



*Nothing is politically right
that is morally wrong.*

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

*Free and fair discussion
is the firmest friend of truth.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 2005

**County Commissioners Association Presents
Senator Michael Gibbons with Legislative Award**

JEFFERSON CITY – The County Commissioners Association of Missouri recognized Senate President Pro Tem Michael R. Gibbons, R- Kirkwood, for passage of a bill he sponsored that strengthens protections against continually increasing residential property taxes. The CCAM presented Gibbons with their 2004 Legislative Award for his leadership and commitment to improving county governance during the second regular session of the 92nd General Assembly.

“This bill protects taxpayers from increases caused by the failure of the rate rollbacks to work,” Gibbons said. “The old rollback failed to protect taxpayers from tax increases caused by reassessment.”

Gibbons said he included language providing flexibility to county governments when county commissioners brought the issue to his attention. Tom Mann, Buchanan County Presiding Commissioner and president of CCAM, oversaw the presentation of the award to Gibbons at the organization’s annual training conference held in Jefferson City.

“This legislation gives counties the ability to respond to local needs rather than trying to fit under a statewide umbrella,” Mann said. “We’re fortunate that we have legislators that listen to our needs and respond to county governments.”

SB 960 reinforces the property tax rollbacks provided in the Hancock Amendment while also resisting higher taxes on personal property. The measure will help ensure that taxes on houses and cars will not increase excessively in the future.

Three other lawmakers were recognized for their role in support of the passage of SB 960. They include Sen. John Griesheimer, R-Washington, Rep. Carl Bearden, R-St. Charles, and Rep. Bob Johnson, R-Lee’s Summit.

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