

## CAPITOL REPORT

Representative

Jay Wasson

District 141

March 1, 2010

### Prompt Pay Legislation Passes the House

The House passed a piece of true healthcare cost reform legislation with overwhelming support. HB 1498 requires health insurance providers to promptly pay claims put forth by doctors and hospitals for services on behalf of patients. This is a common sense reform that will improve healthcare in Missouri and will reduce costs and inefficiency.

Patients suffer when the return on health insurance claims is delayed. The cost of these delays is passed on to the consumer and this ends up being an extreme inefficiency in our healthcare system. Currently only two-thirds of claims are processed within sixty days of the claim.

This excellent piece of compromise legislation will change that and make the entire system more efficient, reliable and cost conscious. Our doctors and dentists should not be forced to wait on payment for months on end. Healthcare providers do the work needed to keep Missourians healthy and they should be paid for it.

We are inching closer to a bi-partisan ethics bill in the House. Restoring the public's trust in our elected officials has been a top priority set forth by Speaker Ron Richard and members of the House this session. There is no question that when you elect someone to represent you, you should have full trust and confidence in that person.

This isn't *my* Chamber, this is the *people's* Chamber and because of that, I take pride in my work in the State Capitol. I conduct business with integrity and honesty. I refrain from taking gifts, meals or trips from lobbyists. That is my personal conviction.

The Speaker created a Special Standing Committee on Government Accountability and Ethics Reform and gave them the task of combing through every piece of ethics legislation filed in the House and working to create one bill with bi-partisan solutions improving ethical behavior in state government.

The committee, composed of both Republican and Democrat members, is working hard and has accomplished a great amount of work since its first meeting in January. The members are hopeful to get the bi-partisan ethics bill filed during the first week in March.

It has been an honor to serve the 141<sup>st</sup> District as your State Representative for eight years. I still have the passion to serve the public and I feel that the experience and the knowledge I have gained have

helped prepare me to take on the many challenges that serving as a State Senator would afford. Therefore, last week, I filed to run for the 20<sup>th</sup> District State Senatorial Seat.

The 20<sup>th</sup> District is comprised of Christian County, Webster and Douglas Counties, and most of Green County but not including the City of Springfield.

Copies of the Missouri Manual (Blue Book) are still available. Call 725-0619 or email: [jay.wasson@house.mo.gov](mailto:jay.wasson@house.mo.gov).

Thank you for your continued support.

Jay Wasson