouri

Part II - Protecting Existing Jobs

In addition to creating an environment conducive to creating new jobs and economic growth, Senator Bond believes it is important to protect existing jobs. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Bond has worked hard to ensure that federal funds essential to our nation's defense are awarded to top quality defense contractors in Missouri. Bond has also taken decisive action when Missouri jobs have been threatened by stifling regulations imposed by another state.

Boeing

At Issue

What happens on the battlefields of Iraq or Afghanistan, or on dangerous seas often depends on what happens in the high technology plants in St. Louis and across Missouri. The fate of our young men and women in harm's way is directly related to the workmanship of the engineers and machinists who create the technology, protective gear, and the fighter planes so essential to the performance of their missions. The weapons and defense systems produced for those who leave loved ones behind and risk everything to defend America must be state-of-the-art, expertly engineered and carefully built.

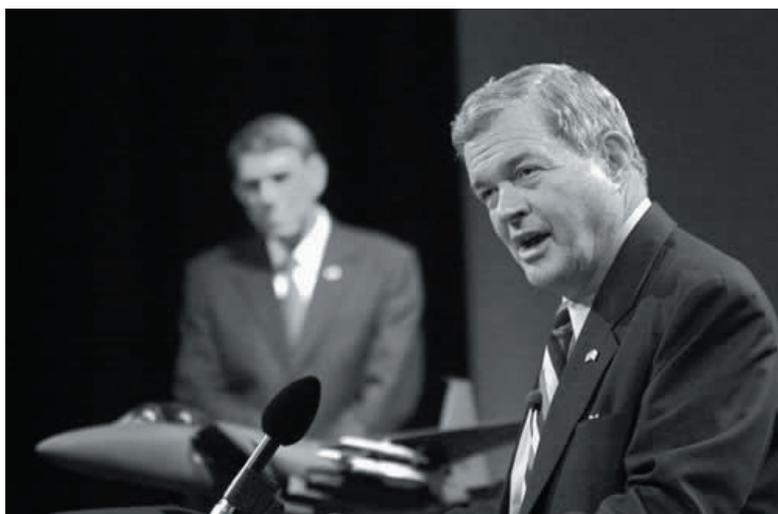
Thanks to its engineering and production workforce, Boeing St. Louis and its many Missouri subcontractors produces the finest military products in the world. As a result, our troops are as well-protected as they can be under the difficult circumstances of war. Boeing and other Missouri defense contractors are critical assets in the global war on terror and in the nation's defense. Like our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, this work force must be sustained if we are to continue to field the best equipment in the world.

Bond Action

Throughout his Senate career, Bond has fought successfully to fund key defense projects that are supported by the Boeing St. Louis workforce. He has also been a tireless proponent for expanding foreign military sales programs when beneficial to the U.S. and key allies overseas. He has traveled to Singapore, Malaysia and Korea to support the sale of the F-15 and F/A-18 tactical aircraft.

During his current term in the Senate, Bond has helped win defense appropriations for much-needed key programs, including the following:

- F/A-18E/F tactical jet fighter known as the Super Hornet, the mainstay of the Navy's tactical fighter fleet.



After visiting Korea to promote the sale of F-15s, Senator Bond visits Boeing St. Louis to celebrate the announcement that the Republic of Korea will purchase 40 F-15 Fighter Aircraft.

- F-15 Block Upgrade—to ensure that this fighter, integral to the Air Force, remains combat-relevant for decades to come and remains a viable asset for key allies.
- Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAMS) The JDAM system, used by the Navy and the Air Force, guides an otherwise ‘dumb’ bomb to an accuracy within 10 meters.
- C-17 Globemaster the C-17 modernized the Air Force’s air logistics fleet.
- Integrated Battlefield Combat Situational Awareness System, now under development, is designed to field an operational system that can correctly identify friend from foe on the battlefield and will prevent casualties from friendly fire.
- Joint Helmet Mounted Cueing System (JHMCS) - a system that provides improved situational awareness for pilots in combat, thereby increasing the odds of their survival.
- Future Combat Systems - a system designed to integrate fully the myriad number of weapons platforms and weapons operators on the battlefield while providing a comprehensive view of the battlespace.
- T-45TS Goshawk - an integrated training system that trains student naval aviators destined for strike aircraft like the F/A-18, AV-8B, and EA-6B.
- Integrated Defense Systems - the headquarters of IDS is located in St. Louis, MO, a move that was wholly supported by Senator Bond.
- Multi-Mission Maritime Aircraft (MMA) - Boeing recently won the competition to provide the next generation of surveillance and anti-submarine aircraft for the U.S. Navy. The program will result in the creation of approximately 200 - 250 highly technical and highly paid positions at Boeing St. Louis.
- F-18 G - this is the electronic warfare variant of the FA-18 and will provide critical electronic warfare capabilities for the U.S. Navy. Senator Bond was a key proponent for this program while it was in its early development.



While touring the Boeing St. Charles Joint Direct Attack Munition Plant (JDAM), Senator Bond visits with the dedicated Boeing employees and signs a J-DAM munition autographed to Saddam Hussein.

Because these programs provide critical assets to America’s warfighters and are designed and built by the most skilled defense-related workforce in the world, Senator Bond remains committed to supporting them.

Next Steps

Senator Bond will continue to look for opportunities overseas with key allies that provide a good fit for Boeing St. Louis built products. At home, he will monitor the status of every Boeing St. Louis program to ensure that every program gets the level of support necessary to keep it viable and relevant in today’s ever-changing environment.

“Many of our good people at Boeing, especially those working on the F-15 and F-18 lines, would be without work if not for the successful efforts of Senator Kit Bond.”

- Al Dunham, former Shop Steward, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, District 837.

Small Defense Contractors

At Issue

Small businesses often have a difficult time breaking through the administrative barriers that exist in the highly-bureaucratic Department of Defense. As former Chairman of the Senate Small Business Committee, Senator Bond understands that small businesses occasionally require a helping hand when attempting to bring emerging technologies or advanced products to the attention of the Department of Defense.

Bond Action

Senator Bond, as a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, has worked tirelessly to support small defense-related business initiatives which provide the innovation so critical to maintaining our military's qualitative and quantitative edge. The allocation of funds to support programs critical to our nation's defense aids in the creation of new manufacturing jobs, and highly- technical, high-paying Research and Development positions.

Senator Bond supports small companies that are contributing to our nation's defense in the war on terror. The products provided range from lasers, to lighted polymers that may revolutionize the way interiors are illuminated, to decontamination equipment that can protect our troops or civilians from hazardous biological and chemical threats, to internment flags for our fallen veterans and GI's.

Senator Bond has also hosted a number of small business procurement conferences to help small business owners learn how better to maneuver through a very complex system to compete for federal contracts.

Small Engines

At Issue

California state regulators proposed a new regulation to control air emissions from small engines used for lawnmowers, weed trimmers and chainsaws. Given the size of California's market, manufacturers across the country would have had to change their operations to meet the new requirements. Missouri workers and their families stood to lose 1,700 small engine manufacturing jobs and face closure of two small engines plants in Rolla and Poplar Bluff, while 3,700 other small-engine manufacturing-related jobs across the state would also be lost. Overall, one regulation by one set of bureaucrats in California would have cost 22,000 jobs across the nation. This regulatory outsourcing to China could not be allowed to stand.

In addition to the job-loss issue, the proposed rule posed a serious threat to safety. Consumers risked burn and fire-related injuries operating small engines meeting California's requirement to install extremely hot catalytic converters inches away from operator's hands and legs. The rule was potentially so dangerous that even the California Fire Chiefs Association noted the irony that the California regulatory agency "that exists only to protect the health and safety of California would choose to ignore fire safety and misrepresent the facts."

Bond Action

Senator Bond included language in the 2004 Omnibus Appropriations bill preventing California's job-killing regulation from impacting other states like Missouri. After defeating numerous efforts led by California senators to strip out the job-saving provision, and then weaken the provision, Bond's language was adopted by the House-Senate conference.

Bond's language required the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to review safety concerns before authorizing the California rule to move forward. Bond's language will also improve air quality nationwide by requiring EPA to implement new national small engines regulations in a way that does not kill jobs, close manufacturing plants, or outsource jobs overseas.

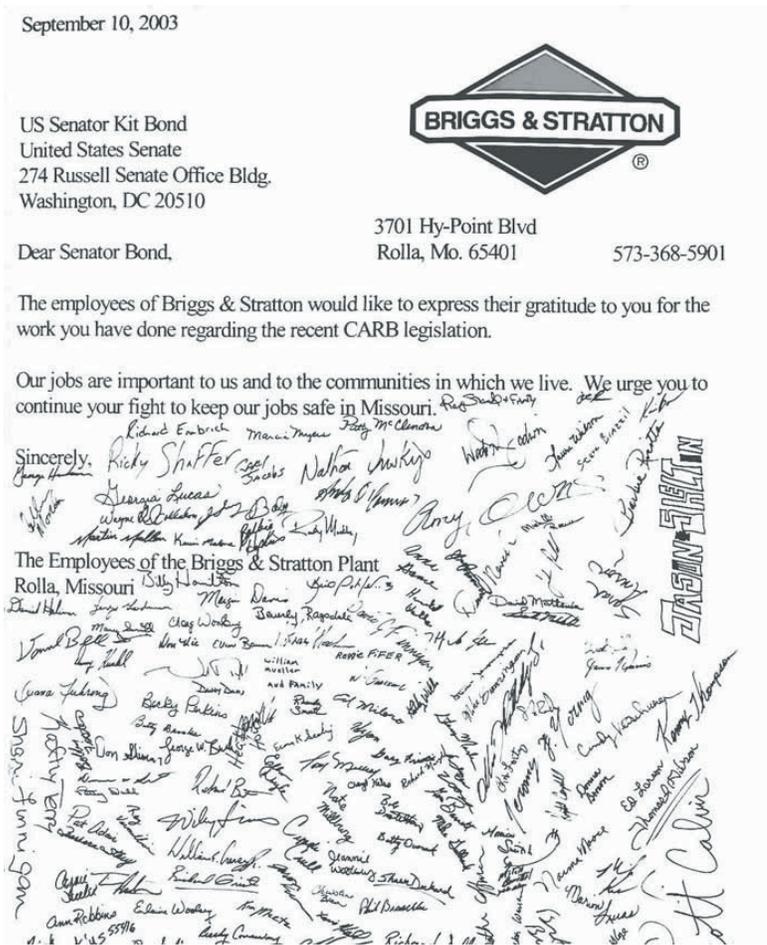


While touring the Briggs and Stratton plant at Rolla, Senator Bond visits with employees about the production of engines in Missouri which are used world-wide to power lawn and garden equipment.

Next Steps

Congress must ensure that EPA enforces the Bond provision to ensure that California's job killing regulations do not travel to other states, that EPA properly reviews the safety of California's regulations, and that EPA's new nationwide regulations protect jobs and the environment. Bond will ensure that Congress is diligent in its oversight responsibility so that Missouri jobs, public safety and the environment are all protected.

This was always about the workers and their jobs. Big companies can find a way to move on, but job loss is devastating to their workers and families. I just could not let hard-working Missourians lose their jobs.
- Senator Kit Bond



Chapter 2

Improving Our Cities and Communities

Regional differences in Missouri add to the state's richness and diversity. Whether the need is rehabilitating blighted neighbourhoods, modernizing highways, or improving health care, Senator Bond has used his position on the Senate Appropriations Committee to direct Missouri's fair share of federal funds to the areas of greatest need and greatest community impact in all regions of the state.

St. Louis Region

Urban Development

The City of St. Louis is now witnessing revitalization in areas once given up as lost. Over the past 17 years Senator Bond has played a key role in working with the City of St. Louis to bring federal dollars back to the area as an investment for the future. As Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Housing and Urban Development, Bond is in a key position to assist St. Louis in revitalizing a once-vibrant downtown.

Washington Avenue - Bond secured \$4 million for revitalization construction on Washington Avenue in the loft district.

Old Post Office - Bond secured \$2.5 million in stop-gap funding for the Old Post Office in downtown St. Louis. Bond also worked with the National Park Service, the City of St. Louis, the State of Missouri, Downtown Now!, St. Louis 2004, and local developers, to remove bureaucratic obstacles to re-development. Their combined efforts were instrumental in the goal of ridding urban blight from the heart of downtown St. Louis.

Life Sciences

As discussed more fully in Chapter 1, Missouri is home to a biotechnology corridor from St. Louis to Columbia and beyond. Biotechnology promises a bright economic future for the region and the state. In particular, Bond has won the following appropriations for biotechnology research in St. Louis:

- \$4 million for the greenhouse at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center and nearby expanded wet lab space;
- \$7 million for research facilities at Missouri Botanical Garden;
- \$2.9 million EDA funds for CORTEX, a life sciences group comprised of local civic, educational, medical, financial and political leaders for laboratory space for business incubation.



Senator Bond behind the controls of a Bobcat at the ground breaking for Washington Avenue construction.

Transportation

Mississippi River Bridge - Senator Bond asked leading members of the St. Louis community to prioritize their transportation needs. Their top priority was a new bridge across the Mississippi River. Given the massive volume of traffic local and cross-country - that converges at St. Louis to cross the Mississippi River, Senator Bond saw this request as both a regional and national priority, and was able to earmark \$50 million as a national priority in the highway reauthorization bill.



Bond announces transportation funding for the St. Louis region.

Bus and Light Rail - Westward growth of the greater metropolitan area has created many job opportunities in the region and a demand for workers. Potential workers from in and around the core urban area, however, often lack transportation to commute to those jobs. A modern, efficient mass-transit system, therefore, is vital to the St. Louis region. Senator Bond appreciates and supports the role that mass transit plays in the region's economy and its positive impact on the environment. Through his position on the Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, he has secured tens of millions of dollars in funding for MetroLink, including \$3.3 million for the St. Clair Metrolink extension in 2003, and over \$15 million in Metro funding requests for buses, an intermodal center, operations and other facilities.

As the region grows and expands, so do its levels of congestion and lost productivity due to traffic.

Metrolink can offer a real advantage to ease some of the burdens this growth places on our aging transportation infrastructure.

Health

Lead Removal - As discussed more extensively in Chapter 5, Senator Bond has been a warrior in the battle to keep children safe from the hazards of lead paint in St. Louis and other major cities. On learning that nearly one-third of St. Louis children suffer from lead poisoning, Bond created and funded a new initiative sending \$50 million for lead abatement in cities with the worst lead-paint problems, including \$2.6 million for St. Louis.

Bond has pledged to deliver an additional \$15 million over 3 years to clean up houses contaminated by lead paint and has challenged St. Louis to end lead paint poisoning by 2010.

Community Health Centers - Community Health Centers play a critical role in providing health care to the underserved in St. Louis. Bond won \$400,000 in 2004 for Peoples Health Center to renovate their facility and expand services. He also secured \$500,000 for construction of the Family Care Health Center in south St. Louis in 2001.

St. Louis University School of Public Health - In 1999, Saint Louis University established the second bioterrorism center in the country with the help of \$1 million provided by Senator Bond in the Labor/HHS appropriations bill. Bond has supported the Center for the Study of Bioterrorism and Emerging Infections with additional earmarks in subsequent years totaling \$2.8 million.

In the aftermath of the September 11th and anthrax attacks, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) turned to the Saint Louis Center for the Study of Bioterrorism for assistance and educational materials. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist used the materials prepared by the Center on his website during the anthrax scare in 2001.

Saint Louis University has continued its leadership role in the area of terrorism and preparedness and is currently conducting research on biological agents, including smallpox and monkeypox, which is vital to the protection of our military personnel and the public.

Housing

Hope VI Grants - Deteriorated high-rise public housing projects such as Vaughn and Darst-Webbe forced residents to live in substandard housing and became a breeding ground for crime and drug abuse. As a result, the surrounding communities were distressed, without economic development or any realistic hope of revitalization. Legal and cost requirements prevented St. Louis and other large cities from demolishing and replacing almost any public housing stock, even units that were uninhabitable. In particular, no units could be eliminated without a one-for-one hard unit replacement of all the housing units slated for demolition.

Senator Bond successfully convinced his colleagues to include a provision in the *National Affordable Housing Act of 1990* that would replace Pruitt-Igoe in St. Louis with both vouchers and hard units. Through this and subsequent actions, Bond became the “father” of the Hope VI housing program, which has been very successful in developing mixed-income housing and thereby transforming many distressed communities into revitalized neighborhoods with new jobs and economic investment.

In Hope VI developments, per capita income has risen, violent crime has declined, and fewer families are receiving public assistance.

Thanks to Bond’s efforts, the following communities have benefited from millions of dollars in Hope VI demolition and revitalization grants: Darst-Webbe; Carbane Court; Webbe Elderly; Cochran Gardens; Vaughn Elderly; Blumeyer Family; and Euclid Plaza Family.

HUD Neighborhood Initiative Grants - Senator Bond secured two grants totaling nearly \$1.5 million to help construct a new mixed-income, affordable housing project in the Central West End area of St. Louis to replace affordable housing units lost at the recently-demolished Boulevard Apartments project. The new project, “Laclede and Sarah,” is being developed by Urban Strategies, a local nonprofit. Urban Strategies has acquired land to develop the new project and plans to construct a new 82-unit project, with no less than 35 units designated for low-income residents. This ‘state of the art’ new project will be located in a mixed-income neighborhood close to amenities such as the Barnes Jewish Hospital and retail, making it a model of affordable mixed-income housing for disabled people in the St. Louis area.

Nearly 7 years ago, Senator Bond visited the McRee Town section of St. Louis and found the conditions to be horrific: crime, dilapidated structures, and unsafe living conditions. In 1999, he secured \$2.8 million in federal funding to assist in the rejuvenation of McRee Town. In 2004, Bond joined local civic leaders and elected officials in breaking ground on the new Botanical Heights development in McRee Town.

Education

Parents as Teachers National Center - St. Louis is home to the Parents as Teachers National Center, headquarters for the premier early-childhood and parent-education program in the country. Senator Bond has secured \$4 million for the National Center to expand services to parents and children. Last year he secured \$400,000 in federal funds to revise and update the Parents as Teachers’ Born-to-Learn curriculum.

Throughout his career as a public servant Senator Bond has been a strong advocate for children in Missouri and America. As Governor of Missouri he took Parents as Teachers statewide in 1984: a program that has now benefited families and children across the state for more than 20 years and last year served some 400,000 children in all fifty states and five countries outside the U.S. Whether he is in Jefferson City or Washington D.C., Senator Bond always has children's interests at heart!

- Sue Stepleton, President and CEO,
Parents as Teachers National Center

Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center - The Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center has served families and children in need in St. Louis for more than a century. A longtime supporter of the Center, Bond secured \$750,000 in 2004 for the Center to expand its early-childhood-education programs, including Parents as Teachers.

St. Charles

Lewis and Clark Expedition Center - St. Charles is one of the few precise locations known to have hosted a Lewis and Clark encampment at the beginning of their epic expedition through the American West. In May of 1804, Merriwether Lewis and William Clark met at St. Charles and spent five days preparing for their journey up the Missouri River. With the help of approximately \$1 million in federal funds secured by Senator Bond in 2001 and 2002, St. Charles has erected the Lewis and Clark Expedition Center, housing a museum, authentic replicas of the boats Lewis and Clark

used to travel on the Missouri, and an education center for visitors to engage in hands-on learning about the expeditions, the Missouri River ecosystem and St. Charles' important role in American history.

Page Avenue Extension - Earlier this year Senator Bond was proud to stand on the newly-opened Page Avenue Extension, the culmination of over 30 years of work to bring a much-needed road to St. Charles County. Through the years Bond has worked tirelessly to provide the federal funding necessary to complete the Page Avenue Extension.

Aiding the Francis Howell School District - Francis Howell North High School was faced with closing down its sewage lagoon and being required to build a traditional pump station that would feed sewage to the main line several miles away. Bond secured \$200,000 in funding for Duckett Creek to build the first membrane technology waste treatment plant in Missouri at the school.

This technology, while more common in Japan and some European countries, is almost unheard of in the United States. Unsolicited engineers' estimates to Francis Howell had placed the remediation costs anywhere between approximately \$600,000 and \$800,000. With Bond's appropriation, Francis Howell was able to contract the project through Duckett Creek for \$325,000 - a substantial savings to the school and a boon to the environment since water is returned to rivers cleaner than when it came out.



Senator Bond and community leaders break ground for the Botanical Heights development in McRee Town.

Kansas City Region

As a result of his efforts on behalf of the Kansas City region, Senator Bond received the Urban League of Greater Kansas City's prestigious *William H. Clark Difference Maker of the Decade* award in 2003. Bond is

the only person to be given this award to date other than William H. Clark.

Health Care

Community Health Centers - Senator Bond led a decade-long effort in the Senate to double the number of patients who have access to quality, affordable, and accessible health services delivered through our nation's community health centers. He secured \$4 million for expansion of local healthcare services at the Samuel U. Rogers Community Health Center and Swope Parkway Health Center in Kansas City's urban core. The additional funding has enabled the local CHC's to expand much-needed clinical space and rehabilitative services. The Samuel U. Rogers CHC has been able to expand its services to Lafayette County through a satellite clinic.

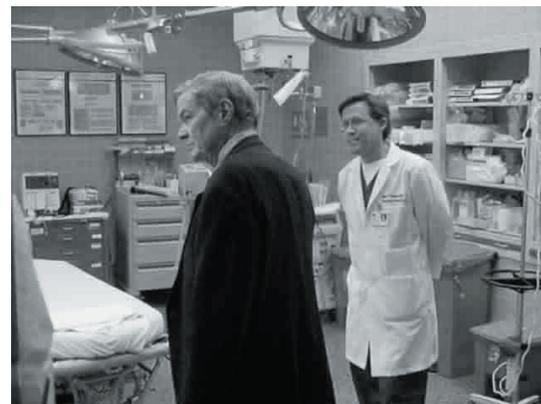


Senator Bond joins local leaders at the Veterans Memorial Bridge ribbon cutting ceremony.

Truman Medical Center/Trauma Unit Expansion - Truman Medical Center is home to one of the busiest trauma centers in Missouri, providing critical care to the less fortunate. Bond secured \$1 million in 2003 to modernize the current Trauma Center and expand the emergency department from 27 beds to 52 beds.

Cabot Westside Clinic - Bond won \$750,000 in 2003 to continue the construction of a new clinic. Cabot Westside provides the predominantly Hispanic population in its neighborhood with medical and dental services, including bilingual services, to all who are in need, regardless of income.

Robert Courtney Case - Robert Courtney, a Kansas City pharmacist, was sentenced to 30 years in prison for adulterating, misbranding and tampering with chemotherapy drugs. His diluted medications were supplied to area doctors to treat thousands of cancer and AIDS patients in the Kansas City region. These drugs were diluted to less than one half the strength ordered by doctors, rendering the drugs in some instances completely ineffective. Law enforcement officials estimate that in a span of ten years Courtney diluted over 98,000 prescriptions for more than 4,200 patients.



Senator Bond tours the newly renovated trauma unit at Kansas City's Truman Medical Center.

To prevent future horror stories like this one, Bond took action. Following meetings with the Food and Drug Administration, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy and local doctors to examine and discuss ways to ensure the sufficient quality of compounded medication, Bond championed federal review of the Robert Courtney case and improved regulatory oversight. He chaired a Health, Education, Labor and Pension (HELP) Committee hearing in Washington to examine ways to ensure that patients receive accurate dosages of compounded drugs. He also advocated a proposal to implement random testing of compounded drugs as part of the state inspection process, which was ultimately adopted by Missouri.

Veterans Administration Hospital - As discussed more extensively in Chapter 7, Senator Bond demanded an investigation of the Kansas City VA Hospital because of disturbing reports of unsanitary conditions. This resulted in a \$10 million improvement and modernization of the hospital, and an investigation of hospital management.



Senator Bond visits with children at the Guadalupe Center.

Education

Guadalupe Center Early Childhood Education Project - Senator Bond understands the importance of all children entering school ready to learn. He secured \$500,000 for the Guadalupe Center to establish much-needed education programs for Latino children within the Westside community in Kansas City for early school success. Plaza del Ninos provides key educational resources to children who come from families for whom English is a second language.

Senator Bond has never wavered with his commitment to our community.

- Chris Medina Executive Director, Guadalupe Center

Partnership for Children - Senator Bond won \$1 million for the Partnership for Children to deliver before- and after-school structured programs in Kansas City, Missouri. Children from low-income families will have the opportunity to be a part of an educational, safe environment while their parents are working.

Parents as Teachers - Senator Bond secured \$500,000 to purchase state-of-the-art technology and equipment for the new Parents as Teachers and Early Childhood Development Facility in Lee's Summit.

Economic Development

IRS Service Center/Old Post Office The Old Main Post Office near the heart of downtown Kansas City has been semi-vacant since 1999. To revitalize this area and generate strong economic growth, Bond shepherded a plan through Congress to relocate 6,000 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) workers to the facility and open a new IRS Service Center, widely recognized as one of the largest economic development projects in the city's history. The Senator also worked to obtain a necessary sign-off from the White House's Office of Management and Budget. \$300 million will be spent to redevelop the 70-year old Old Main Post Office and construct three adjacent office annexes to the west of the building.

"This is an extremely important and exciting project for the future of Kansas City. It has the potential to serve as an economic engine that powers Kansas City's economy for decades."

- Senator Kit Bond

University of Missouri-Kansas City Cardiovascular Proteomics Center - Bond secured \$3.6 million over two years for UMKC to develop a unique environment for biomedical research, fostering interdisciplinary teamwork. Research conducted here will have important applications in deterring, diagnosing and curing cardiovascular diseases.

Transportation

Kansas City Area Transportation Authority (KCATA) - Senator Bond has been a longtime champion for public transit needs in Kansas City and across Missouri. Over the past six years, he has secured \$20 million to upgrade buses and radio equipment to improve efficiency of service and improve the quality of life for local residents. Additionally, Bond has led efforts to implement the new Bus Rapid Transit program for downtown Kansas City.

Senator Bond also secured key resources for KCATA's 29th and Troost transit and early-learning center. This new transit and early-learning center combines public-transit services with early-learning programs for children,

giving working parents access to day care and education programs for their children.

Chouteau Bridge - Located in an important industrial part of Kansas City, the Chouteau Bridge has always been a major transportation link. Originally constructed in 1887, the old Chouteau Bridge became a narrow, unsafe two-lane roadway. The need for additional cross-river traffic capacity also threatened the continuing growth of the city. Senator Bond led efforts in the Senate to secure \$11 million for construction of the new Chouteau Bridge in Kansas City, which opened in 2001.



Senator Bond joins federal, state and local officials to break ground for Kansas City's new IRS Service Center.

Grandview Triangle - Well known as the Kansas City region's worst highway intersection in terms of congestion, delays and accidents, the Grandview Triangle has been a top priority for highway officials for years. Senator Bond led efforts to secure federal resources needed to redesign and construct the Grandview Triangle. Bond understands the importance of a safe, reliable transportation system and its impact on Missouri's economy. In Kansas City, that starts with a completely redesigned intersection, now projected to be complete in 2008.

71- Highway/Bruce Watkins Expressway - Bond supported the expansion of the 71-Highway/Bruce R. Watkins Expressway which used \$220 million in federal money and was completed in October 2001.

Housing

Palestine Senior Citizens Center Assisted Living Project - Bond secured \$1 million to construct an additional 75-unit assisted-living facility within the urban core of Kansas City. The facility will offer counseling, therapeutic and food services for the residents, who are otherwise able to live independently.

Revitalization of Urban Neighborhoods - Senator Bond has led numerous efforts to improve local neighborhoods. He has secured resources for Beacon Hill, Union Hill, Columbus Park, Mt. Cleveland Heights, Blue Hills, Blue Parkway Town District and the Vine Street Manor to renovate and construct residential units and neighborhood retail space, and to create environmental and economic enhancement and stability in the area.

Hope VI Grants - Guinotte Manor, Theron B. Watkins, and Heritage House, Kansas City's public housing developments, all received Hope VI revitalization grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development at Senator Bond's request.

Southwest Missouri

Water Quality

A burgeoning population has put a heavy strain on water resources in Southwest Missouri. Water quality is vitally important to ensure that this region's treasured streams and lakes remain crystal clear. Senator Bond has secured more than \$19 million in funding for upgrades at wastewater plants in the Southwest communities of Springfield, Joplin, Monett and Lebanon. These upgrades include equipment that removes phosphorous and other nutrients from wastewater which is being discharged into the watershed.

With the Senator's assistance, millions of dollars flow to water quality research and demonstration projects through the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Table Rock Lake Water Quality group, James River Basin Partnership, and the Upper White River Basin Partnership.

As a result of these efforts, Table Rock Lake is clearer than it has been in years and point-source pollution is trending lower. (See Chapter 4 for more details)

Transportation

Transportation issues are not just about concrete, asphalt, steel, or even convenience; they are about the vitality of a community; they are about life and death. That is why Senator Bond has spent his Senate career fighting for more highway improvement dollars for Missouri.

Highway 65 - With the ribbon cutting on the final phase of Highway 65 expansion from Springfield to Branson in 2001, Bond saw the completion of a project that has become a vital link for Southwest Missouri's economy. Bond's work on Highway 65 continues as he focuses on key improvements to the I-44/Highway 65 interchange.

Highway 71 - For years Bond has pushed for improvements to Highway 71. The need for improvements has strained employment and business in the communities surrounding this corridor. The traffic growth on Highway 71 has grown significantly, yet funding levels, until recently, have remained stagnant. Bond has secured more than \$31 million that is being used to widen Highway 71 to four lanes and add a number of safety elements, such as bridge grading and new interchanges.

Springfield-Branson Regional Airport - In 1998 Bond was able to secure \$3.75 million to help fund the Springfield-Branson Regional Airport's one-of-a-kind intermodal-transfer facility. Since then more than \$34 million in federal funding has been secured for a variety of other airport initiatives like runway improvements and the design of the mid-field air terminal, making this the largest federal financial commitment in this airport's history. This new terminal building will be a reality in just a few short years, providing space for the more than one million passengers a year who will use this airport by the middle of the decade.

Economic Development



Joined by his wife, Linda, Senator Bond meets with board members of Springfield's Bartley-Decatur Neighborhood Center.

Jordan Valley Park - Economic development and growth in Southwest Missouri has been a centerpiece of Senator Bond's work. Jordan Valley Park has been a successful engine for economic growth in the Springfield area. At the urging of top city and regional leaders, Bond has directed millions in federal funding to the Jordan Valley Park project in recent years. The Park shows the strength of project partnerships between all levels of government and private developers. It is apparent from the Park's recent progress that it will continue to be a center for economic development and job growth for decades to come.

Industrial Park Infrastructure - Bond has also helped the Southwest Missouri communities of Sparta, Monett, and Joplin keep pace with the rapid population growth and expand job opportunities by making additional investments in local industrial

park infrastructure. With additional investment in infrastructure Bond has helped to keep the State's growth engine humming and create new jobs for the region. This is a vital investment for communities that allows for increased expansion, increased growth, and additional jobs with better pay.

Children and Education

Bond has left his mark on future generations by securing funding for programs like Springfield's Discovery Center, Carver National Monument, the Ronald McDonald Tooth Truck and the Valley Mill Watershed Education and Demonstration Center. The Discovery Center is expanding its facility and providing more educational opportunities for children throughout Southwest Missouri. Carver National Monument is expanding its visitors' center and educational facilities to help bring a love of science and math to the next generation. The funds Bond secured for the Valley Mill Watershed Education and Demonstration Center will be used to help demonstrate watershed science and improved watershed management techniques for students, water professionals and the public.

We're gratified to hear of this announcement and deeply indebted to Senator Bond for his unending determination to make this clinic a reality.

- Harold Bengsch, former director, Springfield/Greene County Health Department, commenting on the Jordan Valley Community Health Center funding announcement.

Bond is also working with the Bartley-Decatur Neighborhood Center to preserve the old manor house at 918 Calhoun, formerly home to a nursing home, a family center, and Kiddie Kove Daycare, to make it again a place of community service.

Health Care

For thousands of Southwest Missourians access to good medical, dental and mental health care is a real problem, whether it is due to lack of insurance, insufficient out-of-pocket funds, or simply not enough health-care providers in the community. Community Health Centers fill this void, providing proven high-quality care at a low cost.

Over the last several years Bond has secured funding to establish and expand six community health centers in the medically-underserved areas of Anderson, Joplin, Cassville, Springfield, Ava and West Plains.

George Washington Carver National Monument

Senator Bond secured \$2.3 million for the George Washington Carver National Monument to expand the currently inadequate visitor's center at the George Washington Carver National Historic Site, providing better educational opportunities for Missourians to learn about the African-American educator, botanist, chemist and farmer from Diamond, Missouri.

Southeast Missouri Region

Transportation and Economic Development

Southeast Missouri Transportation Services (SMTS) - More than 8,000 people depend on SMTS for access to medical, nutrition, business, shopping, education and employment opportunities. Many of these people are older, disabled, or low income individuals who would be stranded in their homes without reliable transportation.

If it weren't for the efforts of Senator Bond acquiring funding for SMTS to provide transportation services to the region, it wouldn't be possible for me to visit my husband who is now in a nursing home.

- Mrs. Shirley Eye, resident of Meramec region served by SMTS.

Over the last six years, the safety, dependability, comfort, efficiency and effectiveness of passenger service has been advanced through Senator Bond's leadership. Bond has secured \$2.8 million for 80 new 12-passenger vans, many now wheelchair accessible.

Bond also secured \$1.25 million for SMTS to purchase and equip a Central Garage and Safety Center in Fredericktown.

As a result of the new funding, SMTS now employs more than 100 people, and purchases more than \$1 million in goods and services from local businesses. The estimated economic impact of SMTS on Southeast Missouri: over \$10,000,000 annually.

Regional Ports - The regional ports in southeast Missouri continue to be an integral part of transportation for the region's agri-business industry, shipping over eight million tons of commodities over the last five years. Much of this commerce is made possible by Senator Bond's efforts to provide funding for annual maintenance, ensuring that the ports, which he helped establish as Governor, are open to navigation year-round.

Highways - Since 1999, Bond has secured federal funding and special earmarks totaling well over \$200 million for the Southeast Region for high-priority projects like Highway 60, Highway 67 and the new Bill Emerson Memorial Bridge. These projects will benefit commerce immensely in the region and more important, prevent countless numbers of accidents along these key routes.

Industrial Park Infrastructure - Senator Bond is working with Bonne Terre and Potosi to help these communities develop the infrastructure to allow new and expanding businesses in the region locate in new industrial parks.

Veterans Health Care

Southeast Missouri is home to 60,000 veterans. Particularly in rural areas, it is difficult to access care. Bond secured funding for new Veterans Community-Based Outreach Clinics (CBOC) in West Plains, Farmington, Cape Girardeau and a part-time clinic in Salem, all administered by the John J. Pershing Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) in Poplar Bluff. By 2003, these clinics served nearly 27,000 veterans.

As chairman of the appropriations subcommittee that funds veterans programs, Bond has been instrumental in the Pershing VAMC establishing a home-telehealth network that will allow veterans served by community clinics to be monitored by VAMC staff using sophisticated monitoring equipment in their homes without traveling to a clinic or John Pershing VAMC.

Bond remains committed to rural health care by working to establish new CBOC's in Missouri and expansion of more health services at existing CBOC sites.

Education and Research

University of Missouri Delta Center - Agriculture research being conducted at the University of Missouri Delta Center in Portageville remains paramount to keeping Missouri and our nation's farmers at the forefront



A young visitor to the Bootheel Youth Museum and Senator Bond go grocery shopping at one of the Museum's learning stations.

“Without Senator Bond’s assistance we would have faced a real void in the completion of our School of Polytechnic Studies. Thanks to the efforts of Senator Bond, Southeast has one of finest state-of-the-art industrial and engineering technology facilities in the heartland of America.”

- Dr. Randy Shaw, Dean

of agriculture production. Bond has acquired federal fund for cutting-edge research at the Delta Center which has led to breeding conventional and Roundup Ready soybeans for food, which are stress and flood tolerant and resistant to nematodes and diseases. Bond has also supported Delta Center research on plant pathology, soil fertility, variety testing, weed science, entomology and irrigation research.

Bond also acquired special federal funding to assist in building the Southern Telecommunications Center

which allows the Delta Center to conduct tele-education courses.

NASA Education Resource Centers - Southeast Missouri State University is building a network of NASA Education Resource Centers (ERC) to assist K-12 teachers statewide in math and science education enhancement. Senator Bond acquired funding to establish the statewide network through a \$2 million earmark. Working with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the ERC provides Resource Agents in St. Louis, Kansas City, Kirksville, Columbia and Springfield. Teachers report that this educational resource has had a positive impact on K -12 science, math, and technology education. Bond acquired funding to run the program through 2007.

Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) School of Polytechnic Studies - Recognizing the importance of Polytechnic programs Senator Bond sought and acquired \$2 million in federal funding to purchase state-of-the-art equipment essential for SEMO’s Industrial and Engineering Technology program. The Polytechnic building provides students and faculty the finest classrooms, laboratories and equipment in an ergonomic setting designed to promote student learning.

Bootheel Youth Museum - Bond won \$250,000 to expand the museum’s programs, giving children in this region the opportunity to explore through hands-on experience the worlds of math, science, human relations, natural resources and the arts.

“Thousands upon thousands of young people have been inspired by visiting the Bootheel Youth Museum. When our volunteers were looking to augment the opportunity to enrich other children’s educational experiences by expanding the BYM, yet lacked necessary resources, Senator Bond was there and found the federal resources that made it possible for BYM to enlarge. Children of the Delta Regional Authority, one of the poorest regions of our nation, will benefit greatly because of Senator Bond’s efforts.”

- Patsy Rueben, BYM Director

Mid-Missouri Region

Life Sciences/Education

University of Missouri/Columbia – As discussed more extensively in Chapter 1, Senator Bond is working with partners in the state to make Missouri a national leader in life sciences research. The University has a strong research program with highly-reputable scientists making ground-breaking discoveries in the field. Because this is a state and national priority, Bond has been instrumental in

Simply put, Senator Bond is the father of life sciences in Missouri and as a direct result of his leadership in this area, a tremendous number of scientific, human health and economic advances will be realized.

- Dale Ludwig, Executive Director, Missouri Soybean Association

directing funds to the University of Missouri to expand all Life Science programs at the University, including \$31 million for MU's Life Sciences Center and \$140 million for related research and programs.

University of Missouri Rolla (UMR) - Senator Bond has secured over \$51 million in funds to UMR for various research projects in the past 6 years, including:

- *Obscurant Smoke* - UMR scientists have developed a soybean-oil-based obscurant oil with better obscurant characteristics than current petroleum based materials, but without potentially harmful chemicals. This new, environmentally-friendly technology will create an advantage for our soldiers by obscuring the battlefield of the future.
- *Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center* - Building on Missouri's rich aerospace tradition, and UMR's proven research and education in aerospace, this new Center will focus on development of new materials and manufacturing systems for the aerospace industry.
- *University Transportation Center* - UMR is nationally recognized in civil, materials, and other engineering fields which advance transportation technology. Senator Bond is working to designate UMR as one of 13 centers in the nation with Department of Transportation recognition.

Economic Development

Advanced Technology Center (ATC), Mexico - Mexico's ATC is a cooperative effort by the City of Mexico, industry, and area higher education institutions to provide vocational and technical training to Missouri's work force. Bond secured a \$1 million Department of Education grant for the ATC to buy top-of-the-line equipment and another \$450,000 grant to expand the facility in 2003.

North Central Regional Water Supply - Bond secured \$500,000 for engineering and other preliminary studies to design a reservoir for the North Central region. Many of the communities in the area have a great need for an additional source of water.

Columbia Life Sciences Incubator - The next step in making Missouri a biotechnology and life sciences leader is translating the new science to applications and technologies that will benefit people. To help build the economic engine to capitalize on new life-science technologies, Bond supports the Columbia Life Sciences Incubator, which will provide the laboratory space and business knowledge necessary to move research from the laboratory to the marketplace.

Health Care

Truman VA - Bond secured \$15.1 million for the construction of an Outpatient Ambulatory Care Facility. He also won \$3.7 million for a medical lab and \$2.5 million for equipment for the lab. This facility will allow the Truman VA to serve the veterans in the Mid-Missouri region and better expand research opportunities with the University's Life Sciences discipline.

VA Community-Based Outreach Clinics (CBOC) - Veterans in rural areas often find it difficult to access health care services. As chairman of the appropriations subcommittee that funds veterans programs, Bond has secured funding for new veterans' outreach clinics in Kirksville, Mexico, St. James, and Lake of the Ozarks.

Transportation

Highway 63 - Senator Bond was instrumental in obtaining more than \$31 million in federal funds to expand Highway 63 to four lanes from Columbia to Moberly. This project has addressed many safety concerns along this route, preventing countless accidents, and has expanded commerce in the Moberly and Macon area.

Hermann Bridge - Senator Bond has won \$14 million in federal funds for the construction of a new bridge over the Missouri River near Hermann. The current bridge is extremely narrow, unsafe for two-lane traffic.

OATS - Senator Bond has continued to direct federal funds to aid the Older Adult Transportation Service. OATS provides safe travel to and from many rural locations so that older adults who cannot drive have access to their doctor, grocery stores and other places.

Highway 63/I-70 Interchange - Bond secured \$11 million in funding for improvements to this dangerous, congested interchange in Columbia, Missouri.

Northwest Missouri Region

Economic Development

Community Revitalization - Senator Bond has worked with Maryville, Carrollton, Chillicothe, Marceline and Moberly to help these rural communities revitalize the aging infrastructure in their downtown areas to attract new and expanding businesses to the region.

Ethanol - As discussed more fully in Chapter 3, Bond supports programs and policies to increase use of renewable fuels, including ethanol and bio-diesel, and has worked with farmers in Holt, Macon and other counties to develop new ethanol plants.

Northwest Missouri Regional Airport - Senator Bond secured \$500,000 in 2004 for the construction of a new airport terminal hanger facility to replace the aging and inadequate facility. The new terminal will provide more office space and space for Northwest Missouri State University to house educational instruction, and will stimulate economic activity and growth for Northwest Missouri.

Trenton Senior Housing - In 2001, Senator Bond secured \$200,000 to renovate the historic Plaza Hotel, built in the 1920s, in Trenton. This site now serves as an affordable housing facility for seniors in Trenton.

City of St. Joseph

Senator Bond understands the importance of critical infrastructure in the retention and recruitment of business in St. Joe. He won federal resources to upgrade and improve the riverfront, downtown infrastructure, sewer system, and public transit. Bond has also been a key supporter of the 139th Air Lift Wing stationed at Rosecrans airport.

Buchanan County Law Enforcement - The dated communications system used by St. Joseph and other county first responders did not meet the needs of the growing population within Buchanan County. In 2004, Bond won \$1 million to replace the communications system, leading the way for first responders to have instant and immediate access to data to serve the community.

Chapter 3

Agriculture and Rural Development

*C*ultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous, and they are tied to their country and wedded to its liberty and interests by the most lasting bonds. —Thomas Jefferson

Missouri's economy is tied to agriculture with over 100,000 farms, second largest in the U.S. Missouri is a highly diversified agricultural state producing soybeans, corn, pork, cotton, beef, rice, poultry, hay, fruits and vegetables, trees, nursery produce, grapes, and many other products. The agriculture community touches every American and extends far beyond our borders. Farmers are not only remarkable producers, but consumers of inputs which drive their economic importance far beyond the farm gate. While there are nearly 2.2 million farms in the U.S., more than 24 million American workers produce, process, and sell the nation's food and fiber. American consumers pay a lower percentage of their income, 7.1% on food than any other country. U.S. farmers export nearly \$60 billion of product and in the past half century, the number of people fed by a single U.S. farmer has grown from 19 to 129.

Issues that impact agriculture before Congress are as extensive as any other sector of our economy. In recent years, Senator Bond has worked with those in the agriculture community on many issues: transportation, tax policy, farm-income support, research and technology, (discussed in other chapters of this report) as well as trade, flood control, conservation, immigration, crop insurance, farm programs, energy, and others. Bond serves on the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, and Co-Chairs the bipartisan Senate Beef and Soybean Caucuses.

Farm Bill

At Issue

While trade and economic conditions have improved for much of agriculture, weather, world events, and unforeseen issues require that we provide a safety net for our productive capability to ensure that we continue to guarantee the world's safest and most affordable supply of food for our citizens.

Bond Action

In 2002, Senator Bond supported passage of a new Farm Bill with record investments in conservation programs to protect millions of acres of our land and our water and to provide enhanced security for our domestic producers. In response to the remarkable success of cooperative conservation programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, funding for the Conservation Reserve Program, the Wetlands Reserve Program, and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program all received dramatically higher funding and acreage ceilings.

During the economic collapse of the late 1990s coupled with drought and flood conditions, Bond worked in the Senate to help provide emergency supplemental funding to farmers and ranchers. Additionally, Congress

passed landmark new crop-insurance legislation to give farmers additional tools to manage risk that were more effective and less costly.

Renewable Fuels

At Issue

High gas prices and instability in the Middle East serve as reminders that Missouri and the nation need a renewable, environmentally-friendly alternative to fossil fuels to move away from reliance on foreign-produced oil. Increasing the use of renewable fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel diversifies our energy infrastructure, making it less vulnerable to acts of terrorism and increases the number of fuel options available to consumers.

Ethanol and bio-diesel reduce the consumer cost of fuel by extending supplies, providing an alternative to imported oil, and leverage for independent fuel marketers to compete against larger oil companies.

Renewable fuels like ethanol and biodiesel have the added benefit to Missouri of adding value to farmers' products like corn and soybeans and creating jobs.

Missouri now has two ethanol plants in Macon and Craig with a capacity of 60 million gallons and two others under construction at Malta Bend and Laddonia, and another project under development at Malden. There are six E-85 stations in operation which fuel vehicles that burn 85 percent ethanol. Other groups of farmers are also considering building ethanol and soy diesel plants.

Encouraging an environment friendly, renewable fuel is critical to Missouri's economic future.

Bond Action

As one of bio-fuel's strongest advocates, Bond has worked to ensure that home grown, renewable energy opportunities are included in comprehensive energy legislation and relevant tax legislation, such as the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS).

In the last several years, the Senate has debated energy policy many times. Each time, Senator Bond has been a leader in promoting ethanol, authoring pro-ethanol provisions and fending off opposition in the Environment and Public Works Committee and hostile amendments on the Senate floor.

Bond included provisions in the 2002 and 2003 Senate debates over energy efficiency standards to increase biodiesel use in school bus and city bus fleets in major metropolitan areas. Bond also included provisions increasing biodiesel use in the reauthorization of the highway bill.

Senator Bond helped lead the fight for the RFS adopted as part of the energy authorization bill which passed the Senate in 2003. The legislation calls for:

- 2.3 billion gallons of renewable fuel by 2004 or 2005;
- 3.5 billion gallons by 2008;
- 5 billion gallons by 2012.



Senator Bond joins Dale Ludwig of the Missouri Soybean Association to promote the increased use of biodiesel.

The legislation would triple the amount of renewable fuel now used in the United States to about three percent of total transportation fuel supply, replacing about 1.6 billion barrels of foreign oil by 2012. The positive impact on the U.S. economy includes the creation of about 300,000 new jobs and an increase in net farm income of \$6.6 billion per year. Corn farmers may realize an up to 12-cents-per-bushel increase over the next ten years, and soybean farmers will also see benefits as bio-diesel use will increase.

Comprehensive energy legislation that includes additional conservation and domestic energy production provisions has the strong support of the President, the House, and a majority of the Senate; unfortunately it is being held up by a minority of Senators using parliamentary delaying tactics to filibuster it.



Senator Bond encourages use of renewable fuels.

Animal Waste to Power

At Issue

Animal waste from farms threatens the environment and is very costly to manage.

Bond Action

In conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency, scientists, and industry, Senator Bond worked to fund a new demonstration plant in Carthage, Missouri, to take animal waste from local processing plants and transform it to oil that can be refined into gasoline. As Chairman of the VA-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee, Bond directed \$5 million to supplement \$10 million in private funds to construct and to validate this new technology. The new demonstration plant, which uses a novel new thermal-depolymerization technology will process 200 tons of organic material (animal waste) per day benefiting farm producers, the environment, and energy consumers.

“This is a remarkable opportunity to use new technology to turn a troublesome liability - waste - into a valuable asset - renewable energy produced here at home.”

- Senator Kit Bond

Next Steps

Waste lagoons in use at hog production facilities create environmental challenges and smell. Senator Bond is assisting the life-sciences community and pork producers as they work together on promising new technology that turns hog waste into a source of power that can be used to generate electricity. The new technology will reduce the need for waste lagoons, resulting in cleaner, healthier, and more efficient hog production.

Trade

At Issue

Agricultural exports, predicted to be a record \$61.5 billion this fiscal year are critical to the economic health of Missouri farmers. In any given year, between one quarter and one-third of a farmer's production is exported. Nationally, over 40 percent of our cotton, rice, and soybeans, and 20 percent of our corn production are exported,

compared to the average for the overall economy, which is 11 percent.

Total red and poultry meat exports experienced strong annual gains for 16 years through 2001, reaching more than 10 billion pounds valued at \$7.4 billion. According to USDA, each dollar received from agriculture exports stimulates another \$1.47 in supporting non-farm activities. Agriculture exports generated an estimated 740,000 full-time civilian jobs, including 444,000 jobs in the non-farm sector. U.S. agricultural trade has consistently registered a positive trade balance and is the third largest component of overall U.S. merchandise exports. Given that 95 percent of the world population - 95 percent of our potential customers - live outside the U.S., clearly, much future opportunity is linked to trade.

The average U.S. tariff on foreign agriculture products is 12 percent while the average foreign tariff on U.S. agriculture exports is 62 percent. This is clearly not a level playing field and it is unfair, but it represents a dramatic opportunity to provide new access for our exporters through international agreements. The key is that the agreements be fair and enforced. Negotiating market access is important, but not enough. Enforcement is critical.

Bond Action

Senator Bond has been supportive of efforts to broaden market access for U.S. producers generally and has worked with the Administration and directly with foreign officials on specific issues. In recent years, “non-tariff” trade barriers have emerged that frustrate America’s ability to export products. Typically, those relate to unsubstantiated health claims in direct contradiction to the findings of health experts at the Food and Drug Administration and other scientific regulatory offices. Bond and others successfully worked through issues the Russian government raised with respect to poultry exports and the Chinese with respect to transgenic crops.

In addition to bringing the trade concerns of farmers to trade officials, Bond worked successfully this past fiscal year to increase funding for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative to help employ more manpower focused on enforcement of compliance with trade agreements.

On-Farm Assessment and Environmental Review

At Issue

Farmers have always been excellent stewards of the land and water, but new challenges and demanding new regulations have placed many burdens and great uncertainty on producers struggling to make ends meet.

Bond Action

The “OFAER” program provides independent, third-party, on-farm environmental assessments designed to help livestock and poultry producers identify, understand, and, if necessary address environmental concerns.

First funded by Senator Bond through the Environmental Protection Agency six years ago, this voluntary program has resulted in over 4,700 reviews including almost 400 in Missouri. This new program gets the producer started by providing them an assessment of the problems, if any, and options to address those problems. Of the farms sampled during the follow-up process, over 88 percent had voluntarily addressed one or more of the challenges found on-site by OFAER Assessors.

As a result of his work to improve agriculture, Senator Bond earned the American Farm Bureau Federation's prestigious Distinguished Service Award in 2004, the highest honor awarded by the organization. According to the Farm Bureau, "AFBF's Distinguished Service Award is presented to individuals who have devoted their entire careers to serving farming and ranching and who continue to display a concern for the agricultural industry."

Chapter 4

Conserving Our Natural Heritage

Senator Bond is a sixth-generation Missourian, born in St. Louis in 1939. He grew up in Mexico, Missouri, where he still lives and tends to several groves of chestnut, walnut and ornamental trees he planted by hand. He has walked the land, fished its rivers, and enjoyed its recreation and natural beauty. From the Ozarks to New Madrid, from the Missouri River to the Mississippi through the heart of farm country, Bond is committed to conserving the natural heritage of the state he loves.

Water Resources

At Issue

Missouri has nearly 1,000 miles of Missouri and Mississippi River frontage. Rivers provide fish and wildlife habitat, drinking water, clean and efficient river transportation, cooling capacity for electricity production and other recreational and power generating features. These resources are remarkable assets but can be a great threat such as when flood conditions persist. The tremendous growth of river navigation on the Upper Mississippi means modernization is essential. Balanced use of the rivers is a source of constant debate and heated struggle between various regions of the watershed. Historic flood events of 1993 reminded us all of the significance of water-related issues as we all worked together to learn the lessons and rebuild.

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Corps of Engineers and chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee that authorizes the Corps activities, Bond is well-positioned to have an impact on river issues. Working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, other Administration officials, our Congressional delegation, stakeholders and other State and local officials, Senator Bond has led the fight to ensure that Missouri citizens receive maximum benefits from these resources.

Bond Action Missouri River

The challenge posed by the Missouri River for Missourians is to prevent upstream states that border the Missouri River from controlling the water to keep their lakes full when Missouri needs it to provide drinking water, power production, and water flows for transportation.

Mother Nature, lawsuits, legislation, administrative proposals, and the inflexibility of the *Endangered Species Act* have posed significant, ongoing challenges.

Bond led the fight to turn back Clinton Administration proposals in the 1990s to implement a 'spring flood' on the lower Missouri when water was high and to reduce releases of water to Missouri late in the summer and fall when water levels were low.

Subsequently, the upstream states and some federal officials resorted to using the leverage of the *Endangered*

Species Act to hold more water behind the dams for the upstream states at the expense of Missouri. Bond is working with Administration officials to find and fund alternative ways to provide fish and wildlife habitat without jeopardizing power production, river transportation, flood control and drinking water.

Next Steps

Implementation of the new Master Manual may be the biggest snag for the Missouri River in the coming years. After more than 12 years, the Corps of Engineers made finishing touches on the Manual in 2004. Noting that the battle will continue, Bond has encouraged river advocates to remind the Administration of the river's importance.

Bond Action Mississippi River

As Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Bond plays the key role in developing the *Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2004*, which addresses comprehensively the nation's water resource needs.

Bond believes modernizing the lock and dam system on the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway is critical to the nation's and Missouri's economic future. The Missouri and Mississippi Rivers are the only arteries to the world marketplace for the Midwest. On the Mississippi River, there are 70-year-old locks that were designed for paddle-wheel boats and intended to last 50 years. As highway and rail traffic continues to increase dramatically alongside trade, the waterways must be modernized to meet future demand and to avoid job loss.

Bond led a bipartisan group of Midwestern Senators in writing legislation to provide transportation efficiency and environmental sustainability on the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, which was approved by the Environment and Public Works Committee in June 2004.



Senator Bond visits Lock and Dam 21 just north of Hannibal.

The legislation authorizes \$1.46 billion for ecosystem restoration twice the federal share of lock capacity expansion authorized on locks 20-25 on the Mississippi River and Peoria and LaGrange on the Illinois.

This comprehensive new legislation will make possible dramatic new efforts to restore natural river processes to a system that is home to 270 species of birds, 57 species of mammals, 45 species of amphibians and reptiles, 113 species of fish and nearly 50 species of mussels in addition to supporting more than 40 percent of migratory waterfowl and shorebird migration.

The new ecosystem restoration includes island building, fish passages, floodplain restoration, back- and side-channel restoration, wing dam and dike modification, use of dredged material for environmental purposes, land acquisition, spillway, dam and levee modification and other water-control features to help improve connectivity between the river and floodplain habitat.

The new 1,200-foot locks on the Mississippi River will provide equal capacity in the bottleneck region below the 1,200 foot lock 19 at Keokuk above locks 26 and 27 near St. Louis. Half the cost of the new locks will be paid for by private users who pay into the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. Additional funds will be provided for mitigation and small scale and nonstructural measures to improve efficiency.

Speaking of the environmental benefits of river transportation, Bond said, “One medium-sized barge tow can carry the freight of 870 trucks. That fact alone speaks volumes about the benefits of water. Would we rather have 870 diesel engines on the roads of downtown St. Louis, or two diesel engines on the water watching the traffic buildup and smog glide by?”

River Ecosystem Restoration

Working with farm organizations and environmental representatives, Senator Bond authorized and funded the *Missouri and Middle Mississippi Habitat Restoration Act*. The Corps, working with the Fish and Wildlife Service, is using new technology and engineering to create over 1,000 acres of island and back-and side-channel shallow water habitat this year.

Bond has also worked with leaders in the basin to provide record funding for the Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Program and the Environmental Management Program on the Mississippi River. On the Environment and Public Works Committee, in 1999, Senator Bond supported modification to the Missouri River legislation to increase the acreage by 118,000 acres. Since that time, more than 25,000 acres of land have been purchased from willing sellers and set aside for fish and wildlife. Easements on another 13,000 acres of existing public lands have been obtained in which mitigation efforts are underway or completed. Currently, over 30 mitigation stages are in various stages of acquisition and development in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska.

Fishable Waters

At Issue

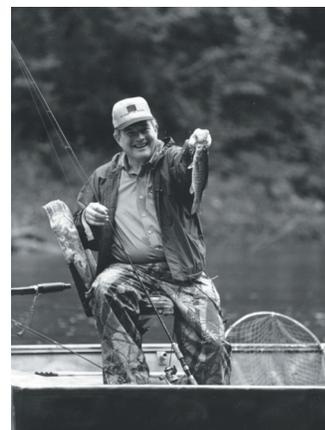
Nearly 40 percent of our nation’s waters cannot support healthy populations of fish.

Bond Action

Believing conservation is best accomplished by local control, federal financial support, cooperation and technology, Senator Bond has introduced legislation in successive Congresses relying on local conservationists to restore fish habitat.

The *Fishable Waters Act* amends the *Clean Water Act* and creates common-sense, voluntary, incentive-based partnerships aimed at restoring degraded watersheds and preserving fish habitat. The *Fishable Waters Act* provides \$325 million for local watershed councils to develop and implement plans to revive their fisheries habitat.

There is bipartisan support for Bond’s legislation in the House and Senate. There is also support from a broad set of stakeholders including the Sportfishing Association, the National Corn Growers Association, Trout Unlimited, and the National Association of State Foresters.



After getting a rare view of the wild horses in Shannon County, Senator Bond takes advantage of being on Ozark National Scenic Riverways to enjoy one of his favorite sports while floating down Jack’s Fork River.

Working for Water Quality - Table Rock Lake

At Issue

Table Rock Lake is a recreational treasure of boating, fishing and vacation living for southwest Missouri and the nation. 745 miles of shoreline provide an idyllic setting for public parks, marinas, hotels, resorts, theme parks, numerous small businesses and private homes.

Once considered one of the cleanest lakes in the United States, Table Rock Lake's water quality has steadily declined in the past decade. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources' water quality studies have shown that the deterioration is primarily due to unregulated wastewater being discharged into the watershed. Without treatment, the environmental and economic interests in the area will continue to be further compromised.

When the lake is not as healthy as it should be, large fish deaths result, algae blooms, and visitors and residents cannot enjoy it. Communities and businesses surrounding the lake risk losing jobs and their livelihoods when people can no longer enjoy the lake and its resources.

The water quality of Table Rock Lake is just as important as Boston Harbor or San Francisco Bay. Small communities like those around Table Rock Lake pay their share of federal taxes to Washington and deserve to have that money put to work for them just like big cities.
- Senator Kit Bond

Bond Action

Believing Table Rock Lake is a treasure we must protect, Senator Bond secured \$2 million in 2001 to test technologies to help homes and businesses not hooked up to treatment plants avoid allowing their wastewater to seep into Table Rock Lake.

In addition to the \$2 million for Table Rock Lake, Bond secured \$6.5 million in funds for fiscal years 1999 and 2000 for phosphorous removal throughout southwest Missouri.

Next Steps

Senator Bond is working with Senator Talent, federal, state and regional water-quality experts to develop a comprehensive approach to improve water quality throughout southwest Missouri. This approach focuses on point and non-point source pollution in every regional watershed, including the White, James, Sac and Elk River watersheds.

Water Quality

At Issue

Some Missouri communities still do not have the clean and safe drinking water their families and businesses need and deserve. From our first drink of water in the morning, many of us take safe drinking water for granted. However, local communities are struggling to keep up with aging water pipes, expanding growth, and more stringent EPA water regulations. The health of our communities and rivers, streams and lakes suffers when we cannot treat our wastewater the way we should. We cannot swim in the water. We cannot fish in the lakes and rivers, and we lose the water resources that make Missouri special.

Bond Action

Missouri Water Funding - Senator Bond has used his position as chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee funding the Environmental Protection Agency to direct millions of dollars each year to Missouri towns

and cities to help them improve water quality. In 2003, Senator Bond also blocked efforts to cut Missouri's share of federal clean-water and safe-drinking-water grants to localities by southwestern states wanting to change the federal funding formula more in their favor.

National Water Funding - Every year, Senator Bond ensures that the federal government sends over \$2 billion in grants to drinking water and wastewater treatment plants across the country. In the last five years, he has sent \$6.75 billion in grants to states to clean up water pollution and \$4.2 billion in grants to states to improve drinking water quality.

Rural Water Quality Funding - Senator Bond always remembers the special contribution and needs of rural communities and water quality. Over the last five years, Senator Bond has directed nearly \$1 billion in federal funds back to states to address non-point source water pollution in the form of run-off from farms or open spaces. Senator Bond provides direct funding to rural water associations to help their members meet clean-water responsibilities and funding for technical assistance to small farms to suggest ways to cut water pollution from their operations.

Next Steps

Senator Bond will continue to use his senior positions on the appropriations and environment committees to protect and enhance Missouri's water resources with federal funding.

Protecting Our Lands

At Issue

While Missouri's lands are a treasure for all who call it home to their families or business, some have not taken care of our lands the way they should. Certain polluted sites bear the legacy of the nuclear-arms race or mistreatment warranting a Superfund designation or lesser Brownfields label. All of these sites must be cleaned up so that they no longer pose a danger to their surrounding communities. All of those who bear responsibility for the damage must be brought to justice and made to clean up and pay for their mess.

Bond Action

Superfund Funding - During Senator Bond's third term, as chair of the Senate appropriations subcommittee that funds the Environmental Protection Agency, he sent over \$6.6 billion to the federal Superfund program to clean up contaminated waste sites. Last year, with these funds EPA was at work on 699 Superfund cleanup projects at 436 different sites. In 2003, to maximize the amount of funds spent on cleanups instead of administrative costs, Senator Bond included language in EPA's funding bill directing the agency to increase the percentage of Superfund funds spent on actual cleanups.

Polluter Pays - Senator Bond strongly supports vigorous Superfund enforcement to ensure that polluters pay for cleanups. Bond believes that those who have polluted our lands deserve to feel the full force of the law to clean up and pay for their mess. Where those responsible for a waste site are missing or out of business, Senator Bond supports federal funding to clean the sites. Over the last five years, Senator Bond has provided over \$700 million for Superfund enforcement to prosecute those responsible for creating Superfund sites and recover the costs of cleanup. Last year, EPA secured over \$1.1 billion in cleanup commitments from private parties.

Brownfields - In 2001, Senator Bond introduced the *Small Business Liability Protection Act* to throw a lifeline to thousands of small business owners threatened by lawsuits under the broken Superfund liability system.

The bill addressed cases where small businesses that contributed very small amounts of waste to a Superfund site were threatened with bankruptcy after receiving bills or settlement offers from EPA for the cost of cleaning the entire site, as was allowed under the law. Bond's bill exempted small businesses from liability if their amounts of waste were too small to have contributed significantly to an average Superfund site and too small for the government to spend time and money on lengthy Superfund litigation. The measure was passed in committee and became law as part of larger Brownfields legislation in 2001.

Weldon Spring - When the 10-year, \$1 billion cleanup of the Weldon Spring nuclear waste site neared completion, there was concern that funds would be insufficient for final cleanup and monitoring. In 2003, Senator Bond obtained language in the Department of Energy funding bill ensuring that the Weldon Spring nuclear waste site received sufficient funds to complete its cleanup.

Protecting Wild Horses

At Issue

Since the Great Depression, wild horses have roamed freely in Southeast Missouri and are a living symbol of Missouri's wilderness heritage. Senator Bond has long protected the horses, beginning in 1990 when he fought the federal plan to round up the herd for relocation and slaughter. In 1996, he and late Congressman Bill Emerson pushed legislation through Congress to protect the herd.

Then in 2000, six of the horses were murdered, sparking outrage across the state.

Bond Action

Following the murders, Bond and Representative Jo Ann Emerson set up a bounty with the Wild Horse League to solicit information leading to the arrests of the individual who killed the horses.

Cooperative efforts by the Shannon County Sheriff, the Missouri Department of Conservation, the U.S. National Park Service, the Prosecuting Attorney's Office of Shannon County, and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri resulted in the arrest of the killer.

For our children and their children, we must ensure these wild horses remain free — living symbols of our own freedom.
- Senator Kit Bond

Following the arrest, donations to the Wild Horse Bounty and Survival Fund were used to protect and sustain the remaining wild horses.

Protecting Forests and Habitat

At Issue

Missouri's and the nation's forests are at high risk for catastrophic wildfire due to the buildup of forest fuels and trees dying from old age and insect infestation. Cleaning and thinning these trees will reduce the risk of wildfire and preserve the pristine nature of our forests for years to come. Further, restoring and preserving essential fish and wildlife habitat will also make forests healthier and will protect the endangered species that live there.

Bond Action

Senator Bond cosponsored and was a leading advocate for H.R. 1904, the *Healthy Forests Restoration Act*. This legislation, signed into law by President Bush in 2003, will expedite the cleanup of Missouri's and the nation's forests to restore them to proper health.

In 2003, Bond secured \$300,000 for a pine tree reforestation program in the Mark Twain National Forest in south-central Missouri. Senator Bond has also been a consistent supporter of funding for voluntary land acquisition for the Big Muddy and Great Rivers National Fish and Wildlife Refuges. Finally, Senator Bond has been a leading advocate in the Senate for increased funding for the State and Tribal Fish and Wildlife Grants Program, the primary funding source for states to use to restore and preserve essential fish and wildlife habitat and conduct species preservation.

Because of his work in this area, Senator Bond received the Teaming with Wildlife Coalition Award from the Teaming with Wildlife Coalition and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in 2004. The Audubon Society of Missouri, the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Conservation Federation of Missouri, the Missouri Prairie Foundation and the Bass Pro Shops thanked Bond for his commitment to wildlife management programs.

SECTION II

Securing Our Families' Futures



Thank you, Senator Bond,
for thinking of us!  - Cardinal Glennon's
KIDS 

Chapter 5

Protecting our Children

Children are one of life's greatest blessings. For parents, they are our greatest responsibility. As parents, we want the best for our children. We want to equip them with the support and the tools they need to grow into happy, healthy, productive adults. Government policies and programs should work hand in hand with parents - the most important influence on a child's life - to secure a child's health and development.

Throughout his career, Senator Bond has worked to develop policies that recognize the value of children and family life. He has been a tireless advocate for early childhood education, children's health, birth defects' prevention, and other policies benefiting children and families.

Bond's work has won recognition from many well-respected advocacy groups, including the March of Dimes; the National Association of Community Health Centers; the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition; the Children's Health Forum; the Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education; and the Scleroderma Foundation.

Parents as Teachers



Senator Bond reads to preschoolers at a Joplin Head Start Center during his Parents as Teachers statewide tour.

At Issue

Children whose parents are involved in their education are more likely to enter school ready to learn and to achieve success once in school.

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is a voluntary early childhood and parent education program designed to help parents maximize their child's language, social and motor skills well before the child enters school.

Studies have shown that PAT children score significantly above national norms on measures of school-related achievement than their non-participating peers, and are less likely to receive remedial reading assistance or to be held back a grade in school.

Despite the proven success of parent-education programs, including Parents as Teachers, too many families still do not have access to important child-development information and health screening which can make a crucial difference in whether or not their child is ready to enter kindergarten.

Bond Action

Twenty years ago, under the leadership of then-Governor Bond, Missouri broke new ground with the enactment of the *Early Childhood Development Act* that took the Parents as Teachers program statewide. Missouri was one of the first states to recognize that early parent education and support can

reap huge benefits not only for children and families but also for schools, communities, and our country.

What began as an experiment in Missouri has expanded to more than 3,000 programs in all 50 states, as well as five foreign countries. To date more than two million families have received the education and support they need to promote their young children's healthy development and prepare them for success in school and life.

This year we celebrate the tremendous accomplishments of the past twenty years and look to a bright future for Parents as Teachers. More families can and must be reached by this life-changing program.

Recognizing this, Senator Bond introduced the *Education Begins at Home Act*. This legislation will provide \$500 million in dedicated federal funds to expand Parents as Teachers at the state and local level to serve 2.7 million families nationwide, a ten-fold increase. The new funding will allow states to take PAT to the next level—reaching even more families and providing even more intensive services to all families, especially those families with high needs.

The bill also encourages more collaboration between Parents as Teachers and the Early Head Start Program and will expand access to military families and families with limited English proficiency.

Next Steps

Missouri was ahead of its time in 1984 when we recognized that education begins at birth, and that parents are central to a child's achievement in school. Senator Bond is working to export Missouri's successful Parents as Teachers program so that the rest of the nation's families can enjoy its benefits, and to expand Missouri's program to serve more families.

Lead

At Issue

Lead from old lead-based paint is poisoning children in St. Louis and other cities. It is compromising their health, blocking their potential, and robbing their futures.

Exposure to lead causes learning disabilities and behavioral problems, slows growth, and at high levels can cause seizures, coma and even death. Children who go untested may develop attention deficits and irreversibly low IQ levels without their parents ever realizing the loss was avoidable. And that is not all. New research suggests that children exposed to lead are also more likely to get into trouble with the law as teenagers. Dr. Herbert Needleman, a researcher at the University of Pittsburgh, reported in the *Journal Neurotoxicology and Teratology* that teenagers convicted of crimes such as assault, car theft and drug dealing had *nine* times more lead in their bones than peers with no criminal records.

Two years ago, 31 percent - nearly one in three - of the children tested in the city of St. Louis under the age of six suffered from lead poisoning.

This is a local epidemic which we must and can stop. Lead poisoning is 100 percent preventable.

We know what the problem is. We know where it is and we know how to fix it. We do not need more studies, consultants and meetings. We need qualified crews, contractors and quality control experts to go out and clean and certify the houses. Period. And we need them to get to work now.

- Senator Kit Bond

Bond Action

Through his position as chairman of the appropriations subcommittee that funds housing, Senator Bond is in a unique position to take action against lead paint.



Dr. Benjamin Hooks presents Senator Bond with the first annual Champion for Children Award in 2003 for his work to eradicate childhood lead poisoning.

With the city of St. Louis in mind, Bond created and funded a new initiative at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that has provided \$50 million in the last two years for lead abatement in cities with the worst lead paint problems.

The new funding increases by 40 percent HUD's resources dedicated to protecting hundreds of thousands of children from the harmful effects of lead. With Bond's help, St. Louis has received \$2.6 million of the new federal money. Together with a \$1.7 million match in local funds, over \$4 million is now being spent to save our children from the debilitating effects of lead poisoning.

On behalf of the children of St. Louis, I want to thank Senator Bond for his vision and leadership.

- St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay

At the request of Mayor Slay, Bond has also secured an additional \$500,000 in federal funding to purchase equipment necessary to detect the presence of lead in paint and to pay to train and certify lead inspectors and risk assessors.

Next Steps

However, with nearly one-third of St. Louis children suffering from lead poisoning, Senator Bond realized much more needed to be done. That recognition led him to challenge the City of St. Louis to eliminate by 2010 the lead paint in older homes that is poisoning the city's children. And it led him to set up the most ambitious effort to combat lead poisoning in the city's history — a \$15 million, three-year program to clean up contaminated houses, to be administered by the Grace Hill Neighborhood Center.

In recognition of his work to prevent childhood lead poisoning, Senator Bond was honored with the first annual *Champion for Children Award* from the Children's Health Forum (CHF).

Not only is Senator Bond bringing unprecedented resources to the fight to end childhood lead poisoning, he is changing the way we engage the enemy. We will no longer wait for a child in St. Louis to suffer the irreversible effects of lead paint poisoning before we act.

On behalf of my Co-Chair Secretary Kemp, I am proud to recognize Senator Bond today for his dedication to protecting American youth. Thanks to his advocacy in the Senate, cities like St. Louis now have more resources to fight childhood lead poisoning, an environmental health hazard that is entirely preventable. We can and must protect our children from exposure to lead hazards, and Senator Bond is leading our communities towards that commendable and necessary goal.

- Dr. Benjamin Hooks, founder and co-chairman of the Children's Health Forum.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Reform

At Issue

Educators are struggling under a crushing procedural and paperwork burden imposed by IDEA, contributing to what is becoming a chronic shortage of quality teachers in special education in Missouri and nationwide. Special education teachers are leaving the profession not out of frustration with the children, but out of frustration with the overwhelming and unnecessary paperwork and regulatory burden they face consuming between 20 and 50 percent of their time.

And, without a qualified teacher, a child with a disability cannot receive a free appropriate public education. In recent years IDEA has been hampered by cumbersome paperwork and unmanageable bureaucracy, both of which have cultivated an adversarial relationship within IDEA's most critical partnership: parents and schools.

Bond Action

As a member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Bond is in a key position to influence IDEA reform legislation now being considered by Congress. The Missouri School Boards Association's (MSBA) Special Education Advocacy Counsel, working with the Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education (MOCASE), developed a list of thoughtful and detailed recommendations to improve IDEA. Bond took these good ideas and worked on a bipartisan basis within the HELP Committee to ensure that they were made part of the bill which passed the Senate May 13, 2004.



Theo, a character on PBS' award-winning children's show, Between the Lions, shakes Senator Bond's hand.

These paperwork and regulatory reforms will go a long way to free special educators' time to spend with their students and on preparing effective instruction plans. This legislation reduces unnecessary paperwork in several areas by streamlining state and local requirements to ensure that paperwork focuses on improving results for children with disabilities rather than extraneous requirements. It also clarifies that no paperwork is required beyond what the federal law demands, and requires states to identify state-imposed paperwork requirements.

In addition, this bill contains many provisions to reduce the adversarial dynamic between parents and schools and instead foster a positive partnership between parents and schools in educating children with disabilities also recommended by MSBA.

Senator Bond is committed to full funding of IDEA. Since Bond has been in the Senate funding for IDEA has increased by more than \$8.6 billion, a 702 percent increase. IDEA funding helps school districts pay the additional costs of providing an education to children with special needs, including purchasing technology, and hiring teachers and aides.

Next Steps

Senator Bond will continue to fight to achieve full funding in the years to come and to reform IDEA to ensure that funding increases provide real relief to school districts in Missouri.

Elementary and Secondary Education Reform

According to the most recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assessments, only 31 percent of 4th graders are proficient in reading, 32 percent in mathematics, 29 percent in science, and 18 percent in American history. Low-income students did half as well. In fact, more than half of low-income fourth graders failed to show even a basic level of knowledge in reading, science, or history.

To meet the challenges of public education in the 21st century, President Bush and a bipartisan majority in Congress, including Senator Bond, worked to enact *No Child Left Behind (NCLB)*.

No Child Left Behind is the single most comprehensive federal education reform effort since 1965. It was signed into law in January, 2002.

Since then, we have started to make significant progress in the goals of the bipartisan legislation:

- To increase accountability
- To ensure that every child reads by third grade
- To provide more options for parents
- To increase education aid to the disadvantaged.

In 2002, only 11 states were in compliance with federal education accountability standards. All 50 states are now in compliance.

Teachers are being trained and instructional materials are being provided to ensure that all our children regardless of what city or town they live in learn to read by the third grade.

School districts are providing more information to parents about how their local schools are performing.



Senator Bond visits elementary school children.

At Issue

With any reform effort of the magnitude of NCLB, concerns about implementation are bound to occur, and must be addressed. The NCLB was hundreds of pages long. The regulations are much longer. Educators have expressed concern about whether the structures prescribed in NCLB are appropriate and accurate measures of student achievement, and how states that set high standards should be rewarded.

Bond Action

Bond believes the NCLB will need to evolve and respond to real-world conditions. He has again turned to the Missouri School Boards Association and other education groups in Missouri for their recommendations on improving the NCLB. Bond will push to see that the Senate considers reforms in the 109th Congress.

Further, requiring accountability in every school and high expectations of every child will only result in the education reform we need if we commit to the additional resources to bring it about.

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Bond has voted to increase funding for elementary and secondary programs from \$18.6 billion in 2001 to over \$24 billion in 2004 to implement the goals of *No Child Left*

Behind. That is an over 30 percent increase, and in real dollars, over \$5.5 billion above the level of commitment of just 3 years ago.

Higher Education

At Issue

Most families face a daunting challenge when it comes to helping their children pay for a college education. Average tuition and fees at a public four-year institution exceeds \$4,000 per year. Average tuition and fees at a private college or university exceeds \$18,000. Yearly increases are well above inflation. How can families keep up?

Bond Action

As a life-long champion of educational opportunities for Missouri's children, Senator Bond was a strong supporter for the education savings provisions that were enacted as part of the *Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001*.

Chief among these improvements was the increase in the maximum contribution to an education IRA from \$500 to \$2,000 in 2001. With this change, parents who invest the maximum \$2,000 in an education IRA each year and earn an average 4 percent rate of return will have more than \$53,000 when the child reaches college age.

Together with the improvements to qualified tuition programs or 529 plans parents now have powerful tools to save for their children's education.

Senator Bond was also an advocate for the bill's provisions that continued to allow workers to receive educational assistance from their employers tax-free. For many individuals, this employer benefit allows them to complete their education while holding down a full-time job.

For students who have completed their degrees, Senator Bond supported the bill's provisions that made the deduction for student-loans interest available to more graduates, easing the financial strains of paying off their educational loans.



Senator Bond views life sciences research at Missouri Western State College in St. Joseph.

Children's Hospitals

Children's hospitals are places of daily miracles. Healing that we would never have thought possible a few years ago for children who are low-birth-weight babies, burn victims, trauma victims, or even cancer victims now occurs every single day at children's hospitals around the country, and our own fine institutions like Children's Mercy, Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, and St. Louis Children's Hospital in Missouri.

At Issue

Children have health needs that are very different from those of adults. Diseases and medications behave differently in children than in adults, and when children are treated, it should be by those who understand those differences.

A major challenge to children's hospitals' education programs is securing financial support for a service that is not, in most cases, reimbursed. A teaching hospital incurs additional costs to train medical residents while also delivering care to patients. Residents, unlike medical students, do not pay for their training; The teaching hospital pays them for their hard work with an annual salary and benefits.

Teaching hospitals used to cover their education costs by charging more for their patient care. But in today's price-competitive health-care marketplace, fewer and fewer payers, except Medicare, are able to contribute their fair share to the financing of graduate medical education (GME). But because children's hospitals care for children, not the elderly, they qualify for virtually no Medicare GME support. That has put them at a serious financial disadvantage, totaling nearly \$300 million per year.

Bond Action

Senator Bond introduced legislation creating a children's hospitals' Graduate Medical Education (GME) discretionary grant program. The *Children's Hospitals Education and Research Act of 1999 (CHEER)* ensured that children's hospitals could sustain their teaching programs, important not only to the future of these children's hospitals and their essential services but also to the future of the pediatric workforce and pediatric research. The children's hospitals' GME program was added by Senator Bond to the *Healthcare Research and Quality Act* and has been authorized through 2005.

Senator Bond has led the fight to fund this program. Thanks to his efforts, full funding has been achieved in only four short years. Kansas City Children's Mercy hospital has received almost \$19 million new federal dollars over the last four years. St. Louis Children's Hospital has received \$22 million new federal dollars over the last four years.

As a result of the new funding, more than 100 pediatricians and pediatric sub-specialists have been trained in both Children's Mercy and St. Louis Children's Hospital.

Next Steps

Senator Bond introduced the CHEER Act to extend the Children's Hospitals GME program for an additional five years and provide an increase in funding for this valuable program from \$303 million to \$330 million.

Birth Defects Prevention

At Issue

This year alone, 120,000 American babies will be born with a birth defect, and 8,000 will die before the age of one. More babies die as a result of birth defects than from any other cause accounting for more than 20 percent of all infant deaths. Many of the babies who survive will suffer lifelong disability because of their birth defects, many of them entirely preventable. As a nation we must do more to educate the public, especially pregnant women, about the known causes of birth defects, and preventive strategies they can use to keep their

babies healthy before birth.

Bond Action

For six years, Senator Bond fought to enact his legislation creating the first-ever federal birth defects prevention, surveillance and research strategy at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Bond's *Birth Defects Prevention Act* (P.L. 105 - 168) was signed into law in 1998.

One simple preventive step: Women of childbearing age taking 400 micrograms of folic acid every day can help women significantly reduce the chance of neural tube defects to their babies by up to 70 percent. To help make women aware of the importance of folic acid Senator Bond introduced the *Folic Acid Promotion Act*, an education and outreach effort to encourage more women of childbearing age to get more folic acid in their diets. Bond's legislation was included in the *Children's Health Act of 2000*.

In May 2004 the CDC published a study that compared spina bifida and anencephaly rates from 1995-1996 and 1999-2000 and found a 27 percent drop, from 4,000 affected pregnancies each year to 3,000. This is directly attributable to the fortification of grain with folic acid as well as the aggressive education and public health outreach Senator Bond included in the *Children's Health Act*.

Bond also authored several other important pieces of the *Children's Health Act*, including a provision that established the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the CDC. The National Center supports birth defects surveillance, research and prevention activities in 35 states, and funds programs combating illness and improving the quality of life for people suffering from muscular dystrophy, paralysis, fetal alcohol syndrome and spina bifida.

Senator Bond's latest legislation, the *Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Prevention Act*, signed into law in December 2003, expands the research he started at the National Center. This bill renews and expands the federal commitment to birth defects prevention and will also improve the quality of life of those living with disabilities.

Next Steps

Having led the fight for a serious investment in birth defects prevention, Senator Bond has now turned his attention to the prevention of preterm birth, another leading cause of infant death and disability. Nearly 13 percent of infants are born prematurely in Missouri, the 17th highest rate in the nation.

To fight this growing problem, Bond is cosponsoring the *Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who Deliver Infants Early Act*, or PREEMIE, introduced by Senator Alexander.

In our efforts to reduce the rates of preterm labor and delivery, more research is needed to determine the underlying causes of preterm delivery. Better methods for preventing preterm birth and improving treatment outcomes for infants born preterm are also needed.

The bill expands federal research related to preterm labor and delivery and increases public and provider education and support services. The March of Dimes, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Association of Women's, Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses have endorsed the Alexander/Bond legislation.

Chapter 6

Fighting Illegal Drugs and Crime

Illegal drugs and crime can destroy a community, stealing the lives and spirits of too many of our young people. The statistics are grim. Juvenile arrests for rape, assault, burglary, auto theft, arson, and drugs are increasing. One in 10 of our 12 - 17 year olds uses illegal drugs. Yet in too many places we have lost our sense of outrage. A certain level of crime and drugs is now expected in many places throughout America. For parents it is often a daily struggle to keep children safe from destructive influences to keep young people away from drugs and troublemakers. Senator Bond has worked to enact policies and secure funding to help state and local law enforcement keep our streets safe so families can keep their kids safe.

Methamphetamine

At Issue

Due to Missouri's location in the middle of the country, the large number of small towns and national forest acres, rural makeup and the number of interstate highways crisscrossing the state, Missouri became a draw for methamphetamine cookers, distributors, dealers and smugglers. In recent years Missouri has become the meth capital of the United States. The substance is highly addictive and a health hazard to users. Meth is also highly toxic and presents numerous public safety problems when being produced.

The chemicals used in methamphetamine labs are highly explosive and can be deadly if inhaled. When a lab is taken down by law enforcement, it must be cleaned by trained professionals. Fighting meth is a particularly difficult law-enforcement problem; while it affects large cities it is concentrated in small towns and rural areas with limited police resources and manpower.

Bond Action

Recognizing the severity of the drug problem, Bond has worked to boost federal and local cooperation in the fight against the meth trade in Missouri. In 2000 Bond helped create the Missouri Sheriffs Methamphetamine Relief Team (MOSMART) in cooperation with Missouri's sheriffs and regional task forces to fight the growing problem.

To ensure that resources won by Bond went straight to the front lines of the meth war rather than being lost to bureaucracy or political power struggles, Bond worked with the sheriffs to create a bipartisan board to determine areas of greatest need and directed the resources there.



Senator Bond discusses Missouri's methamphetamine problem with Missouri sheriffs.

“Since the MOSMART program was kicked-off in 2001, we have developed a very effective network statewide to combat the terrible meth problem in Missouri. Many of the counties involved with MOSMART have hard time keeping fuel in their vehicles, let alone having enough resources for personnel to use them. The bipartisan panel overseeing MOSMART realize we could never have made these strides without Senator Bond acquiring the necessary funding to keep personnel in the field fighting the meth problem.

- Sheriff John Jordan, MOSMART Project Director

Then Bond went to work in the Senate Appropriations Committee to secure funding so that financially strapped state and local law enforcement agencies would not have to ‘go it alone.’ Thanks to Bond’s efforts, Missouri sheriffs’ departments and regional drug task forces have received a direct infusion of over \$14 million in federal funds to combat meth.

Bond also won critical federal funding to assist the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in their effort to address the hazardous waste problem created by meth labs. The funding was essential in establishing the system of storage bunkers and purchasing the transport vehicles to bust and clean up meth labs.

The additional funding has resulted in more arrests, prosecutions, and meth labs being shut down every year. Meth-related arrests in counties participating in MOSMART doubled between 2001 and 2002. Methamphetamine lab seizures in participating counties also doubled, from 2,000 to nearly 4,000 in the same time frame.

Sheriff John Jordan, MOSMART Project Director, commended the efforts of Senator Bond for making the bipartisan statewide effort to fight methamphetamine possible.

Next Steps

Missouri’s crime laboratories assist law enforcement by analyzing and preparing the evidence in a case for presentation in court. An unintended consequence of the intensification of the war against meth is that Missouri’s crime laboratories have become overwhelmed with new cases. We cannot allow our forward progress in the war on methamphetamine to hit a bottleneck because our crime labs are understaffed and under-equipped. As discussed in more detail in Chapter 2, Senator Bond has obtained funding for the crime labs at Southeast Missouri State University and Missouri Southern State College, and is working to provide much-needed additional resources for other crime labs in the state.

Juvenile Justice

At Issue

Justice for juveniles presents a number of difficult issues. At what age should teenagers be tried as adults for adult crimes? How much information should a school receive when a former violent offender enrolls? How can victims of juvenile crimes as well as perpetrators best be helped? States wrestling with these issues should not have to deal with the added burden of inadequate equipment and resources.

Until recently, the juvenile court system in Missouri operated without modern technology. There was no statewide information-sharing system or database. Records were difficult to locate. Schools could not get access to information about the violent histories of some students enrolling. State officials could not find out which institutions had space available for new placements.

Bond Action

Senator Bond used his position on the Senate Appropriations Committee to modernize the juvenile court system in Missouri by obtaining resources for a computer system for the courts. Bond secured \$15 million for the project, and the state and other sources provided an additional \$6 million.

This project gives Missouri's juvenile court system its first computer network. All 45 of Missouri's juvenile courts are now linked to each other and to the agencies that provide services to juvenile offenders. The presence of this system enhances the services provided to juvenile offenders in many ways. Juvenile officers can now track kids who have been in the system before, find space for those who need incarceration, measure the effectiveness of various programs and provide information to schools so school administrators can protect all children from potential harm.

In 2000 the Missouri program was highlighted by the Department of Justice's Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants Program *Best Practices* series as a national model for those working to integrate juvenile justice services.

In a time when juveniles are committing more violent adult crimes and families are more mobile, Bond believes it is important to ensure that juvenile offenders get the highest possible level of attention and that the state does its best to put juveniles on a straight path so they do not grow up to commit crimes as adults.

Working for Good Judicial Representation

Federal courts are an equal and independent branch of our government, the job of which is to interpret rights and limits guaranteed by the Constitution and apply federal law as passed by Congress. Our society increasingly turns to the federal courts to decide many different questions, so the decisions issued by the judges have a tremendous influence on the society in which we live.

The U.S. Court of Appeals is the second most important court in the land. Nearly every federal case ends there and the court's decisions impact every aspect of society, from the liberty of its citizens to the vitality of its economy. The United States District Courts are responsible for trying the thousands of criminal and civil trials brought each year in this country.

Senator Bond believes these seats must be occupied by men and women of the highest character with outstanding legal minds. Federal judges are appointed for life so they must also respect the limits placed on them by the Constitution and understand that their role is to interpret and apply the law rather than make law.

The President of the United States, with the advice and consent of Congress, nominates people to serve on the federal courts. While the role of the Senate is to confirm the judges, Senator Bond, in consultation with Senator Jim Talent, recommends to President Bush qualified individuals from Missouri to serve.

In a rare opportunity, Senator Bond made recommendations for two seats on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. At Bond's suggestion, President Bush nominated Ray Gruender and Duane Benton for the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Gruender, a highly respected attorney and federal prosecutor from St. Louis, was confirmed in 2004 and is the first Missourian confirmed to the 8th Circuit in 20 years.

Mr. Benton, a sitting member of Missouri's Supreme Court, was also confirmed in 2004.

Senator Bond also made a recommendation to the President for seats on the United States District Court for the Eastern and the Western District of Missouri. Richard Dorr, a respected attorney from Springfield, was confirmed for the District Court for the Western District of Missouri and Henry E. Autrey, a Missouri Circuit Court Judge and former state prosecutor in the City of St. Louis, was confirmed for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Senator Bond also has the responsibility to recommend to the President fine individuals to serve as the chief federal law enforcement officers for the State of Missouri, the United States Attorney for the Eastern and Western District of Missouri and the United States Marshall for the Eastern and Western District of Missouri.

For U.S. Attorney, Bond recommended Ray Gruender for the Eastern District (who served from 2001 until his appointment to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals) and Todd Graves for the Western District. For U.S. Marshall, he recommended former St. Louis Police Chief Ron Henderson for the Eastern District and former Secret Service agent C. Mauri Sheer for the Western District.

Chapter 7

Protecting Our Health

America has the finest doctors and medical facilities in the world. Our researchers make breakthrough discoveries for improving human health on an almost daily basis. New medical procedures and pharmaceuticals make 'miracle' cures possible without surgery. And we now know how to prevent many illnesses and injuries through simple preventive steps. Yet finding affordable, quality health care coverage from a trusted provider is a daily worry for too many Missourians. Whether the issue is service delivery, access to health insurance, or skyrocketing costs and insurance rates, Senator Bond is committed to reforms that will restore sanity to our health care system, making health care affordable and available to all who need it. As a member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and the Senate Appropriations Committee, Bond works to have a positive impact on health policy and the funding to back it up.

Medical-Malpractice Insurance Reform

At Issue

Patients assume they will have access to the care they need, when they need it. Pregnant women assume that when it comes to prenatal care or delivery, there will be a doctor available to care for them. When patients rush to the emergency room they assume that the hospital will be open and a specialist will be there to treat them.

But this is no longer always the case. Missouri is one of 19 states in a full-blown medical liability crisis, according to the American Medical Association. The cost of liability insurance for physicians and other providers increases every year. A Missouri physician's average premium increase for 2002 was 61 percent. This was on top of an increase in the previous year of 22 percent.

In some cases medical-liability insurance rates are tripling in Missouri, forcing older doctors into retirement and younger physicians into other fields or other states. As a result, 31 percent of the physicians surveyed by the Missouri State Medical Association said they are considering leaving their practices altogether because they can no longer afford malpractice insurance rates.

Doctors who have practiced for years in Missouri are closing their doors, moving their practices and their families across state lines, or limiting the care and services they provide.

It is a serious problem for doctors. But the real damage -- the real pain -- is being felt by their patients. The headlines and the horror stories continue to accumulate and patients continue to suffer in Missouri and across the country.

Last year alone, Missouri lost a total of 33 obstetricians. Here are just a few examples of compromised care in Missouri:

Twelve doctors at the Kansas City Women's Clinic used to serve women in both Missouri and Kansas.

But, because of rising medical liability insurance rates, the clinic could not find a single company that would offer them a medical-malpractice insurance policy they need for their office in Missouri. So at the end of 2002 they closed their doors to their Missouri patients. Now, these women must either travel to Kansas to see their OB-GYN or find a new doctor elsewhere in Missouri.

Two Kansas City, inner-city obstetricians who serve low-income, high-risk patients had to sell their practices to their hospital in order to continue to see patients in Missouri. Excessive litigation has created an environment that forced these two doctors--committed to serving some of the most vulnerable women in Kansas City---out of their own business.

At a St. Joseph practice, the only practice in Northwest Missouri to accept Medicaid, one-third of its doctors left after an insurance company would no longer offer insurance to obstetricians. St. Joseph now has only seven obstetricians serving its population of nearly 74,000.

Patients are having a hard time getting the care they need and communities are losing their trusted doctors. We have a health care system that is in crisis in Missouri and across the country.

Bond Action

Senator Bond has supported President Bush's call for national adoption of proven standards to make the medical-liability system more fair, predictable and timely.

Because out-of-control, in some cases frivolous lawsuits are driving up the cost of insurance, Bond has supported numerous efforts in the Senate to limit punitive damages and non-economic damages, and would also limit the amount of time a person has to bring suit against a provider.

Bond has also supported efforts to maximize the amount of the award received by the injured patient by limiting attorney's contingency fee to a reasonable, sliding scale. Injured patients are entitled to the overwhelming amount of the award after settling or winning a lawsuit. Too often large percentages of an injured patient's award go to attorneys, leaving the patient with less money for their medical care and other needs. Currently, lawyers in some states can take up to 40 percent of all awards and settlements, robbing the injured patients of their awards. Unfortunately, because of the strong influence of the trial-lawyers, lobby, these reform efforts have been filibustered in the Senate.

Together with other leaders like Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, M.D., a physician, Bond will continue to keep fighting for reforms and a sane system so that trial lawyers do not continue to profit at the expense of providers and patients.

Expanding Community Health Centers

At Issue

More than 43 million Americans lack health insurance, and millions more lack access to a health-care provider even though they have insurance.

Community health centers help fill some of that gap by providing care to more than 14 million Americans, more than 5 million of whom are uninsured. Health centers serve everyone, regardless of their ability to pay, in

a cost-effective and efficient manner. And since they are located in traditionally underserved areas, such as the inner city and rural communities, they make health care available to those who need it most.

The availability of a health center reduces Medicaid and Medicare costs and also reduces expensive emergency room visits at neighboring hospitals. Studies show that people who regularly visit a health center reduce other health care expenditures on their behalf by more than 30 percent.

Bond Action

Senator Bond has worked with health centers to expand access to high-quality care since serving as Governor. What began as an experiment in community-health care evolved into an essential component of the health-care safety net in Missouri. Over the years Bond helped build a network of 17 community and migrant-health centers in both urban and rural Missouri, with 90 comprehensive, community-based clinics that serve more than 230,000 patients in over 911,000 visits each year.

Traveling across the state Senator Bond has seen first hand the difference that a health center makes in a community: an uninsured, expectant mother has a place to go to get prenatal care so she does not risk her health or the baby's health; a young couple with nowhere else to go has a place to get their infant daughter immunized to protect against frightening diseases; a six year-old boy has a place to go so he can get regular checkups in order to stay healthy and to keep him out of the emergency room.

Inspired by the success of the health centers in Missouri, Senator Bond joined Senator Fritz Hollings (D-S.C.) and began a National Health Center Expansion Initiative in 2001 to double the number of patients served by health centers by 2006.

Since 2001, federal funding for health centers has increased by \$599 million, a 40 percent increase under this initiative. This new money has allowed health centers to serve nearly 4 million more patients and open hundreds of new sites nationwide. For children and families in Missouri and across the country this new money makes vital prenatal care, immunizations, well-baby visits, primary-health care, dental care, mental-health care, breast and cervical cancer screenings, disease management, and substance abuse treatment a reality in their community.

In recognition of his leadership on community health care issues, Senator Bond was presented with the 2003 Distinguished Community Health Champion award from the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). According to the NACHC, this award is given only to select Members of Congress who have done outstanding work on behalf of low-income, uninsured and medically-underserved Americans and who have spearheaded efforts on Capitol Hill to improve health access for all, regardless of ability to pay. This was the eighth consecutive year that Senator Bond received this award.

Bond also received the Samuel U. Rodgers Champion of Community Health Centers award in 2000 from the Missouri Primary Care Association for his dedication to providing access to care and improving quality of care.

Protecting Access to Cancer Care



Senator Bond visits Ellis Fischel Cancer Center.

At Issue

More than a million people are diagnosed with cancer each year, 30,000 in Missouri alone. Many more are living with cancer. They are surviving and thriving because of new tests, new treatments, and care they receive in community-cancer centers across the country.

Hospital outpatient departments are a critical part of the cancer-care delivery system that provides a significant portion of the cancer care across the country. But this vital care was in jeopardy in 2002 and 2003. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) implemented drastic reductions in reimbursements for cancer services, including chemotherapy. Those cuts forced cancer centers across the country to reconsider how they provided care.

Wes Thompson, Director of Radiology at Ray County Memorial Hospital, the sole referral center for chemotherapy treatment for rural residents in three counties outside Kansas City, asked Senator Bond for help. Mr. Thompson explained that cuts in reimbursements by Medicare for chemotherapy treatment would force Ray County Memorial to discontinue outpatient-cancer treatment. Ray County treats more than 250 patients a year, many of whom would receive no care at all if the cancer program were forced to shut down.

These cancer centers offer some of the newest and most complicated drug regimens that cancer patients need today. Not only are they a safety net for rural patients who are too sick to travel long distances for their treatment, they are often the safety net for Medicaid and uninsured patients as well, making them a vital component of the nation's cancer care.

Bond Action

To keep Ray County Memorial's cancer program and others like it across the country open, Senator Bond worked with Mr. Thompson to draft the *Cancer Patient Protection Act*. This bill boosted the federal reimbursement received by hospital-outpatient-cancer centers on the edge of financial ruin. The *Cancer Patient Protection Act* was included in the Medicare bill that the President signed in December of 2003. Senator Bond's provisions included in the Medicare Bill restored some of the drastic reimbursement cuts put into effect by CMS. These provisions provided immediate relief hospitals began receiving increased payments in January 2004.

Ending Partial-Birth Abortion

At Issue

Congress attempted to end the cruel late-term procedure known as partial-birth abortion for seven years, falling short of the supermajority needed for its enactment following two vetoes by President Clinton.

Bond Action

Bond voted for the ban each time it was debated. Finally, on November 5, 2003 President Bush signed the *Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act* into law.

Next Steps

Within an hour of the President signing the bill, a judge in Nebraska imposed a temporary injunction on the new law. Similar rulings followed in New York and San Francisco. The President and the Department of Justice are committed to devote all resources necessary to defend the law prohibiting partial birth abortions. Senator Bond supports their efforts.

One of life's greatest gifts is a child, and we cannot allow one to be a victim of this heinous and cruel procedure.

- Senator Kit Bond

Protecting Pregnant Women, Children and Seniors through the Missouri Medicaid Program

At Issue

Missouri's Medicaid program provides health insurance for nearly one million people, including seniors, the blind and disabled, and low-income children and adults.

In 2000, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the federal agency that administers the program, threatened to recapture \$2.2 billion in payments previously made to the State of Missouri that CMS claimed the state was not eligible to receive.

The dispute centered on arcane accounting methods used to measure the amount of federal Medicaid funds owed to Missouri. The state long maintained that its accounting rules were designed to get the maximum Medicaid funding possible in compliance with the law. CMS claimed that the federal government had overpaid the state.

The proposed recapture would have devastated Missouri's Medicaid program, and threatened much-needed health services for low-income women, children and seniors who depend on it for health care.

Bond Action

Senator Bond brought the state and CMS together and encouraged good faith negotiations to find an agreement that ensured a good outcome for the state and protected Missouri's Medicaid beneficiaries. After 18 months of intense negotiations an agreement was reached in early 2002 that protected the Missouri Medicaid program.

As a result of his action the state did not have to pay the \$2.2 billion, and did not have to cut services or drop coverage for seniors, children, or pregnant women, putting the health of many of these Missourians in jeopardy.

Aiding Former Mallinckrodt Chemical Company Workers

At Issue

About 3,500 former workers of the St. Louis-based Mallinckrodt Chemical Company's nuclear-production facilities were exposed to very high levels of radiation while building the weapons that would help America win the Cold War.

When these former workers, many of whom today are battling cancer, turned to the federal government for help, they found out that although they were supposed to receive a lump-sum payment from the federal government, bureaucratic delays and impossible procedural hurdles were keeping them from receiving compensation to help pay their medical costs.



Joined by employee-advocate Denise Brock, Senator Bond updates former Mallinckrodt workers and family members on Senate action on his legislation providing expedited compensation for medical expenses.

Bond argued that Mallinckrodt workers should have received the same special designation since their circumstances are very similar to workers at the sites already designated, including the fact that they handled highly radioactive plutonium and employee records had been lost or destroyed.

Within six short months, the hope of Mallinckrodt workers of receiving the help they needed was one step closer to becoming

This is a matter of simple justice. These workers and their families deserve help. These former workers are struggling with illnesses contracted while working with extremely radioactive material. The financial and emotional burdens on families are overwhelming. The men and women of Mallinckrodt helped this country win the Cold War. It is time for the country to help them.

- Senator Kit Bond

Bond Action

After being contacted by employee-advocate Denise Brock, Senator Bond quickly introduced legislation in January 2004 allowing Mallinckrodt workers to qualify automatically for expedited compensation of \$150,000.

Bond's bill does this by granting the St. Louis plants the special designation needed to qualify for immediate assistance, sparing workers from having to endure the long and complex process known as "dose reconstruction" to determine their exposure levels.

While Congress had passed legislation in 2000 to compensate automatically former energy workers at four sites in the nation who were exposed to high levels of radioactive material, many workers across the country, including those in St. Louis, were left out.

"This is a tremendous first victory. Senator Bond has been a tiger at working to get this passed."

- Mallinckrodt employee-advocate Denise Brock on adoption of the Bond Amendment.

a reality. In June, Bond's legislation benefiting Mallinckrodt workers passed the Senate as part of the defense authorization bill.

Full Deductibility of Health Insurance for the Self-Employed

At Issue

For many small business owners, particularly the self-employed, health insurance is out of reach because it is too expensive. Small business owners do not have the bargaining power of a large corporation; they cannot spread the administrative cost or the risk. They should not be further penalized by the federal tax code. Prior to 1995, a self-employed person could only deduct 25 percent of their health insurance premiums, while large corporations could deduct 100 percent.

Bond Action

In 1995 and 1996, Congress took steps to increase the deductibility slightly and phase it in very gradually. Senator Bond felt these steps did not go far enough or fast enough. So, in 1997, he included a provision in the *Taxpayer Relief Act* to provide, for the first time, permanent 100 percent deductibility of health insurance for the self-employed by 2007. He then succeeded in accelerating the deduction so that it would be completely phased in at 100 percent by 2003.

Thanks to Senator Bond's efforts, since 2003, self-employed farmers, child-care providers, truck drivers and other proprietors have been able to deduct 100 percent of their health insurance costs. This has made health insurance more affordable for the approximately 16 million self-employed individuals in America and their families.

Chapter 8

Security for our Seniors

All of us worry about how we are going to be taken care of in our older years. Men and women who have worked hard their entire lives should not have to worry about financial or health security. And seniors should not have to worry about being victimized by those taking advantage of their frailty or poor health. Programs like Social Security and Medicare have provided an important safety net for American seniors who might otherwise live in poverty. Senator Bond has worked hard to strengthen these programs and to ensure that all seniors are treated fairly and with compassion in their later years. In his new position as Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Aging, Bond is well-positioned to champion the needs of seniors.

Home Health Care

At Issue

Home-health-care agencies provide critical complex services to millions of America's seniors, giving them the needed in-home health care they require. These services help seniors avoid institutionalization while receiving treatment in the comfort and security of their own homes. Patients are happier and healthier when they remain in their own familiar surroundings with friends and family. Home-health care is also more economical than institutional care.

In spite of the desirability of providing care at home, since 1997 Medicare home-health spending has been reduced by over 40 percent and one million Medicare beneficiaries have lost access to home-health care. In Missouri, 40 percent of the home health agencies have closed down or stopped serving Medicare patients.

Bond Action

Senator Bond is a long-time champion of home-health care. He has repeatedly led the fight to protect home-health agencies from additional cuts.

During debate over the *Medicare Modernization Act*, Bond teamed up with Senator Susan Collins from Maine and blocked provisions that would have cut the Medicare home-health benefit even more. The House-passed bill would have reduced the home-health-inflation update and imposed a new co-payment on home-health beneficiaries. Bond and Collins fought successfully to prevent their inclusion in the final bill.



Senator Bond talks with Dorothy Kaufman, a former home-health-care patient from Princeton, Missouri.

Senators Bond and Collins were also able to include additional help for rural-home-care providers, winning a five-percent-bonus payment for rural health-care providers for a one-year period beginning April 1, 2004. This bonus payment will provide roughly \$100 million nationwide for rural home-health providers, including \$3 million for Missouri.

As a result of his efforts, Bond was honored as a Home Health Care Hero by the National Association for Health Care & Hospice at the 2004 National Policy Conference in Washington, D.C.

Alzheimer's Disease

At Issue

Today, approximately 4.5 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer's Disease, a progressive mentally and physically debilitating disease for which there is no cure. Based on current trends, by 2050 between 11 and 16 million people could have this frightening disease.

Bond Action

In honor of the late President, Ronald Reagan, who also suffered from Alzheimer's, Senator Bond teamed up with Senator Barbara Mikulski to introduce bipartisan legislation to fund promising research into the disease and its treatments, increase public education about the disease, and help caregivers cope.



Senator Bond announces the introduction of his Ronald Reagan Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act of 2004.

One of the most courageous things Ronald and Nancy Reagan did was to announce publicly that he had Alzheimer's disease. It was their hope that in doing so they may be able to raise public awareness and encourage a better understanding of the individuals and the families that live with Alzheimer's. This bill will serve as a living tribute to President Reagan.

- Senator Kit Bond, on introduction of the Ronald Reagan Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act of 2004

Research now underway at the National Institutes for Health (NIH) is producing some groundbreaking discoveries that offer hope for those who suffer from the illness and their caregivers. It is now possible to diagnose Alzheimer's with more than 90 percent accuracy. New drugs and treatments are being introduced each year. The *Ronald Reagan Alzheimer's Breakthrough Act of 2004* doubles funding levels for research at NIH to allow for continued progress against the disease.

The bill also increases funding for the National Family Caregiver Support Program, to provide information, counseling, and respite for the loved ones who care for victims of Alzheimer's. It calls for a national symposium on Alzheimer's Disease to consider and promote public education, research and support for caregivers.

Arthritis

At Issue

With more than 100 different forms, arthritis is one of the most widespread and devastating health conditions in the United States, affecting more than 70 million Americans. It is a painful and debilitating chronic disease that worsens with age and is the leading cause of disability.

Simple daily tasks like brushing teeth, pouring a cup of coffee, or even getting out of bed become excruciating obstacles for those who suffer from the disease. Arthritis is also a tremendous economic burden, costing over \$51 billion in medical care each year, and billions more in lost productivity.

Bond Action

Early diagnosis, treatment, and appropriate management of arthritis can control symptoms, reduce suffering and improve quality of life. Recognizing this, Senator Bond has teamed with Senator Ted Kennedy in introducing the *Arthritis Prevention, Control and Cure Act*. This bill proposes to find new ways to prevent, treat, and care for patients with arthritis and other rheumatic diseases by:

- Educating health care professionals and the public about successful self-management strategies for controlling arthritis;
- Improving research into causes and cures by holding a National Arthritis and Rheumatic Diseases Summit to look at the challenges and opportunities related to research and development;
- Providing additional support to federal, state and private efforts to prevent and manage arthritis.



Missourians Virg Jones and KaLea Kunkel visit with Senator Bond after testifying before his Aging Subcommittee about their experiences living with arthritis.

Medicare Modernization

At Issue

For nearly 40 years, Medicare has provided peace of mind and health care security for millions of seniors. But since the program's creation in 1965, the field of medicine has changed dramatically. Prescription drugs have become a vital part of health care, in some cases even reducing or eliminating the need for more traditional medical procedures like surgery. Thousands of drugs that were unknown decades ago now play a critical role in keeping seniors alive, healthy and active.

Before Congress took action last year, Medicare lacked good preventive coverage, wellness care and chronic disease management. It did not protect against catastrophic health costs or provide for prescription drugs outside of hospitalization. Horror stories of seniors cutting their prescription drugs in half, losing their life savings during a long illness, or forgoing needed medical care altogether were all too common.

Bond Action

President Bush made Medicare modernization a top priority. After more than 7 years of hearings and action on proposed legislation, Congress passed and the President signed the historic, bipartisan *Medicare Modernization Act*. Bond was part of the bipartisan majority voting for the bill.

Strongly endorsed by the leading voice for older Americans, the American Association of Retired People (AARP), in addition to hospitals, doctors, other health-care providers and employers, the new law brings Medicare into the 21st century.

The new law gives beneficiaries the opportunity to receive better preventive care, better coordinated care, better chronic-disease management, and for the first time in the history of the Medicare program, access to prescription-drug coverage and protection against catastrophic drug costs.

The centerpiece of the new law is a voluntary prescription-drug benefit that will benefit the two groups that need it most: low-income seniors, and seniors with high drug costs.

The average senior citizen covered by Medicare spends nearly \$1,300 on prescription drugs and many spend much more than that. This is a significant hardship, particularly for those living on fixed incomes. In some cases this new law is expected to cut seniors' drug costs by capping costs seniors must pay and ensuring that generic drugs are moved to market faster to hold down costs.

The new law also includes \$25 billion in new assistance to ensure that seniors have access to hospitals, doctors and other health care providers, especially in rural areas.

Retirement Security

At Issue

True retirement security depends on careful savings during an individual's working years. But many people who wish to save have been hampered by an inability to take retirement savings from one job to another, and contribution limits on retirement accounts that have not kept pace with inflation.

Bond Action

Senator Bond strongly supported provisions in the *Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001* that dramatically improve the ability of Americans to save for their retirement. In addition to making it easier for employees to take their retirement savings from one job to another and improving the security of those savings, one of the tax bill's most significant changes was the increase in the amount that individuals can contribute to their retirement plans. As a result, the limits are rising by \$1,000 per year until a worker can contribute a maximum of \$10,000 to a SIMPLE retirement plan offered by many small businesses and up to \$15,000 to a traditional 401(k) plan. Similarly, the limit on contributions to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is increasing so that an individual will be able to contribute up to \$5,000 per year beginning in 2008.

For families, Senator Bond supported a unique provision in the bill that allows individuals over 50 years old to make additional contributions to their retirement plans. These additional or catch up contributions will allow a working mother who took time off to raise her children the opportunity to make up for the years out of

the workplace and put away a little extra for retirement. Many small-business owners will also benefit from the ability to make catch-up contributions since most entrepreneurs plow virtually every dollar they earn back into their business in the early years, leaving little time for the owner to save for retirement once the business is on a successful course.

Elder Justice

At Issue

Elder abuse and neglect is on the rise. While estimates vary, between 500,000 and five million seniors are abused in this country every year. Despite the dearth of data, experts agree that we have only seen the tip of the iceberg. Most cases are never even reported. What we do know is that abuse and neglect shorten a victim's life, often triggering a downward spiral, tipping over an otherwise productive, self-sufficient older person's life. There are three main types of elder abuse: abuse and neglect in homes and domestic settings; abuse and neglect in institutions and other types of residential care; and financial fraud and exploitation.

The elderly are often vulnerable because of frailty or poor health. We owe them the same justice and protection expected by younger citizens.

Bond Action

Senator Bond is a cosponsor of S. 333, the *Elder Justice Act*, the first comprehensive federal effort to address the issue of elder abuse. This bill recognizes that elder abuse is both a law enforcement and a public-health issue, and requires the best strategies from both fields to counter.

Modeled after the successful approach that has been used on the federal level to combat child abuse and violence against women, the bill directs federal resources to assist families, communities and states in the fight against elder abuse. The bill encourages coordination efforts at all levels of government, and creates new programs to assist victims. It also provides grants for the education and training of law enforcement and facilitates criminal background checks for elder-care employees.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Aging, Senator Bond has held three hearings on elder abuse in the past two years: two in Missouri and one in Washington, D.C. to draw attention to the issue and possible remedies.

Seniors are also attractive targets to perpetrators of financial scams. Many seniors do not realize the value of their assets, are more subject to disabilities or impairments, and often have predictable patterns.

Provisions in Bond's *Elder Justice Act* are designed to fight financial exploitation of seniors through public awareness campaigns and additional support to state and local prosecutors to help them prosecute these crimes.



Senator Bond discusses the Elder Justice Act with seniors at a Town Hall Forum at the Salvation Army in Springfield, Missouri.

Improving the Quality of Nursing Home Care

At Issue

The perils of inadequate or improper care in nursing homes have been apparent for too long, with too little action and with tragic consequences. Report after report issued by the General Accounting Office has warned Congress that people are dying in nursing homes due to weaknesses in the present system used to monitor patient care. In Missouri alone, at least 25 nursing-home residents died as a result of abuse and neglect during the 2000 - 2002 period.

Bond Action

Senator Bond has been monitoring reports of abuse and neglect in nursing homes since the summer of 1999, when reports from constituents called into serious question the quality of care provided in some Missouri nursing homes. Since then, he has met personally with families of victims in Missouri, demanded investigations of suspicious deaths, and met with numerous federal and state officials to demand accountability and improvements in the way nursing homes are inspected and monitored in order to improve the quality of care for Missouri seniors.

The tragic toll of nursing home deaths in Missouri is so compelling that while trying to improve care by better inspections and oversight, Senator Bond also understood that there needed to be new ways to approach this seemingly intractable problem. One solution: better technology.

As many as 100,000 Americans die each year as a result of medical errors, making medical mistakes the eighth leading cause of death in the United States. By and large, these mistakes are not the fault of individual caregivers, but result from inadequate systems of care. Many dedicated medical professionals, academics, nursing-home advocates, and the large majority of nursing-home operators have the know-how to improve the quality of care delivered in nursing homes. Technology can help put the product of their energy and insight to work for the betterment of patient care. More important, technology now available also has real potential to erect an early warning system with the capacity to detect problems and fix them before they become widespread or have tragic consequences. The University of Missouri runs an award-winning program called Quality Improvement Program for Missouri that provides all nursing homes in Missouri with reports about the quality of care they deliver. Technology available today would allow the university to improve this system by using real-time patient data to identify and correct problems as they occur, not simply after the fact.

Department of Health and Human Services' Secretary Thompson has been enthusiastic in his support for propelling nursing home facilities into the technology revolution and provided \$800,000 in 2002 to fund a demonstration and evaluation project in Missouri. The University of Missouri will conduct a two-year test in as many as six nursing homes in Missouri.

This cutting-edge technology should help get to the root of the Missouri Division of Aging's chronically ineffective oversight of care, which has allowed a few bad-apple facilities to cause needless death and suffering for too many families. Everyone benefits from advances in on-site monitoring, clinical care and technical assistance. Senator Bond believes we owe it to our elders to ensure that nursing homes are full participants in the technology revolution that has fueled unprecedented advances in medical care.

Chapter 9

Defending Our Right to Vote

The right to vote is the cornerstone of American democracy. Throughout our 230-year history, the American people have participated in their government by voting. The 15th, 19th and 26th Amendments to the Constitution, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 guarantee that no American adult will be turned away from the polls because of race, age, or gender. In recent years, this area of law has become settled, to the point where many Americans take their ability to vote and the certainty of fair elections for granted.

But, as orator Wendell Phillips said, 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.' Government by the people cannot thrive if elections are seen as unfair.

The 2000 election opened the eyes of many Americans to the flaws and failures of our election machinery, our voting systems, and even how we determine what a vote is. We learned of dogs registering to vote, hanging chads, and inactive lists. We discovered our military's votes were mishandled and lost. We learned of legal voters turned away, while dead voters cast ballots. We discovered that many people voted twice, while too many weren't even counted once.

Every bogus vote cancels the vote of someone who plays according to the rules; that is true disenfranchisement. We must move back to a position of vigilance.

Election Reform

At Issue

Over the years, byzantine and intrusive federal election laws made running elections more difficult, left our voter lists in sorry shape, and left elections vulnerable to fraud.

Missouri became the laughingstock of the nation for the way it conducted the 2000 election. A judge in St. Louis held the polls open on election night, and several judges registered voters on the spot in violation of the registration law so that one political party could run up its vote total in the city. Subsequent events showed that party operatives had planned ahead to keep the polls open and they found willing judges to go along. This has been tried before in the state, with mixed success.



President Bush signs the Help America Vote Act in October 2003.

As recently as 2004, a report by Missouri's State Auditor analyzing 2003 data states, "We noted over 24,000 voters registered in the city (of St. Louis) that were either deceased, also registered in another jurisdiction, had been convicted of a felony, or were living at an address included on the city's vacant lot listing."

Bond Action

After the 2000 election, Senator Bond took aim at voter and election fraud. His legislation focused on cleaning up the election laws and the way in which the elections were run, making them more secure and accurate.

Bond then teamed up with Senator Chris Dodd of Connecticut and Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky in a bipartisan election reform bill that eventually became the *Help America Vote Act*, signed by President Bush in October 2002.

As Bond said on the Senate floor the day the bill passed, We need to make it easier to vote, and tougher to cheat.

Protecting the integrity of the ballot box is important to all Americans, but especially to Missouri because of our state's sad history of widespread vote fraud. This legislation recognizes that illegal votes dilute the value of legally cast votes a kind of disenfranchisement no less serious than not being able to cast a ballot.

- Senator Kit Bond

The new law includes several provisions authored or supported by Bond:

- States are required to maintain a statewide voter registration list;
- Mail-in registration cards now require applicants to affirm their American citizenship;
- New voters registering by mail must provide proof of identity;
- Conspiring to commit voter fraud is now a federal crime;
- Voters whose names do not appear on the voter rolls will cast a provisional ballot, which will not be counted until the voter's registration is properly verified;
- If a poll is held open beyond the time provided by state law, votes cast after that time will be considered provisional and held separately;
- States and localities can use federal grant money to purchase new election equipment and modernize their registration systems;
- The law creates the right to a provisional vote so no American will be left off the rolls or denied the right to vote due to administrative error.

Next Steps

The elections in the fall of 2004 will be the first test of many of the reform provisions of the *Help America Vote Act*. The new law will be fully implemented by 2006.

Military Voting

At Issue

American troops stationed overseas understand better than most the sacrifices that are required to secure American freedoms, because they are putting their lives on the line every day to protect them. They understand that one of our most precious freedoms is the right to vote.

Imagine their discouragement when they attempt to vote absentee from their often remote locations, and their votes do not count because they cannot find out how to fill out an application to vote, or the mail delays delivery of their ballot to U.S. authorities.

Disenfranchisement among American troops - as much as 40 - 45 percent according to one estimate - occurred far too frequently during the 2000 elections.

And without quick action, these problems will occur again.

General Accounting Office and Department of Defense (DoD) Inspector General reports have outlined mail delivery problems and problems in the military-voter assistance program that have not been addressed since 2000.

Bond Action

Bond supported several provisions in the *Help America Vote Act* designed to address this problem:

- States must be sure that every member of the military and his or her family have access to information on voter registration and absentee requirements.
- Military applications to vote absentee cover all elections during a two-year period, so servicemen and women do not have to reapply for each election.
- States and military voting assistance officers must provide every absent uniformed soldier notice of the last date ballots mailed can be expected to be delivered in a timely fashion.

In addition, Bond has been pressing the Pentagon bureaucracy to address mail delivery problems for troops overseas. In March 2004 he wrote to key leaders in the Department of Defense (DOD) alerting them to mail delivery problems within the Military Postal Service and followed up with a discussion with Secretary Rumsfeld.

Bond has written a provision in this year's Senate Defense Authorization bill calling upon the Department of Defense to provide a report on the efforts it is undertaking to improve both the Military Postal Service and the Voting Assistance Program. He will continue to pressure the DoD to make good on its commitment to improve service to our uniformed men and women to make it easier for them to vote.

With our troops fighting for our freedom abroad, we need to do everything we can to protect troop morale and ensure their votes are counted on Election Day. Mail delays not only deny our troops the fundamental right to vote, but also take their toll on troop morale.

- Senator Kit Bond

Chapter 10

Constituent Service: Helping Missourians Solve Their Problems



At Issue

A family waiting in an out-of-state hotel room to adopt an infant is told that the Social Services paperwork is lost or incomplete. The wife of a police officer killed in the line of duty discovers her daughter was not receiving the survivor scholarship benefits to which she was entitled. A dying World War II veteran has not received the medals he earned. Where can these people turn for help?

Finding information or claiming benefits from federal government agencies can often be overwhelming and frustrating to individual citizens.

Bond Action

That is why, since coming to the Senate in 1987, Senator Bond has made aggressive constituent service a top priority.

Each of the individuals above and approximately 90,000 of their fellow Missourians each year turn to Senator Bond for help in navigating federal agencies, cutting through red tape and getting their problems solved.

In the cases above, Bond's Office of Constituent Service caseworkers were able to expedite the paperwork so that the adoption could be completed, the daughter could receive her benefits, and the veteran could receive his medals.

Bond's caseworkers have solved similarly complex problems for tens of thousands of other Missourians who have had difficulty obtaining Social Security, Medicare, Veterans Administration and Department of Agriculture benefits, visas from the State Department, or information about loved ones serving in the Armed Forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and other deployments.

During the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and their aftermath, Senator Bond's offices were inundated with calls from people who were afraid they may have lost loved ones flying, and then from people who were stranded all over the world because of flight cancellations. Caseworkers patiently took the calls and did what they could to help, remaining on the job for many extended hours as they worked with emergency federal agencies, the airlines, New York City, the Pentagon and others involved in responding to the tragedy.

Constituent service is one of our most important jobs, and a personal priority of mine. With Listening Posts, our offices go directly to the people. This is my way of making sure that if you don't have time to get to a district office with your problem, help is nearby.
- Senator Kit Bond

The best test of whether a government agency is performing its mission is how it treats the citizens who need a service performed by that agency. Bond has used the real-life experiences of Missourians dealing with agencies to push for needed action and reform.

When a Jefferson City-based Army Reserve Unit, the 428th Transportation Company, wanted extra armor on their humvees and trucks, the Army initially refused because it was not 'standard issue.' When Senator Bond learned of the unit's challenge he immediately contacted Les Brownlee, Acting Secretary of the Army, and asked that the unit be allowed to bring the armor they had acquired to Iraq. The Army did not intervene and the 428th was allowed to use the armor.

Senator Bond has personally visited every one of Missouri's 114 counties during his current term, as he did in each of his previous terms. And each Thursday while the Senate is in session, he hosts an open house in his Washington office for Missourians who are visiting the capital city.

Missourians needing help can find it at any one of Senator Bond's five in-state office locations, the Washington office, or at a mobile office Listening Post which serves rural counties on a rotating basis. Further, Listening Post locations in each of Missouri's 114 counties provide information and access directly to local citizens.

Missourians seeking information can find it at any one of the locations listed, or on Senator Bond's website: <http://bond.senate.gov>

Washington, DC Office:
274 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5721

Kansas City Office:
911 Main St., Suite 2224
Kansas City, MO 64105
(816) 471-7141

Jefferson City Office:
308 East High St., #202
Jefferson City, MO 65101
(573) 634-2488

St. Louis Office:
7700 Bonhomme, #615
St. Louis, MO 63105
(314) 725-4484

Cape Girardeau Office:

Federal Building, Rm. 140
339 Broadway
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-7044

Springfield Office:

1700 South Campbell, Suite E
Springfield, MO 65807
(417) 864-8258

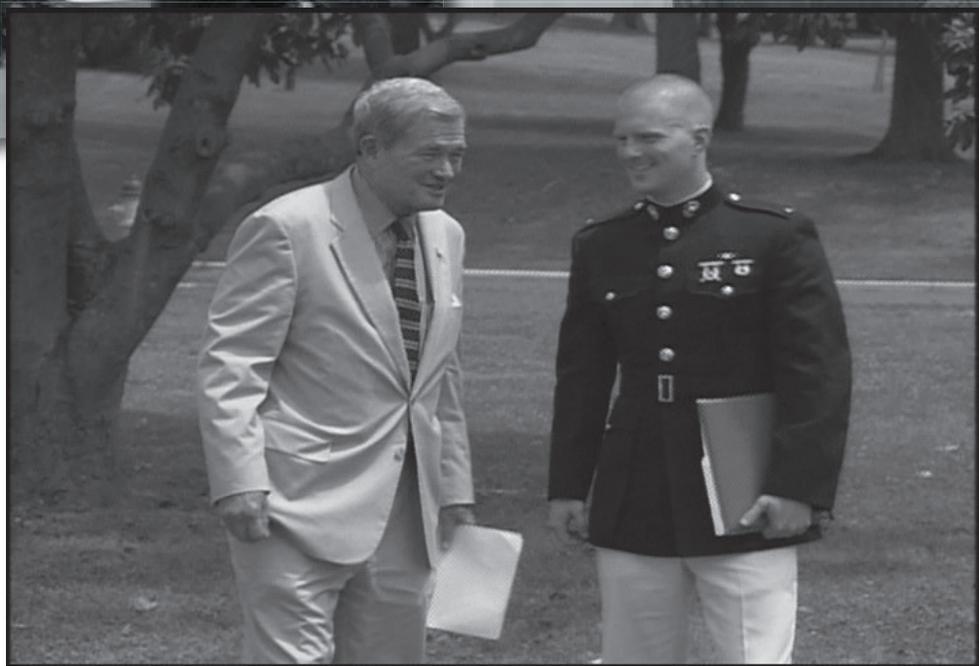
Because of delays for security procedures in mail sent to the Capitol office in Washington, it is advisable to send constituent requests to one of the Missouri offices or via email from the Senator's webpage.

While aggressive constituent service does not make headlines, it does result in the gratitude of those Senator Bond is able to help. As one small volunteer organization wrote, "Initially, our application seemed to have been lost in a bureaucratic maze. After your intervention, we were able to talk to an actual person who was responsible for our file. Once that was done, they were very helpful and things went very smoothly. As a volunteer organization with limited resources and limited connections or bureaucratic know-how, it is nice to know we have someone in Washington who is willing to help."

And, as a grateful retired Air Force widow wrote, "It is comforting to know that I have a Senator with such competent staff who will help someone like myself when they don't know where else to turn."

SECTION III

Protecting America



Senator Bond and his son 2nd Lt. Sam Bond, U.S. Marine Corps.

Chapter 11

Fighting the War on Terror

We live in the greatest, most blessed, nation in the world. We enjoy the greatest freedoms of speech, association, and religion. These freedoms must be purchased and protected at a very high cost to each generation of Americans.

President George Washington told Congress 200 years ago, "To be prepared for War is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace."

Out of the tragedy of September 11th came a strong appreciation for our nation and the freedoms we cherish. Our nation came together in a way not seen since the Second World War. It also showed us that this generation of Americans must be prepared to fight a new type of war: a war on terrorism. Prior wars have been waged against conventional threats with identifiable boundaries. Today's conflict pits us against an unconventional foe without borders.

America now faces a new fanatical enemy that cannot be placated. The radical terrorists who oppose our western ideals recognize no known moral boundaries in their quest for political supremacy. The true nature of the enemy that confronts us is revealed by the barbaric beheadings of Nick Berg, Paul Johnson, and South Korean hostage Kim Sun-il. Americans, and freedom-loving people everywhere, have only one choice when confronting terrorism and that is to confront it wherever it raises its ugly head. We must confront terrorists in Baghdad so we do not have to confront them in Boston or Ballwin, Missouri.

Our strategies and tactics will be different in this war than in conventional wars. We will need new technology and better intelligence.

But as we fight this new war we will still depend upon the best American principles to guide us, and the best-trained, best-motivated, best-performing military men and women in the world to bring us through.

Bringing the Fight to the Terrorists in Afghanistan

At Issue

The terrorist attacks of 9-11 were acts of war against America. The terrorists who attacked us did not act alone. They were part of a larger network committed to the destruction of all that Americans hold dear. The attacks were carried out by Muslim fanatics who are members of Al Qaeda, the terrorist network founded by Osama Bin Laden, and based on a radical form of Islam that has distorted the religious convictions of true Islam.

Bond Action

Shortly after the attacks of 9-11 Senator Bond supported passage of the *Anti-Terrorism Supplemental Appropriations* bill. Passed on a vote of 96 - 0 on September 14, 2001, the legislation provided \$40 billion



Senator Bond visits with the dedicated men and women of the 1137th Missouri National Guard AVCRAD in Springfield. The AVCRAD is responsible for the classification and repair of the Army's aviation assets and is currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

in emergency supplemental appropriations for anti-terrorism initiatives and for assistance in the recovery from the terrorist attacks.

On the same day Senator Bond voted to fund the anti-terrorism initiative, he joined 97 colleagues in the passage of S.J. Res. 23, a Joint Resolution authorizing the use of military force and authorizing the President to use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or individuals who planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001.

In an address to the nation October 7, 2001, President Bush said strikes by U.S. and British forces were taking place

against training camps and military installations of the Al-Qaeda network in Afghanistan, and that they had been carefully targeted. The President said the Taliban would “pay the price” for sheltering terrorists. He further added, “In this conflict there is no neutral ground, there can be no peace in a world of terror. We did not ask for this mission but we will fulfill it.”

Since the attacks in Afghanistan, which are part of the broader Global War on Terror, Senator Bond has continued to support the Commander-in-Chief in taking the fight to the terrorists so that they cannot again take the fight to us here in America.

He voted in support of the *Anti-Terrorism Act* and the *Patriot Act* in 2001, both of which expanded the authority of intelligence and law enforcement officials to combat terrorism and to prevent future terrorist attacks against Americans.

He supported passage of an emergency supplemental appropriations bill in 2002, which provided over \$30 billion for defense, homeland security and assistance to the State of New York.

He voted to strengthen the war on terror in support of the defense authorization bill in June 2002, which provided additional funds for the conduct of operations in continuation of the war on terrorism.

Bringing the Fight to the Terrorists in Iraq

At Issue

The key lesson of September 11th is that in a world of proliferating weapons of mass destruction, we cannot afford to wait until threats become actual attacks. Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein posed a real risk to his own people, to the Middle East region and to free countries throughout the world, especially the United States.

According to David Kay, the head of the Iraqi survey group which reviewed the situation there after the fall of Baghdad, Saddam developed a weapons of mass destruction (WMD) program that spanned more than two decades, involved thousands of people, billions of dollars, and was elaborately shielded by security and deception operations that continued even beyond the end of operation Iraqi Freedom.

Kay concluded that in the final days of Saddam's rule of terror, Iraq was a far greater danger than we even knew before the war because of the presence of terrorists there who could have been supplied with weapons of mass destruction by Saddam.



Shortly after September 11, 2001, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Senator Bond visit Missouri's Whiteman Air Force Base, home of the Air Force's only B-2 Stealth Bomber Wing.

Bond Action

Senator Bond joined 77 Senators from both political parties authorizing President Bush to use force in Iraq in late 2002.

For over a decade now we have tried every means of diplomacy, sanctions, and inspections to encourage Saddam to keep the promises that he made after the first Gulf War. Nothing has worked. Saddam has made a mockery of the United Nations resolutions and the threat he now poses to the world is significant and growing. Iraq is a true present danger to the United States.

- Senator Kit Bond, on voting for House Joint Resolution 114, authorizing the use of force against Iraq.

On November 8, 2002, the United Nations Security Council approved Resolution 1441, which gave Iraq a final opportunity to meet its disarmament obligations. The resolution stated that the Security Council deplored Iraq's lack of disclosure about its programs to develop weapons of mass destruction, its obstruction of weapons inspections, its prolonging the suffering of the Iraqi people and its failure to return foreign nationals wrongfully detained.

For months after the passage of U. N. Resolution 1441, Hussein continued to violate his obligations to the international community by filing false declarations, deceiving the inspectors and terrorizing the Iraqi people.

Saddam's refusal to cooperate fully with UN weapons inspectors and to comply with UN Resolution 1441 gave the United States and its coalition partners little choice but to intervene.

On March 20, 2003, the United States, Britain, and approximately 30 other nations initiated military operations against Iraqi forces.

Shortly thereafter, Senator Bond supported passage of a wartime supplemental appropriations bill that provided over \$60 billion in additional funds for U.S. military operations. Late in 2003, Bond voted in favor of a security supplemental appropriation that provided \$87 billion for additional defense spending and Iraq reconstruction efforts.



Senator Bond chats with Colonel Mike Brandt, Commander of the Missouri Air National Guard's 131st Fighter Wing in St. Louis.

Next Steps

While our forces have sustained casualties, and the transition to Iraqi self-rule has been difficult and often violent, Senator Bond continues to support the administration's policy in Iraq. A dangerous regime that threatened the United States and its allies was toppled in record time. Saddam Hussein, his henchmen, and his two despicable sons who were poised to sustain his brutal legacy no longer threaten the world.

Senator Bond will continue to support legislative measures that strengthen America's military capabilities and our ability to combat terrorism.

Intelligence Committee

At Issue

Our intelligence-gathering agencies serve as our first line of defense against the terrorists. And we must make sure our analysts and case officers have the tools, resources and freedom to take the war to our enemy - and win. It is clear that our intelligence on Iraq was not as good as it should have been.

Bond Action

Like many Missourians, Senator Bond is deeply concerned about the threat of more terrorist attacks. That is why he chose to join the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) in January of 2003.

Since Senator Bond has joined the SSCI, he has been committed to enhancing and restoring the intelligence community's HUMINT (or human intelligence) capabilities that were cut drastically during the 1990's, forcing the CIA to rely more on technology. Modern technology is important, but without human intelligence the ability of the United States to fight terrorism and other threats is greatly diminished.

Bond has studied procedures, structures and systems to improve our collection, analysis and sharing of intelligence among our several federal agencies, state and local law enforcement, and our allies' intelligence agencies. Lessons learned from the aftermath of 9-11 have indicated that reform in such areas will be critical to protecting America from future terrorist attacks.

Fort Stewart

At Issue

A key component of military readiness is ensuring adequate housing and medical care for reservists and members of the National Guard called up for duty.

Bond Action

In October of 2003, Senator Bond, Co-Chair of the Senate National Guard caucus received reports that there was a significant problem with the care and treatment of returning guardsmen and reserves coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan to Fort Stewart, Georgia.

Bond launched an investigation and with his Democratic Co-Chair, issued a report to Congress on their findings. They found a significant shortage of medical personnel - doctors, clinicians, support staff, specialists - available during “peak” mobilization and demobilization phases at a number of mobilization sites. Consequently, injured and ill soldiers had a difficult time scheduling appointments with medical care-providers and seeing the specialists required to get the best possible care. Some of them had been waiting months to get the kind of care they deserve.

“It is our duty to take care of the brave men and women who have answered the call to duty. Our Guard and Reserve soldiers are essential to winning the War on Terror; we cannot let these soldiers down.”

- Senator Kit Bond, Co-Chair, Senate National Guard Caucus

Compounding the problem, large numbers of soldiers either mobilizing or demobilizing created shortages of available housing at mobilization sites, which resulted in some of the returning guards and reservists being placed in housing totally inadequate for their medical condition. Some of these Guard and Reserve members who had been activated and were coming back were put in temporary barracks, with outside latrines, where they normally would house Guard or Reserve members called up for summer maneuvers.

In addition to staff investigations, Bond held meetings with high-level Department of Defense officials, including Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee. Secretary Brownlee assured Bond that the Army had begun to respond to the problem, including moving soldiers to other facilities so they could receive more timely care.

The Senators asked GAO to investigate to determine the scope of the problem, including the medical hold process and how many Reservists were activated with pre-existing conditions; the quality of housing for soldiers on medical hold; the state of medical care at mobilization sites for soldiers in medical hold; if sufficient medical liaisons are available to Reservists; the leadership and unit structure for Reservists on medical hold; and whether Reservists and active duty soldiers receive the same level of care and housing. The Senators expect the GAO to develop recommendations on how to streamline the process, improve housing and the entire mobilization process.

Keeping Our Promises to Veterans

Veterans Health Care

At Issue

For many years going back as far as the Clinton Administration, successive administrations have sent budget proposals to Capitol Hill that fall short of meeting the growing demand of veterans for health care services from the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). The VHA acts as the ‘safety net’ for the most vulnerable veterans - veterans with service-connected disabilities, veterans who are homeless or have low-incomes, and veterans in need of specialized services. Further, Congress has expanded health-care eligibility and the benefits package through laws passed in 1996 and 1999. These laws, combined with improved quality and accessible health-care services, have resulted in a 54 percent growth in the number of users.

Bond Action

As Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that funds veterans' programs, Bond's top priority is and has been to secure adequate funds for veterans' medical care. Through the years he has worked to make up significant shortfalls in funding. For example, he added nearly \$1.6 billion over the budget request in the 2004 *Omnibus Appropriations Act*. Since 1998, Senator Bond has helped secure an additional \$4.2 billion above the budget requests from the Clinton and Bush Administrations.

Due to Senator Bond's leadership in securing more funding for veterans medical care, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) awarded him the 2003 VFW Congressional Award for outstanding service to the nation.

In March 2004, Bond co-sponsored and fought for an amendment to the 2005 budget resolution to increase the budget for veterans' medical care by \$1.2 billion over the budget request. Sponsored by Senator Lisa Murkowski from Alaska, the amendment will increase total health care funding for veterans programs to \$30.3 billion.



Senator Bond visits with Veterans of Foreign War members after addressing the veterans at the Missouri VFW state convention in Columbia.

Next Steps

In addition to more funding, Bond stresses the need for the VHA medical-care system to be reformed. He initiated and supports the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Service initiative (CARES), which ensures that the VHA has the right facilities in the right places so more veterans can be served on a timely basis.

In 1999, the General Accounting Office found that the VA was wasting \$1 million a day on unneeded or underutilized spaces.

When he learned that the VA was wasting this money, Senator Bond helped create the CARES process by forcing the VA in the 1990s to develop a comprehensive strategy that would overhaul its medical care infrastructure to improve access and care for veterans.

"I am committed to ensuring that our veterans are not short-changed, especially in a time of war. While on duty, we expect our brave service members to face dangers on a daily basis. They should not expect to face the danger of inadequate medical care services when they return from duty."

- Senator Kit Bond

The CARES recommendations include the creation of 156 new high priority community-based outpatient clinics across the nation, including three clinics in Missouri in Branson, Jefferson City and Sullivan by 2012. The CARES plan calls for a new enhanced-use lease parking structure at the John Cochran St. Louis VAMC, replacement of the operating room suite at Columbia VAMC, expanded capacity at the Kansas City VAMC and retention of the Poplar Bluff VAMC.

Under CARES, vacant space will be cut by 42 percent, allowing the VHA to redirect those funds to patient care, which will allow the VHA to serve thousands of more veterans seeking medical care.

Bond will work with the VHA and Members of Congress for the funding necessary to implement CARES.

Kansas City Veterans Hospital Investigation and Clean-up

At Issue

In 2002, reports surfaced that two comatose patients at the Kansas City Veterans Hospital were infected with maggots because of an out-of-control rodent and fly infestation.

Bond Action

Shocked, Senator Bond demanded an immediate investigation of the hospital. In response, the VA immediately sent investigators to the facility and launched two separate investigations. Bond's call to action resulted in a \$10 million upgrade and modernization of the hospital, \$8 million in one-time renovation fixes and a \$2 million annual increase in funds for sanitation and cleanliness, and a serious review of hospital management.

"We must be sure the strongest safeguards are in place to guarantee that our veterans always receive the highest standard of care. Our veterans deserve nothing less."

- Senator Kit Bond

Chapter 12

Defending the Homeland

Long before September 11, 2001, the United States entered a new era of security threats from terrorism. But on that day the reality of that threat came home in a terrible way to Americans in New York City, Washington, D.C., Pennsylvania and to all their fellow countrymen who watched their suffering in horror. Terrorists, whether Al Qaeda or its fellow terrorists in Iraq and around the world, want to destroy our lives by killing some of us to instill fear in our daily lives and cripple our economy. Since 9/11, Congress and the Administration have taken many steps to secure the homeland and keep us safe. A key to the success of terrorism is the element of surprise. No one knows where or when the next attack may occur. The federal government, every state, and every local community must be prepared to meet this potential threat.

Securing Our Borders Visa Integrity and Security Act (VISA)

At Issue

Nineteen of the 22 September 11th terrorists entered the United States legally. Law enforcement authorities were not notified when the terrorists' visas expired, so they were not pursued. One terrorist failed to show up at the school that sponsored his student visa, but no one paid attention. In an open society that is visited by up to 500 million people every year, how can the federal government fulfill its Constitutional responsibility to ensure that the border is secure and its citizens protected?

Bond Action

Shortly after 9/11, Senator Bond introduced the *Visa Integrity and Security Act*. The bulk of this legislation was included in the *Border Security Act*, which passed as part of the *Patriot Act*, major anti-terrorism legislation signed by President Bush in 2001. Bond's legislation, now law, improves border security in the following ways:

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) now tracks the entry and exit of visa holders by computer to determine their legal status in real time. The latest in biometric (such as fingerprinting) technology will be used to ensure that entrants cannot use visas tampered with or stolen. This positive identification will enable authorities to identify those with criminal or terrorist records.

U.S. consulate offices overseas now have more information from law enforcement agencies and are required to conduct more comprehensive background checks on those applying for a visa.

Oversight of foreign-student visa holders has been improved. The definition of schools has been expanded to include language, flight, and vocational schools, and schools must let authorities know when students who are given a visa fail to show up for school.

Creation of the Department of Homeland Security

After 9/11, Congress and the President worked together to create a better system to defend America from possible terrorism. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) the largest reorganization of government since World War II was created to bring together a number of different agencies with homeland security responsibilities formerly scattered throughout the government. The Secret Service, the Coast Guard, the Border Patrol, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Customs Service and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are now all part of DHS.

Bond supported creation of the new Department, believing it is the best way to make sure the federal government keeps ahead of current and future threats. Bond is working on a number of priority issues in the area of homeland defense that require close coordination between DHS and other departments, including first responder funding, chemical security, environmental security, the National Guard, and dam safety.

First Responder Funding

At Issue

September 11th reminded the nation of the unique risks that firefighters take to protect communities from all manner of threats from fighting fires and responding to natural disasters to preparing to meet the risks posed by acts of terrorism. Yet many fire departments, particularly volunteer fire departments, remain under-staffed, under-trained and under-equipped.

Terrorism can occur at any place and any time, so all local communities must be prepared. Bond believes a successful homeland-security strategy must ensure that firefighters and other first responders have the best training and equipment available as well as the capacity to meet the terrorist threat.



Senator Bond joins Cape Girardeau Fire Department officers to distribute Helping Our Own fire equipment donations to Missouri volunteer fire departments.

Bond Action

Bond began his charge to increase funding for fire departments in 2001, when he included \$100 million for the Assistance to Fire Grant program. As Chairman of the VA-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee, Bond has included a total of more than \$1.2 billion in funding for local fire departments to improve firefighter safety, emergency medical services, and obtain needed equipment such as firefighting vehicles.

Many local fire departments in Missouri have benefited from the new funding, including metropolitan St. Louis and Kansas City, and hundreds of fire protection districts across urban and rural Missouri.

National Guard

The National Guard has a long and proud history of assisting America's national military strategy abroad while providing vital support and security at home within our communities. Missourians depend on the Guard for emergency response during natural disasters, such as the Flood of 1993 and the May 2003 tornados, during air search and rescue operations, and for drug eradication assistance, particularly Missouri's war on methamphetamine. Shortly after the deadly attacks of 9-11 the Guard was called upon to help increase security at the nation's airports, the Capitol, the Winter Olympics, and the G-8 summit in Georgia. Since then the National Guard has taken on more responsibilities in our nation's effort on the Global War on Terror and now comprises almost 40 percent of the force in Iraq.

As a former Governor who experienced the value of the Guard first hand during times of crisis, Senator Bond understands the need for robust congressional support of the Guard. In 1988, Bond helped create the Senate National Guard Caucus and now serves as its Co-Chairman. Bond continues to work at improving the readiness, relevance and reliability of the finest National Guard force in the world.



Senator Bond thanks the men and women of the 131st Fighter Wing, Missouri Air National Guard, for their service to the state and nation.

Because of the Guard's unique dual state and federal mission, the National Guard serves as a vital link between first responders at the local level and federal entities at the national level.

Senator Bond offered an amendment to the *2005 National Defense Authorization Act* that will allow Guard forces to be activated at the request of a federal agency to help with homeland defense missions, while remaining under the command and control of their State Governors.

The legislation is significant in that it will allow the National Guard, which knows the terrain and the people within the respective state boundaries to remain under local control, rather than the control of a military or federal official who is unfamiliar with local state laws, terrain and the people who populate the communities.

Senator Bond has also taken a leading role in increasing the full time manning of the National Guard, the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account (NGREA) which is a vital modernization and readiness tool. He supports specific programs aimed at modernizing such vital programs as the Guard's F-15 Fighter fleet, Guard rotary wing modernization, and the Guard's Intranet. Senator Bond has also worked successfully to secure funds for Guard facilities in Missouri like the new Army Aviation support facility at Fort Leonard Wood, the Air Traffic Control Center at the 1139th Airlift Wing, and funds for numerous armories across the state.

Chemical Security

At Issue

Chemical facilities and information on their vulnerabilities present a risk to communities targeted for terrorist attack. Missouri and the nation contain many facilities that use explosive chemicals to make products we all use in our daily lives, from anhydrous ammonia used to refrigerate food and make fertilizer to chlorine used to make water safe to drink. A terrorist attack on key facilities could endanger hundreds of thousands of people living in communities surrounding the plants. Current policies or laws that make plant security information public must be changed to prevent giving terrorists a road map for attack.

Bond Action

In 2002, Senator Bond introduced the *Community Protection from Chemical Terrorism Act* to prevent terrorists from abusing public access to government information collected on the security vulnerabilities of chemical facilities. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) currently makes available to the public information describing specific facilities, their contents, the effects of a worst-case scenario event at the facility, including ideal conditions, casualties, and vulnerable neighboring areas such as schools and hospitals.

Senator Bond agreed with security experts, including the Department of Justice, that such information provided potential terrorists with a blueprint to plan and launch attacks against facilities. Bond's legislation would prevent terrorist abuse of the information by limiting access to sensitive data solely to authorized EPA and emergency response personnel.

Communities have a right to prevent terrorists from using government information to target and attack chemical facilities in their backyard.

- Senator Kit Bond

When the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee considered legislation to increase security measures at chemical facilities, Senator Bond successfully amended the measure to protect sensitive plant security information from misuse.

Next Steps

Senator Bond is currently fighting efforts by some fellow Senators to make public information on the security measures plants have taken to protect their facilities. If these issues can be resolved, chemical security legislation with Senator Bond's security information protection language can pass the Senate and become law.

"With this new commitment to environmental enforcement and homeland security, we are telling those who would intentionally harm us that we are coming after them. Our nation's environmental laws exist to protect our families, our communities and our natural resources. Those who would intentionally violate our environmental laws must expect the full force of the government to stop them."

- Senator Kit Bond

Environmental Security

At Issue

Post-September 11th, 2001, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is straining to meet its dual roles of enforcing against criminal violations of environmental laws and supporting environmentally related homeland security efforts to prevent and respond to chemical, biological or nuclear attack.

Missouri and the nation are more vulnerable to chemical, biological or nuclear attack if EPA cannot support homeland security efforts. EPA Homeland Security Special Agents are members of FBI

Counter Terrorism Response Teams that detect terrorist activities, investigate crime scenes involving hazardous or toxic materials, and could respond to terrorist attacks involving chemical or biological weapons of mass destruction. But intentional violators of environmental laws will go unpunished if EPA Criminal Enforcement Special Agents focus solely on homeland security.

Bond Action

In 2004, Senator Bond proposed S. 2269, the *Environmental Enforcement and Security Act*. The bill would boost EPA manpower and resources to enforce our nation's environmental laws and increase homeland security by putting 50 new EPA Criminal Enforcement Special Agents on the environmental beat and provide 50 more EPA Homeland Security Special Agents to work with the FBI, DOJ and DHS to fight terrorism. Later in 2004, Senator Bond sought funding for his *Environmental Enforcement and Security Act* through the Senate Appropriations subcommittee funding EPA, which he chairs. Bond's funds will allow EPA to hire, train and equip special agents to investigate criminal environmental violations and provide homeland security.

Next Steps

Senator Bond has pledged to obtain funding for the first year of his *Environmental Enforcement and Security Act* in this year's VA/HUD appropriations bill. Next year, Senator Bond will make sure that year two of the measure receives full Congressional funding.

Dam Safety

At Issue

Our nation's dams are also at risk from terrorist attack. Of the more than 79,000 dams in the U.S., there are more than 10,000 classified as having high-hazard potential which means that failure would likely include loss of human life and significant downstream property damage. Missouri has 445 such high-hazard dams. These dams must be well maintained and secure.

Bond Action

Senator Bond has long been a champion for dam safety. As a result of his leadership, Congress passed the *National Dam Safety Program Act of 1996*, the first national program dedicated to improving the safety of the nation's dams. Since that time, his leadership and commitment to this public safety issue has continued through his strong advocacy on the Senate Appropriations Committee for funding for the program.

As a result of Bond's efforts, significant progress has been made as the number of dam inspections has increased, the number of emergency evacuation plans has increased, and states have received technical training and equipment to improve their dam safety programs and meet the challenges posed by potential terrorism.

Missouri has used grant money from the program to purchase remotely-operated video inspection cameras to conduct internal inspections of its dams. Missouri engineers have also been able to attend training on risk management, blasting technology, and the vulnerability and security of dams.

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