

MISSOURI MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION

2009 ANNUAL REPORT





Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission

Dalton Wright, Chairman
Representative Terry L. Witte, Vice Chairman
Senator Frank Barnitz
Jeff Bloemker

Representative David Day
Senator Bill Stouffer
Kent Thomas
Robert Welling

December 30, 2009

The Honorable Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor
Office of the Governor
State Capitol, Room 216
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

The Honorable Ron Richard, Speaker
Missouri House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 308A
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

The Honorable Charlie Shields, President Pro Tem
Missouri Senate
State Capitol, Room 326
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Dear Governor Nixon, Speaker Richard and President Pro Tem Shields:

The Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission (MMPEC) proudly submits the Commission's 2009 Annual Report. The Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission approved the report at its meeting held December 30, 2009. We believe the report is a fair and accurate description of the Commission's responsibilities and duties as set forth in Section 41.010 RSMo.

Please contact us should you require more information about the Missouri Military Preparedness Commission or its role to design and implement measures to protect, retain, and enhance the present and future mission capabilities of military posts and bases around the state.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dalton L. Wright", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Dalton Wright
Chair

c: MMPEC Commission

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Membership	5
Meetings	6
Military Presence in Missouri	6
Global Strike Command Headquarters	12
Department of Defense Impact in Missouri	17
Federal Impact Aid to Missouri Schools	18
Interstate Compact of Educational Opportunities for Military Children	19
Recommendations for Legislative Action	21
Recommendations for Other State Action	22
MMPEC Links	23
Other On-line Resources	24
MMPEC Legacy	25





INTRODUCTION



In 2005, the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission (MMPEC), was created with passage of Senate Bill 252 and House Bill 348. The Commission's duties and responsibilities were expanded in 2008 with the passage of House Bill 1678.

The Commission's mission, responsibilities and directives include:

The Commission will advise the Governor and the members of the General Assembly on military-related issues, and provide an annual report. The Commission will develop policies and methods to improve the quality of life for Missouri military personnel and their families and to develop policies and methods to improve the prosperity and employment opportunities for retired military members and the families of former military members.

The Bi-partisan Commission consists of nine members: five members appointed by the Governor; two members appointed by the Speaker of the House, one from each political party; and two members appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate, one from each political party. The Commission will have two ex-officio members: the chairman of the Missouri Veterans Commission and Director of the Department of Economic Development. Members shall serve three year terms and may serve a maximum of six years.

The Commission is committed to ensuring that Missouri's military readiness needs are in order to meet current military challenges and prepare for the future. The Commission is dedicated to the men and women of our great State who unselfishly serve our country and our State, and we are also dedicated to make Missouri a more military-friendly state.





MEMBERSHIP



COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mr. Dalton Wright, Lebanon, Chair
Representative Terry L. Witte, Vandalia, Vice Chair
Mr. Jeffrey W. Bloemker, Smithville
Mr. Kent D. Thomas, Springfield
Mr. Robert L. Welling, Warrensburg
Senator Frank Barnitz, Lake Spring
Senator Bill Stouffer, Napton
Representative David Day, Dixon
Vacancy



EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Chair or Designee, Missouri Veterans Commission
Director or Designee, Missouri Department of Economic Development

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Brigadier General Stephen Danner, Adjutant General, Missouri National Guard
Colonel Dennis Sandbothe (Ret.), Missouri National Guard
Larry D. Kay, Executive Director, Missouri Veterans Commission
Mike Dubois, Senior Military Legislative Assistant, Office of Senator Christopher 'Kit' Bond
Tressa Steffen Guenov, Legislative Assistant National Security Affairs, Office of Senator Claire McCaskill
Robert Hagedorn, Chief of Staff, Office of Congressman Ike Skelton
Rachel Wheeler, Whiteman Air Force Base Liaison
Maggie Martin, Fort Leonard Wood Liaison
Dr. Annette (Annie) Sobel, Major General (Ret.), Arizona National Guard (ANG),
Office of the Provost, University of Missouri
Roger Layman, Army Reserve Ambassador
Joe Driskill, Executive Director, Leonard Wood Institute, University of Missouri Technology Park

COMMISSION STAFF



Trent Griffith, Boards and Commissions Coordinator, Missouri Department of Economic Development
Sherry L. Anderson, Missouri Department of Economic Development



MEETINGS

In 2009 the Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission met on the following dates and at the following locations:

- January 29, 2009, Jefferson City
- March 25, 2009, Jefferson City
- July 1, 2009, Fort Leonard Wood
- September 15, 2009, Legislative Subcommittee, Jefferson City
- October 1, 2009, Whiteman Air Force Base
- October 14, 2009, Jefferson City
- October 29, 2009, Education Subcommittee, Whiteman Air Force Base
- November 25, 2009, Conference Call
- December 9, 2009, Conference Call
- December 17, 2009, Conference Call
- December 29, 2009, Conference Call



MILITARY PRESENCE IN MISSOURI

RESERVE

ARMY RESERVE

The Army Reserve is recognized and resourced as America's premier reservoir of shared military-civilian skills and capabilities that supports and defends the Nation. The Army Reserve provides trained, equipped, and ready Soldiers and cohesive units to meet global requirements across the full spectrum of operations.

Now more than eight years into the current conflicts, the demand for Army Reserve Warrior Citizens is such that 12% of our force is mobilized and deployed at all times. More than 30,000 Warrior Citizens are serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and 18 other countries. Of these 30,000, 675 are reservists from Missouri. The Army Reserve has mobilized more than 182,000 Soldiers since 9-11 which is about 85 percent of the total Army end strength over time. Over 6,000 have been reservists from Missouri (some of these have been mobilized multiple times). The Army Reserve has a current strength of 206,371 (as of November 7, 2009) with Missouri accounting for 5,496 reservists. Economic impact of Missouri Reservists is in excess of \$145 million in payroll alone. As an operational force, the Army Reserve is an intelligent, strategic use of taxpayer dollars. They deliver capabilities for America's defense, manage resources responsibly, and consistently attract and maintain strong Warrior Citizens whose skills resonate not only on the battlefield but also in the civilian sector. The Army Reserve is a positive investment, dependable and ready when America calls.

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE

The Navy and Marine Corps Reserve organizations have approximately 6,500 personnel in Missouri. Units are located in Bridgeton, Cape Girardeau, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Springfield.

The Navy Reserve Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 114 operates from Whiteman Air Force Base; their mission is to provide surveillance, intelligence and force protection measures for Naval assets.



AIR FORCE RESERVE

Whiteman Air Force Base is home of the 442nd Fighter Wing, an Air Force Reserve Command unit that flies the A-10 Thunderbolt II, as well as the 131st Bomb Wing of the Missouri Air National Guard which also flies the B-2.

NATIONAL GUARD

The Missouri National Guard has served the State and Nation since 1808. With more than 11,500 Soldiers and Airmen spread across 63 communities throughout the State, the Missouri National Guard is always ready for its State and Federal missions. In Fiscal Year 2009, the Missouri National Guard had a total economic impact of more than \$804 million.

The Guard's State mission is to support the Governor by providing trained personnel and equipment capable of deploying to protect life and property, and to maintain peace, order and public safety. In 2009, Missouri Guardsmen responded to winter ice storms in the Southeast part of the State and deployed to North Dakota to help in the flood response there.

The Guard's Federal mission is to support national military objectives by providing trained and equipped troops for federal mobilization. During 2009, more than 2,000 Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen were deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, Kosovo and other areas supporting overseas contingency operations. Currently, more than 800 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen are deployed overseas.

The Missouri National Guard is also helping local economies through construction. Federal construction includes the Joint Armed Forces Reserve Center at Jefferson Barracks and maintenance facilities to support National Guard aviation assets. There are also armory extensions and renovations underway in communities across the State. Guard support programs include Veterans Recognition Program, family readiness programs, youth events, marriage enrichment events, the Family Relief Fund, the Funeral Honors Program and educational assistance.

The Department of Defense (DOD) Fiscal Year 2010 Defense Authorization Bill concentrated on the military's critical readiness needs in order to meet current military challenges and prepare for the future. To address urgent issues such as equipment shortfalls, the Bill included funding for the following: \$6.9 billion in equipment for the National Guard and Reserve and \$200 million to support National Guard and Reserve facilities and infrastructure.



ROSECRANS - MISSOURI AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For more than sixty years, the 139th Airlift Wing has served the St. Joseph community, the State of the Missouri and the United States of America. The Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center located with the 139th Airlift Wing is in its third decade of providing training to airlift crews for the United States forces as well as 15 allied countries.

The 139th Airlift Wing is a major employer in Northwest Missouri and continues to seek new missions and expansion. It has an annual payroll exceeding fifty million dollars and an annual payroll exceeding fifty million dollars and an economic impact of nearly seventy-five million dollars.

Following nearly two years of intense training, focus and teamwork paid off during the 139th Airlift Wing's Operational Readiness inspection as the Wing received an overall high "Excellent" rating. The week-long inspection put unit members to the test. An Inspector General (IG) team from Air Mobility Command tested personnel from the Wing using different scenarios designed to slow down, prevent, and hinder the Wing from performing its mission. The Inspector General Team Chief noted that "this unit is the best I have ever seen to date in my two and half years on the IG team, he noted also, what was the most impressive was the attitudes, dedication, and professionalism. The IG team also recognized the 139th Airlift Wing maintenance squadron for the employment phase of the inspection with an outstanding rating.



In 2009, the Wing faced many new challenges, and those challenges were met in the same manner as challenges of the past, with intense focus on performance, mission readiness, and success. Mission engagement, expansion, and increased community involvement are the visions for 2010 and beyond.

FORT LEONARD WOOD

Fort Leonard Wood is located in the south central portion of the Missouri Ozarks and covers an area of more than 62,000 acres, of which nearly 54,000 acres is used for training. Fort Leonard Wood annually trains more than 73,000 Soldiers in various military specialties and advanced leadership skills. There is an average daytime population of more than 34,000 people at Fort Leonard Wood, with an approximate \$2 billion yearly economic impact to the State of Missouri.

The Fort is home to the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center where chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear students; engineer students; and military police students receive training. Included in the mix for training are Soldiers, plus Marines, Airmen, Sailors and international students from allied nations.

The Installation Management Command (IMCOM) Garrison provides Post Base operations services to service members, leaders and families, and is a civic partner to a strong community relationship. Garrison Command personnel support the training mission of the Installation, mobilized and deployed active and reserve component units and personnel, and operate and maintain the Installation facilities and programs that ensure a quality of life for assigned service personnel, civilians and their families. More than 7,000 active duty Military personnel and about 8,500 civilian and contract employees work at the Installation.

Approximately 100,000 people visit Fort Leonard Wood's John B. Mahaffey Museum Complex each year with its growing collection of historical artifacts. One of the museum's unique projects is the restoration of a World War I World War II company area that features a dining facility, barracks, company headquarters and officer quarters from the 1940s.



The Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act conference report includes for Fort Leonard Wood the following projects:

- ★ \$5.57 million for an addition to the dental clinic;
- ★ \$7.8 million for an addition to the health clinic;
- ★ \$17 million for a wheeled vehicle driver's course;
- ★ \$19.5 million for Warrior in Transition complex;
- ★ \$27 million for a digital training facility; and
- ★ \$99 million for a training barracks.





The Defense Authorization Bill ensured that Fort Leonard Wood has what it needs to accommodate the growing number of soldiers on Post and offer the quality of life Americans expect for our men and women in uniform. Additions and alterations to the health and dental clinics will increase the post's capacity to provide essential health care services for soldiers and their families. The new addition to the health clinic provides the best care for our wounded, ill, or injured soldiers. With a new Warrior in Transition complex, Fort Leonard Wood will play a direct role helping wounded warriors and their families prepare to return to active duty or back to civilian life.

Fort Leonard Wood has a vital national security mission as one of our country's most important training bases. The new barracks will house soldiers sent to Fort Leonard Wood for Advanced Individual Training. The new wheeled vehicle driver's course will enable Fort Leonard Wood to accommodate the increasing number of service members who need heavy truck driver training. The digital training facility will provide up-to-date computer labs and classrooms to support chemical, military police, and engineer professional military education courses.



FORT LEONARD WOOD TECH PARK

One of the highlights at Fort Leonard Wood Base is the partnership forged between the Army and the University of Missouri by establishing a competitive, high technology research park for companies and other organizations that value:

- ★ U.S. military and research universities
- ★ High security environment with full business services and easy interstate, air and rail access
- ★ Diverse, skilled and highly motivated workforce
- ★ Small community setting that provides great quality of life and educational opportunities for employees and their families at affordable cost

"The Army embraces the fact that the park enables its corporate, academic, and governmental partners to collocate with the military. The resulting synergy is improving the Army's world-wide ability to address critical science and technology challenges it faces as it transforms into the fighting force of future."

General John Abrams (Ret), US Army Training & Doctrine Command



BENEFITS TO THE ARMY, THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, THE REGION AND THE STATE, AND TENANTS

- ★ Surge capacity for new or expanding missions
- ★ Jobs for spouses of military personnel
- ★ Reduced utility costs through infrastructure sharing
- ★ Expanded technology transfer from research labs to industry
- ★ Quality work experience opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students
- ★ High quality, in-state career opportunities for alumni
- ★ Economic growth/jobs
- ★ Improved quality of life for everyone
- ★ Close proximity to Army, DOD, and international military communities and University
- ★ Low cost of entry
- ★ Short or long term leases
- ★ Competitive costs
- ★ Skilled labor availability
- ★ Security
- ★ Transportation accessibility
- ★ Increased synergy from collocation of technology resources



WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE

Whiteman Air Force Base (WAFB) is located in Knob Noster, approximately 50 miles east of Kansas City, where it occupies close to 5,000 acres. It is one of the Military's most important joint installations. It has an annual operations and maintenance budget of \$147 million and flying assets in excess of \$46 billion. Its economic impact is in excess of \$380 million per year. Over 12,000 military, civilians and dependents are members of the Whiteman Air Force Base community.

The 509th Bomb Wing, which operates and maintains the Air Force's premier weapon system, the B-2 bomber, proudly resides at Whiteman. The B-2 Spirit is the world's most advanced stealth aircraft. It is a multi-role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions. A dramatic leap forward in technology, the bomber represents a major milestone in stealth aircraft development. The B-2 brings massive firepower to bear, in a short time, anywhere on the globe through previously impenetrable defenses. It holds at risk any target in the world and can strike and return to Whiteman without having to land. It holds the world record for duration of an air combat mission (44.3 hours) which was achieved during Operation Enduring Freedom when a B-2 launched from Whiteman was the first military action in response to the 9/11 attacks on America.

Today, the 509th Bomb Wing with the B-2 platform continues to provide the Nation with a rapid response option, able to precisely strike heavily defended targets anywhere on Earth. The B-2's unprecedented lethality and effectiveness deter opponents from traditional battlefield operations, driving them to adopt distributed and dispersed operations. The B-2 will continue to be a bomber option for the nation's leaders and the 509th Bomb Wing will continue to hunt down and destroy America's enemies for many years to come.



To improve and enhance Whiteman's security, the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act included funding for projects at Whiteman Air Force Base. The projects are: \$5.5 million for land acquisition at the north and south base boundaries and \$7.4 million for an explosive ordinance disposal operations complex. The land acquisition funding will help Whiteman Air Force Base protect its boundaries, improve security, and prevent encroachment. It will also support efforts to prevent bird strikes and other aircraft safety hazards. The buildings used for the explosive ordinance disposal mission at Whiteman are too small and no longer meet the Air Force's requirements. The new complex will consolidate explosive ordinance disposal operations into a single state-of-the-art facility, which will significantly improve response times during emergency situations.

MISSOURI VETERANS COMMISSION

The Missouri Veterans Commission is a State Agency established to provide services and assistance to Veterans. In addition to operating seven Veterans Homes, they also operate four State Veterans Cemeteries throughout the state with a fifth State Veterans Cemetery currently under construction at Fort Leonard Wood. The Missouri Veterans Commission also operates a statewide Veterans Service Program, which provides information on VA benefits and assistance with VA claims.



★ HOMES PROGRAM

The Missouri Veterans Commission Homes Program operates seven exemplary Veterans Homes managing a total of 1,350 beds that provide long term skilled nursing care in compliance with 158 Federal Department of Veterans Affairs regulations. The Homes are located in Cameron, Cape Girardeau, Mexico, Mount Vernon, St. James, St. Louis, and Warrensburg.

★ CEMETERY PROGRAM

The Missouri Veterans Commission has created a network of Veterans Cemeteries so that every Missouri Veteran will have reasonable access to a Veterans Cemetery. Four cemeteries are in operation at this time; Springfield, Higginsville, Bloomfield, and Jacksonville. A fifth cemetery will be located adjacent to Fort Leonard Wood in early 2010.

★ VETERANS SERVICE PROGRAM

Through the Veterans Service Program, accredited Veterans Service Officers (VSO) and Veterans Service Assistants (VSA) provide counseling and assistance to thousands of Veterans and their dependents throughout the State. These trained professionals counsel Veterans on available VA and state Veterans benefits, and also complete and submit claims applications with all necessary documentation. Currently there are approximately 543,000 veterans living in Missouri.





THE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS

When the United States Air Force, on January 21, 2009, announced that Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri had been named as one of the six finalists for location of the United States Air Force Global Strike Command Headquarters, the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission was quick to respond at its meeting in Jefferson City on January 29, 2009 by passing a resolution in support of Whiteman, and by inviting the support of the Missouri Department of Economic Development. A copy of the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission resolution is shown below:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE SELECTION OF WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE AS THE LOCATION FOR THE PERMANENT GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

WHEREAS, the United States Air Force did on January 21, 2009 announce that Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri has been named one of the six (6) finalists for location of the United States Air Global Strike Command Headquarters; and,

WHEREAS, currently the Global Strike Command Headquarters is temporarily located at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C.; and,

WHEREAS, one of the duties of the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission is to foster appropriate enhancement of the military in the State of Missouri; and,

WHEREAS, Whiteman Air Force Base is one of the most important joint military installations in the United States and has the distinction of being the only Air Force Base in the United States to have located on such installation, three (3) separate Wings; and,

WHEREAS, one of those Wings is the 509th Bomb Wing, which is the only Air Force Wing to operate and maintain the Air Force's premier weapon system, the B-2 Bomber, a multi role bomber capable of delivering both conventional and nuclear munitions; and,

WHEREAS, the Air Force Assistant Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration has stated that co-locating the permanent Global Strike Command Headquarters on an installation where there are already significant operational functions associated with nuclear forces, would provide positive synergies for the new Global Strike Command; and,

WHEREAS, it is the considered judgment of this Commission that Whiteman Air Force Base does align with the published criteria for the Air Force Global Strike Force basing selection; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri as a whole, is military friendly and stands ready to welcome the establishment of the Global strike Command at Whiteman.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission does hereby express support for the selection of Whiteman Air Force Base as the location for the permanent United States



Air Force Global Strike Command and does urge the United States Air Force to cause such Command to be located at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Congressman Ike Skelton; to Senator Claire McCaskill; to Senator Kit Bond; to Congressman Todd Aiken; to Congressman Blaine Luetkemeyer; to Congressman Roy Blunt; to Congressman Russ Carnahan; to Congressman Lacy Clay; to Congressman Emanuel Cleaver; to Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson; to Congressman Sam Graves; and by doing so, thereby seeking exertion of their persuasive efforts to achieve the location of this new Air Force Command at Whiteman Air Force Base.

BE IT NOTED, that this Resolution passed unanimously at a meeting of the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission in Jefferson City, Missouri on January 29, 2009.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Dalton Wright, Chairman of the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission, do affix my signature.



DALTON WRIGHT

What followed the passage of the Missouri Preparedness and Enhancement Commission Resolution and its invitation for support of the Department of Economic Development, were a series of meetings at the Whiteman Royal Oaks Club, including about 100 communities and organizations, whose purpose was to multiply support with the Department of Economic Development and the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission combining forces with communities and organizations to evolve data and material to assist Governor Jay Nixon, Congressman Ike Skelton, Senator Kit Bond, and Senator Claire McCaskill, in presenting the Whiteman case to the Air Force High Command. Bill McCoy and many others of the Department of Economic Development staff performed excellent service in presiding over the many meetings and that with combined research, provided by the engineering staff at Whiteman and the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC), the Department of Economic Development, resulted in very impressive data and material arming the Whiteman delegates in Washington to bolster the argument on behalf of Whiteman.

Below, as one of many submissions, is a position paper which evolved from the many meetings at the Whiteman Royal Oaks Club, such position paper being as follows:





GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND – THE WHITEMAN ADVANTAGE



Whiteman Air Force Base (AFB) is the proven premier nuclear facility in the United States. It has the utility infrastructure currently in place to support the Global Strike Command (GSC) and its visionary community plan meets the immediate and long term needs of the GSC. The quality of life in Missouri is unsurpassed. Missouri’s leading educational system does a distinguished job of supporting the military family. Housing and cost of living in central Missouri is among the cheapest in the United States. The Whiteman AFB area offers access to incomparable urban and outdoor recreational activities. The area also offers abundant employment opportunities for families and will provide an exceptional workforce for the GSC to draw from. All of these tangible assets, including access to top notch health care and transportation, help build a strong foundation for growing families and make Missouri a remarkable place to work and call home.

MISSION SYNERGY: America’s premier nuclear delivery wing is located at Whiteman AFB, thus providing the Global Strike Command with fully acceptable immediate command and control effectiveness. In its June 2009 Nuclear Surety Inspection (NSI) Whiteman AFB posted the highest scores in the history of the NSI program and the January 2009 No-Notice Limited NSI was deemed flawless despite only twelve hours notification.

FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE: The Whiteman team, with an eye toward the future, has developed a community plan that facilitates both the interim and permanent bed-down of GSC. There are no environmental restrictions, airspace, or encroachment issues that would impact the effort. Interim facilities will be ready for occupancy within 180 days from the project award. The proposed campus is very efficiently planned and takes advantage of existing underground utilities such as power, water, waste water, and communication lines, thus minimizing the cost of the bed-down. Whiteman has more than enough capacity in its water plant, waste water plant and redundant power grid to operate campuses which are centrally located and are within walking distance of the Wing Headquarters support GSC. Street access to both the interim and permanent campuses is already in place. The Fitness Center, Professional Development Center, Child Development Center, and Base clinic.

OTHER SUPPORT CAPACITY:

Schools: Missouri education standards are in the top ten in the nation for rigor and achievement. Knob Noster and Warrensburg schools exceed those high standards, ranking in the top ten percent for districts in the State – nationally the best of the best. Both participate in the A+ Program which allows eligible students to qualify for State financial incentives to attend any public community college or career/technical school in Missouri. Like the state-of-the-art technology used on base, Whiteman area schools are at the forefront of combining technology and education, using such innovation as Smart boards, hand-held computers for middle school students, and laptops for every senior high student. In addition, live web broadcasts of school events keep families connected. As shown in the chart below, the average K-12 class sizes in Knob Noster and Warrensburg schools are smaller than the other bases considered for GSC. Furthermore, military families who have children with special needs will be well served by the extensive programs offered at Knob Noster, Sedalia, and Warrensburg.



Average Class Size		
	District	State
<i>Knob Noster-MO</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>13.7</i>
<i>Warrensburg-MO</i>	<i>13.6</i>	<i>13.7</i>
Bossier Parish School District-LA	15.6	14.7
Laramie County School District-WY	13.8	12.6
Great Falls Public Schools-MT	15.2	13.9
Minot Public Schools-ND	14.1	12.1
Bellevue Public Schools-NE	15.2	13.4

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSOURI MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION



There are several Higher Education opportunities available for families near Whiteman AFB. Park University, Webster University, and State Fair Community College, provide excellent opportunities on base. The University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, University of Missouri – Columbia, University of Missouri – Kansas City, Central Methodist University and several other colleges and universities close by offer a full range of educational programs and certificates through doctorate.

Housing and Cost of Living: The Whiteman area offers very competitive housing values off base. Median housing costs within thirty miles at \$110K are similar to Barksdale AFB and Minot AFB areas and significantly lower than the other bases under consideration. Comparing the states, Missouri has the lowest cost in terms of housing and groceries and is in a statistical tie with Nebraska for overall cost of living.

Median Cost of Housing						
30-mile radius -	<i>Whiteman</i>	Barksdale	FE Warren	Malmstrom	Minot	Offutt
Median Home	<i>\$110,443</i>	\$109,107	\$172,280	\$157,077	\$105,077	\$139,658



Cost of Living 4 th Quarter 2008									
State	US Rank	Base Rank	Index	Grocery	Housing	Utilities	Trans.	Health Care	Misc
<i>MO</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>90.3</i>	<i>93.2</i>	<i>78.2</i>	<i>93.3</i>	<i>95.1</i>	<i>95.1</i>	<i>96.8</i>
NE	3	1	89.8	96.3	80.8	94.2	93.5	90.8	92.4
LA	17	3	94.4	95.4	90.4	88.5	98.5	94.3	97.9
ND	20	4	95.1	100.5	85	92.7	97.4	97	101.80
WY	29	5	102.4	113.2	107.6	103.9	95.4	97	96.3
MT	34	6	105	114.9	105	103	100	103.9	103.7



Recreation: Whiteman offers significant advantages in both outdoor and urban recreation. Lake of the Ozarks and Truman Lake are less than an hour from the base and world-renowned Branson and Table Rock Lake are three hours to the south. Kansas City's major sports franchises include the Chiefs, Royals, and Wizards with NASCAR and horse racing nearby. Major outdoor theme parks are an easy drive on four lane highways.

Labor: The Whiteman area has over 1.1 million jobs in an 80-mile radius; nearly double that of the other bases. The area workforce is highly skilled with educational attainment levels meeting or exceeding national averages. The Whiteman area is home to over 67,000 employers; double that of other bases under consideration for the GSC, providing employment opportunities for spouses and family.

Available Labor Force within 80-mile Radius		
	Number of Jobs	Number of Employers
<i>Whiteman AFB, MO</i>	<i>1,106,900</i>	<i>67,522</i>
Barksdale AFB, LA	421,864	25,021
FE Warren AFB, WY	301,371	23,401
Malmstrom AFB, MT	69,652	5,695
Minot AFB, ND	40,887	3,052
Offutt AFB, NE	660,826	39,389





Health Care: Although most military members may use Whiteman’s medical facility for routine health care, the area provides extensive medical services for civilians and medical issues requiring specialty treatment. These include: the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center and Missouri Rehabilitation Center in Columbia, Children’s Mercy in Kansas City, St. Luke’s Health Center in Kansas City that US News and World Report terms as the best hospital for heart treatment in all phases nationwide. In addition, the Missouri Western Missouri Medical Center, Welch-Schmidt Center for Communication Disorders in Warrensburg and Sedalia’s new 180 bed facility, which includes extensive outpatient services and a speech and hearing clinic, are all nearby.

Communications Bandwidth: Whiteman has the requisite communications infrastructure to support the anticipated GSC workload. The land mobile radio (LAR) system can support 8,500 additional radios and 1,000 additional telephone numbers. Whiteman’s unclassified NIPR (Non-secure Internet Protocol Router) infrastructure can easily support the proposed user increase.

Transportation and Access: Kansas City International ranked first in the 2007 J.D. Power Satisfaction Survey for Mid-Sized Airports. The Airport is noted for its easy terminal access, minimal number of flight and weather delays and lack of congestion. Door-to-door elapsed time is competitive with other bases while the number of flights available to key destinations exceeds most other bases. For example, traveling through Kansas City International to Washington, D.C., Offutt AFB only has 12 flights weekly compared to 56 for Whiteman AFB.



Number of Direct Flights/Seats Weekly				
From	Flying to >>>	IAD/DCA Washington, D.C.	LAX Los Angeles, CA	ABQ Albuquerque, NM
<i>Whiteman AFB, MO thru Kansas City</i>		<i>56 / 3,640</i>	<i>26 / 3,135</i>	<i>7 / 884</i>
Barksdale AFB, LA		0	0	0
FE Warren AFB, WY thru Denver		83 / 14,439	160 / 23,939	89 / 9,629
Malmstrom AFB, MT		0	0	0
Minot AFB, ND		0	0	0
Offutt AFB, NE		12 / 912	0	0

Shortest Time from AFB to Destination (assumes leaving before noon):				
Time in Hours and Minutes				
From	Flying to >>>	IAD/DCA Washington, D.C.	LAX Los Angeles, CA	ABQ Albuquerque, NM
<i>Whiteman AFB, MO</i>		<i>4 hrs 19 mins</i>	<i>5 hrs 47 mins</i>	<i>5 hrs 35 mins</i>
Barksdale AFB, LA		5 hrs 1 min	6 hrs 15 mins	4 hrs 25 mins
FE Warren AFB, WY		6 hrs 19 mins	5 hrs 51 mins	4 hrs 3 mins
Malmstrom AFB, MT		6 hrs 43 mins	5 hrs 4 mins	4 hrs 52 mins
Minot AFB, ND		5 hrs 13 mins	7 hrs 32 mins	7 hrs 5 mins
Offutt, NE		3 hrs 19 mins	5 hrs 54 mins	4 hrs 37 mins



THE WHITEMAN ADVANTAGE:

In conclusion, the State of Missouri is very proud of its long and enduring relationship with the United States Air Force. The potential opportunity to serve as home to the Global Strike Command is of the greatest honor and magnitude to the State of Missouri. We will do everything possible to ensure the highest quality of life for the military families at Whiteman AFB and will strive to assist them in their transition by welcoming them with open arms. We believe the educational, health care and recreational opportunities, combined with the premier facilities and infrastructure available makes Whiteman Air Force Base the best choice for the Global Strike Command.

Although Whiteman was not selected by the United States Air Force high command as the location for the new Global Strike Command Headquarters, a great Whiteman community cohesive effort was inspired involving a spirit of unity and a dedication to purpose unlike anything ever before observed in the Whiteman community. Congratulations to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana for having been chosen.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IMPACT IN MISSOURI

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL IN MISSOURI

Missouri ranks ninth in Defense procurements with \$12.97 billion in Defense procurement during 2008. Accordingly, the St. Louis metropolitan area ranks third in Defense contracts, surpassed by Fort Worth, TX and Easter, TX.

MILITARY IN MISSOURI

- 27,777 civilian and active duty military personnel in Missouri (18,250 military and 9,257 government civilian)

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE MILITARY IN MISSOURI

- 2008– increase in gross state product of \$3.99 billion
- \$2.2 billion dollar increase in wage and salary income
- Indirect impact from military presence in state = 29, 883 jobs



FISCAL IMPACT OF THE MILITARY IN MISSOURI

- Contributed \$114.4 million to state general revenues
- Presence of the military in Missouri caused more people to migrate to the state, increasing state spending on education, public amenities, and social services by an amount of \$48.1 million. The net result for the Missouri state budget was a positive increase of \$55.8 million.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS IN MISSOURI

- Awarded more than 88,117 contracts totaling \$12.97 billion to Missouri vendors

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF U.S. DoD CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS IN MISSOURI

- Contract obligation awards amounted to \$12.97 billion and contributed \$6.27 billion to wage and salary income in Missouri
- Contributions to employment totaled 147,000 due to the contracts awarded

FISCAL IMPACT OF DoD CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS IN MISSOURI

- Department of Defense contracts in Missouri contributed \$379.3 million to state general revenues in 2008

Information provided by MERIC, *Missouri Economic Research and Information Center*, www.MissouriEconomy.org.



FEDERAL IMPACT AID TO MISSOURI SCHOOLS

Impact Aid Revenue as Reported by Districts on the 2008-2009 Annual Secretary of the Board Report (ASBR).
As of October 14, 2009

Data may not be final as district audits and DESE review of the ASBRs have not been completed.

<u>District Code</u>	<u>District Name</u>	<u>Impact Aid Revenue</u>
008-10	Warsaw R-IX	\$91,338.00
018-047	East Carter Co. R-II	\$14,821.00
018-050	Van Buren R-I	\$9,155.00
019-152	Belton 124	\$488,237.74
020-001	Stockton R-I	\$13,021.00
022-088	Chadwick R-I	\$39,421.00
024-087	Smithville R-II	\$161,045.00
024-091	Missouri City 56	\$15,811.35
035-102	Kennett 39	\$8,003.20
042-111	Henry CO. R-I	\$25,098.88
043-004	Hermitage R-IV	\$1,515.00
047-060	South Iron CO. R-I	\$3,550.33
047-065	Iron CO. C-4	\$10,513.23
051-155	Knob Noster R-VIII	\$5,742,018.49
051-156	Leeton R-X	\$9,453.13
051-159	Warrensburg R-VI	\$37,314.29
165-098	Princeton R-V	\$17,123.00
067-061	Charleston R-I	\$10,490.34
075-087	Alton R-IV	\$4,121.00
084-002	Fair Play R-II	\$4,005.00
085-043	Swedeborg R-III	\$253.50
085-045	Laquey R-V	\$37,447.29
085-046	Waynesville R-VI	\$18,232,434.70
085-048	Dixon R-I	\$116,231.67
085-049	Crocker R-II	\$63,325.00
090-076	SO Reynolds CO. R-II	\$7,029.00
090-077	Bunker R-III	\$3,434.10
090-078	Lesterville R-IV	\$577.00
093-123	Lakeland R-III	\$37,707.00
093-124	Osceola	\$33,061.18
101-105	Winona R-III	\$41,600.00
101-107	Eminence R-I	\$25,426.00
106-001	Bradleyville R-I	\$13,942.00
106-008	Mark Twain R-VIII	\$7,145.00
107-151	Success R-VI	\$2,607.20
107-156	Plato R-V	\$100,858.89
111-086	Greenville R-II	\$43,194.00
	Total Impact Aid	\$25,472,329.51



INTERSTATE COMPACT OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

Military families move between postings on a regular basis which can play havoc with the children of military families who must frequently change schools. There is a significant need, at the state and local levels, to ensure that the children of military families are afforded the same opportunities for educational success as other children and are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals by inflexible administrative and bureaucratic practices. The average military student faces transition challenges more than twice during high school and most military children will have six to nine different school systems in their lives from kindergarten to 12th grade.

The Council of State Governments (CSG), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Defense, has drafted a new interstate compact that addresses the following issues that impact military children:

ENROLLMENT

- **Educational Records** – the new compact provides that schools must share records in a timely manner in order to expedite the proper enrollment and placement of students.
- **Immunizations** – the new compact requires students to obtain immunizations in the receiving state no later than 30 days from the date of enrollment, or as otherwise provided.
- **Age of Enrollment/Course Continuation** – the compact requires, absent a new enrollment in Kindergarten, that a student shall be allowed to continue their enrollment at grade level in the receiving state commensurate with their grade level from the sending state.

ELIGIBILITY

- **Power of Attorney** – special power of attorney, duly possessed by a guardian, shall be sufficient for the purposes of enrollment and all other actions requiring parental participation and consent.
- **Tuition** – a local education agency shall be prohibited from charging local tuition to a military child placed in the care of a non-custodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent.
- **Non-custodial parents** – a military child, placed in the care of a non-custodial parent or other person standing in loco parentis who lives in a jurisdiction other than that of the custodial parent, may continue to attend the school in which he/she was enrolled while residing with the custodial parent.
- **Extracurricular activities** – state and local education agencies shall facilitate the opportunity for military children's inclusion in extracurricular activities to the extent they are otherwise qualified.

PLACEMENT

- **Course placement/Educational Program placement** – when the student transfers before or during the school year, the receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational courses based on the student's enrollment in the sending state school and/or educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state if the courses are offered. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the course(s).
- **Special education services** – pursuant to federal law, the receiving state shall initially provide comparable services to a student with disabilities based on his/her current Individualized Education Program (IEP); and the receiving state shall make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of incoming students with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.



- **Placement flexibility** – administrative officials in the receiving state shall have flexibility in waiving course/program prerequisites, or other preconditions for placement in courses/programs offered under the jurisdiction of the local education agency.
- **Absence as related to deployment activities** – local education agencies shall be given greater flexibility to grant excused absences to students for visitation with a parent or legal guardian who is active duty and who also is under broadly defined circumstances associated with deployment.

GRADUATION

- **Waiver requirements** – the compact provides a standard that requires the receiving state to waive specific courses required for graduation if similar course work has been satisfactorily completed in the sending state.
- **Exit exams** – the compact provides a more uniform standard for how exit or end-of-course exams, national norm-referenced achievement tests, or other alternative tests will impact students who are approaching graduation.
- **Transfers during Senior year** – the compact allows the receiving state to work with the sending state to permit the student to graduate with a diploma from the latter if the receiving state has exhausted all of its options under the compact and is yet unable to grant a diploma to the student.

STATE COORDINATION

- **State Council** – each state will be required to develop a State Council, or make use of an existing body or board, to provide for the coordination among its agencies of government, local education agencies and military installations concerning the state's participation in, and compliance with, this compact.
- **Military Family Education Liaison** – the State Council of each member state shall appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of this compact.
- **Compact Commissioner** – the Compact Commissioner, responsible for the administration and management of the State's participation in the Compact, shall be appointed by the Governor or as otherwise determined by each member state. The Compact Commissioner will be a member of the Interstate Compact Commission and is the Missouri voting representative at the national level.

NATIONAL COORDINATION

- **Interstate Commission** – the governing body of the new interstate compact composed of representatives from each member state as well as various ex-officio members representing impacted stakeholder groups, the Interstate Commission will provide general oversight of the agreement, create and enforce rules governing the compact's operation and promote training and compliance with the compact's requirements.

The Compact is an agreement between the states and among the states, that they will handle these critical issues in the same way. Ten states were required to actively engage this agreement. Missouri was the seventh state out of the first ten states to sign the compact. The other states were: Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan and Oklahoma.

Since the passage of the Compact Agreement, over half of the fifty states have ratified the agreement; several of the remaining states are committed to its passage.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Having identified issues and made findings and recommendations in this Report, some of which invite appropriate legislation, we call upon the General Assembly to pass legislation consistent with this report that would:

- (1) Provide sufficient funding to the Commission to operate and function in performance of its legislative mandates on positioning Missouri to retain its existing military facilities and to acquire additional missions for our military installations;
- (2) Enact legislation which provides that when a residence waiver under Section 167.020 RSMo. has been granted for a child or children of a military parent required to live on a military installation because deemed “mission essential,” the State of Missouri Aid allocable for such child or children shall be paid to the school district where that child or those children are in actual attendance even though their physical residence is in another school district;
- (3) Amend Section 167.020 RSMo. to provide that “good cause” for a residence waiver shall include a circumstance where a military parent is deemed “mission essential” and required to live on a military installation;
- (4) Provide an instrument to fully fund Missouri’s participation within the Interstate Compact of Educational Opportunity for Military Children;
- (5) Re-enact Section 115.277 RSMo., as it existed prior to the year 2002;
- (6) Provide sufficient funding for Missouri to contract with a consultant/advocate to assess the possibility of enhancements or losses to Missouri with regard to future BRAC or similar initiative and to pursue the objectives of the Commission as outlined in the enabling legislation; and
- (7) Fully fund the State’s share of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program.





RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OTHER STATE ACTION

- (1) The Governor, when appointing members to the State Board of Education, appoint at least one member with a military background and interest in military family issues;
- (2) Continue efforts with respect to encroachment of military posts and bases and enhancement of mission capabilities for the military posts and bases located within Missouri and in support thereof:
 - (a) Investigate military posts and bases in Missouri to ascertain the land expansion needs of each post or base and formulate a strategy to work with and harmonize efforts with post or base commanders to accomplish acquisition of additional land utilizing the post and base commanders' discretionary authority to do so with Federal funds and, in addition, to implement whatever Federal administrative or legislative action necessary to achieve the expansion goals;
 - (b) Determine the feasibility of creating a Standby State and local authority to provide funds to use in lieu of such Federal discretionary funds available to Commanders of posts and bases and, if appropriate, to supplement with State or local funds, if necessary;
 - (c) Study and formulate a land bank or lease back or other land acquisition strategies providing good neighbor relations, but with controls to protect the mission of the military posts or bases; and
 - (d) Investigate the possibility of state agencies or local government acquiring or protecting land needed by the military posts and bases to protect against current or latent encroachment issues.
- (3) Encourage members of the Missouri State High School Activities Association to adopt an exemption so that a high school age child of a military parent required to live on a military installation because that parent has been deemed "mission essential" shall be eligible to participate in all MSHSAA activities if that child is attending a school out of district from the family's residence;
- (4) Ensure that local school districts of Missouri with military children are aware of the number of students in their districts who have military parents assigned in the district or are deployed, including the National Guard and Reserves;
- (5) Encourage local school districts of Missouri with military children join the Military Child Education Coalition (See www.MilitaryChild.org);
- (6) Through the Department of Elementary of Secondary Education website make available to the Missouri K-12 school counseling community and in particular to the local school districts of Missouri with military children access to the Interactive Counseling Center of the Military Child Education Coalition;
- (7) Encourage the study and consider the resources available for educating students who are struggling in school and in life by utilizing what the military knows about developing young people (Center for Children and Families, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036);
- (8) Continue promotion of the Missouri "Troops to Teachers" program;
- (9) Ensure that active duty service members and their families, in addition to the National Guard and Reservists, have the opportunity to access job services provided by the Missouri Division of Workforce Development;
- (10) Recommend that all Missouri High Schools with military students become signatories to the Memorandum of Agreement entitled "The Guiding Principles for Addressing Issues of Transitioning Military Students" (see www.MilitaryChild.org); and
- (11) Encourage the local school districts of Missouri to participate in the Power of 11 cents Campaign.





MISSOURI MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION LINKS WWW.MMPEC.DED.MO.GOV

Missouri Veterans Commission	www.mvc.dps.gov
Fort Leonard Wood	www.wood.army.mil
Whiteman Air Force Base	www.whiteman.af.mil
139 th Airlift Wing	www.mostjo.ang.af.mil
Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center	www.mostjo.ang.af.mil/aattc/default.htm
Missouri National Guard	www.moguard.com
Leonard Wood Institute	http://leonardwoodinstitute.org
Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC)	www.brac.gov
Missouri Office of Homeland Security	www.dps.mo.gov/HomelandSecurity/index.htm
Missouri's Sunshine Law	http://ago.mo.gov/sunshinelaw
U.S. Department of Homeland Security	www.dhs.gov
U.S. Department of Defense	www.defenselink.mil
Benefiting the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard	www.military.com
National Military Family Association NMFA	www.nmfa.org
USA 4 Military Families	www.usa4militaryfamilies.org
Missouri School Board Association	www.msbanet.org
Military Newspapers	www.militarynews.com
Military Connections Military News and Veteran News	www.militaryconnections.com/news
Military Life	www.militarylife.com
The Guidon	www.flw-guidon.com
Spirit Times Whiteman Air Force Base - Whiteman Spirit Archive	www.whiteman.af.mil
Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Center	www.missouribusiness.net/ptac
Heartland Procurement Technical Assistance Center	www.mssu.edu/heartlandptac





OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES



Military Child Education Coalition™	www.MilitaryChild.org
Education Resource Center	www.MilitaryChild.org
Ask Aunt Peggie	www.AskAuntPeggie.com
SchoolQuest™	www.SchoolQuest.org
American Legislative Exchange Council	www.ALEC.org
Council of Chief State School Officers	www.CCSSO.org
Education Trust	www.EdTrust.org
Education Commission of the States	www.ECS.org
Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve	www.ESGR.org
Military Impacted Schools Association	www.MilitaryStudent.org
National Center for Alternative Certification	www.Teach-Now.org
National Conference of State Legislatures	www.NCSL.org
National Governors Association	www.NGA.org
National Parent Teacher Associations	www.PTA.org
PreK Now	www.PreKNow.org
United States Department of Education	www.Ed.gov





MISSOURI MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION LEGACY



2005

SB 252- Creates the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission.

HB 119- Requires continuation of life insurance benefits for state employees and retirees who are called to military service in times of active armed warfare.

HB 348- Establishes the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission.

Town Hall Meeting at Whiteman Air Force Base, Warrensburg

Town Hall Meeting at Fort Leonard Wood, St. Robert

2006

SB 845- Modifies fees and reinstatement processes in the event of corporate administrative dissolution, in the event that a corporation was administratively dissolved due to a failure to file an annual registration report, if the secretary of state concludes that the failure was due to military service.

HB 1787- Establishes the Guard at Home Program to assist the spouse of an active-duty National Guard or reservist with immediate needs and employment to prevent the family from falling into poverty.

Recommended to the Missouri General Assembly that additional funding be granted to the Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries.

Developed a print and web document that provides answers to some of the frequently asked questions from military families with regard to education access in Missouri.

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission Coordinator added to the staff at the Department of Economic Development.

Defense/Homeland Security Industry Specialist added to the staff at the Department of Economic Development.

2007

HB 444- Eliminates taxes on any Social Security or Public Pension benefits for those who are 62 years and older. This includes veterans.

HB 654- Exempts the property of a veterans' organization from real and personal property taxes, increases the amount of matching grants for veterans' programs, and establishes the Stolen Valor Act of 2007.

SB 22- Removes the requirement that Johnson County is to plan and zone an area surrounding a military base located in the county without a zoning commission and a board of adjustment.

Resolution Expressing Support for Fully Funding the True Health Care Needs and Related Benefit Programs for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Commendation to Rachel Wheeler

Town Hall Meeting at Whiteman Air Force Base, Warrensburg

Town Hall Meeting at Rosecrans Memorial Airport Air Guard Station, St. Joseph

Participation in the BRAC Workforce Summit

Participation in Congressman Ike Skelton's Procurement Conference

Participation in the Military Child Education Coalition Annual Conference

Membership to the Military Child Education Coalition

Membership to the Association of Defense Communities





2008

HB 1678 - Changes the laws regarding members of the military and their families. In its main provisions, the bill:

- ★ Allows the Chairman of the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission as an ex officio member of the Missouri Veterans Commission and vice versa;
- ★ Allows a military dependent who has completed an accredited prekindergarten program or completed or attended a kindergarten program in another state to enter kindergarten or first grade even if the child has not reached the required age for Missouri schools by August 1;
- ★ Authorizes the State Board of Education to develop recommendations regarding alternate assessments for military dependents who relocate to Missouri during the school year;
- ★ Authorizes Missouri to enter into the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children and establishes the Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunities for Military Children. The compact covers issues including facilitation of enrollment, both in classes and extracurricular activities; placement; graduation; and information-sharing;
- ★ Requires the state board to establish rules to allow the issuance of a provisional teacher's certificate before the completion of a background check to the spouse of a military member who holds a teacher's certificate in another state that requires a background check and who has relocated within the last year;
- ★ Allows school districts to accept a course in government completed in another state when a student transfers to a Missouri high school in ninth to twelfth grade to satisfy the state's graduation requirement;
- ★ Allows the spouse and children of a soldier who after September 11, 2001, was killed or died of an illness while serving in action or became 80% disabled from an injury sustained in combat action and was a Missouri citizen at the time of enlistment and when the death or injury occurred to receive an educational grant for tuition at a public or private college or university in Missouri. The Coordinating Board of Higher Education within the Department of Higher Education will award up to 25 grants annually;
- ★ Establishes the Missouri Returning Heroes' Education Act which requires all public higher education institutions which receive state funds appropriated by the General Assembly to limit the tuition charged to combat veterans for undergraduate studies to \$50 per credit hour;
- ★ Specifies that a person's absence, relocation, or failure to comply with custody and visitation due to military service and out-of-state deployment, by itself, is not sufficient to justify a modification of a child custody or visitation order; and
- ★ Renames the Guard at Home Program to the Hero at Home Program and expands the program to cover the first year after discharge from deployment, to cover reservists, and to cover situations in which an individual cannot return to his or her previous employment.

SB 806 - Provides that the U.S. and Missouri state flags shall be flown at half-staff for one full day whenever a Missouri resident is killed in the line of duty during military service.

SB 830 - Establishes the "Missouri Returning Heroes' Education Act," and provides that all public institutions of higher education that receive any state funds appropriated by the general assembly shall limit the tuition charged to combat veterans to fifty dollars per credit hour, for any program leading to a certificate, or an associate or baccalaureate degree.

HB 1313 - Requires the Commissioner of the Office of Administration to give preference to certain disabled veterans doing business as Missouri companies when awarding state contracts if the quality of work is equal or better and the price is the same or less.

Town Hall Meeting at Whiteman Air Force Base, Warrensburg

Participation in the Military Child Education Coalition Annual Conference

Participation in the Association of Defense Communities Annual Conference Membership to the Military Child Education Coalition

Membership to the Association of Defense Communities





2009

HB 82 – Changes the laws regarding income tax exemptions for certain retirement benefits.

Authorizes, beginning January 1, 2010, an income tax deduction from a taxpayer's Missouri adjusted gross income for 15% of any military retirement income, regardless of age or income. The tax deduction rate will increase by 15% annually until January 1, 2016, when it is fully phased in and all of the military retirement income will be deductible.

HB 427- Changes the laws regarding members of the military, veterans, and their families. In its main provisions, the bill:

- ★ Increases the membership of the Missouri Veterans Commission from five to nine;
- ★ Authorizes the commission to establish rules and regulations necessary for the management and administration of its veteran service programs and cemeteries;
- ★ Revises the educational grant program for survivors of war veterans by defining who is a qualifying military member and who is a combat veteran;
- ★ Requires a dependent of an active duty military member, as defined in federal law, who is residing in Missouri and whose parent is assigned to permanent duty in the state to be eligible for in-state tuition as long as he or she is continuously enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program of a Missouri higher education institution including any transfers from one Missouri institution to another or from an undergraduate to a graduate degree program;
- ★ Designates the portion of the Poplar Bluff bypass located in Butler County from State Highway 60 where it crosses over the Black River to State Highway 67 where it crosses State Route M as the "Veterans Memorial Highway";
- ★ Authorizes the Department of Revenue to provide one set of "PURPLE HEART" specialized license plates free of charge other than the regular registration fees to any person who has been awarded the medal;
- ★ Allows for a special license plate designated "Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal" for any person who has been awarded this military service award;
- ★ Allows, upon the approval of a local authority's governing body, a veteran displaying a Congressional Medal of Honor, Prisoner of War, Silver Star, or PURPLE HEART special license plate to park his or her motor vehicle without charge in a metered parking space within the authority's jurisdiction if it is less than 6,000 pounds gross weight. A veteran who has been awarded the Bronze Star may apply to the Director of the Department of Revenue for a windshield placard which will allow him or her to also park without charge in a metered parking space if the placard is hung from the front, middle rearview mirror or displayed on the dashboard on the driver's side if there is no rearview mirror; and
- ★ Requires all court orders regarding child custody or visitation or an ex parte order of protection issued or modified while either party is in active military service and deployed out-of-state to be temporary in nature unless the party in active service knowingly and voluntarily signs a waiver to the right to have the hearing upon his or her return.

Resolution expressing support for the selection of Whiteman Air Force Base as the location for the permanent United States Air Force Global Strike Command.

Commendation to Tanya Harencak for her service as liaison from Whiteman Air Force Base as she and her husband General Harencak depart Whiteman Air Force Base for another assignment.



MISSOURI MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION



MISSOURI MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND ENHANCEMENT COMMISSION

Administrative Support Provided By:
Missouri Department of Economic Development

Email: MMPEC@ded.mo.gov
Web: www.MMPEC.ded.mo.gov