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# Jason Smith's Capitol Report - Friday, February 24, 2017

FEBRUARY 27TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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This week, the United States House of Representatives will play host for President Trump's first formal address to the Joint Session of Congress. It is anticipated that the President will outline the many steps he and Congress will be taking in the coming months to help get millions of Americans back into the workforce. While investments in our nation's crumbling infrastructure will be discussed, along with a lowering of the crushing tax burden felt by families and farmers, some steps - like reducing the regulatory red tape stifling growth in this country - have already begun.

In the days surrounding the President's formal address, the House of Representatives will simultaneously take up and advance legislation I have authored known as the Searching for and Cutting Regulations that are Unnecessarily Burdensome Act or SCRUB Act for short. This law would help compliment and codify much of the work President Trump has already taken in his first 30 days in office to reduce the impact unelected Washington bureaucrats are having on the lives of everyday Americans.

During his first full week in office, on January 30th President Trump authored Executive Order, "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Agency Regulatory Costs". Among other things, a key component of that order was a calling for the removal of two regulations for every new one proposed. The SCRUB Act sets up a commission of those directly impacted by Washington regulations to help the White House identify those regulations which should be removed - giving the President the tools to reduce regulations which are

duplicative, burdensome and holding back innovation, entrepreneurship and growth in this country.

The facts we know are indisputable - regulations are costing the American economy close to \$2 trillion, or \$15,000 per household with farmers and small business owners across the country citing 'regulations' as a major impactor on their business and bottom line. We know that with bipartisan support the SCRUB Act passed the House of Representatives already last year. And finally, we know that if the liberal leader of the Senate, New York Senator Chuck Schumer, would simply let his Democrat colleagues vote their conscience, policies which reduce the headache Washington regulations are causing for millions of American families, like the SCRUB Act, would be on President Trump's desk before summer.

Unfortunately obstructing the progress and advancement of policies which shrink the size of Washington and get our economy moving again has been the playbook of the liberals in Washington since the day Donald Trump stepped into office. With an eye already to the 2020 elections, Senators like Elizabeth Warren have joined with Schumer to make this one of the slowest presidential cabinet confirmation processes in recent history. They have objected to common sense policies like the REINS Act which would require congressional approval for any regulation costing more than \$100 million. Simply put, they are more interested in playing political games than in working with our newly elected President to change the course in Washington which millions of Americans supported, called for, and voted for this past November.

I am hopeful that after Tuesday night, those Washington insiders and Senators bent on obstruction will re-evaluate why their districts and states sent them to Washington. I am hopeful they will consider supporting the legislation, policies, laws, and nominations which will help alleviate the burden of an oversized federal government which taxes, regulates and spends too much. I know in the House of Representatives, with the passage of policies like the SCRUB Act, we are committed to giving President Trump the tools and resources he needs to enact the change in Washington that myself and millions of Americans have been overwhelmingly calling for.

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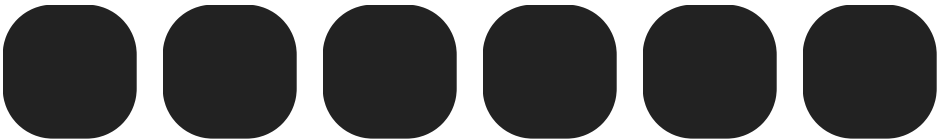
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## Local Students Attend Occupational Therapists Advocacy Day

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FEBRUARY 25TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Local Students Attend Occupational Therapists Advocacy Day

**Jefferson City, Missouri** - On Wednesday, February 22, 2017 local students traveled to Jefferson City for an advocacy day for Occupational Therapists and students in that field.

"I was lucky enough to speak with these young ladies about their goals as therapists and how the legislature can support them," commented 151st State Representative Tila Hubrecht.

Pictured with Tila Hubrecht is Morgan Cliff of Dexter, Tiffany Wilcox of Advance, Erika Medlin of Scott City, and Jennifer Cook of Glen Allen.

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## Blunt Honored with National Education Service Award

FEBRUARY 25TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Blunt Honored with National Education Service Award

**Washington D.C.** - U.S. Senator Roy Blunt (Mo.), Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, recently received the National Education Service Award from the Association of Community Colleges Trustees and the American Association of Community Colleges. The award recognizes leaders for their efforts to support post-secondary education and training.

“As new jobs emerge in areas like advanced technology and health care, community colleges will continue playing a critical role in preparing students for the 21st century economy,” Blunt said. “That’s why I’ve been proud to lead efforts to make post-secondary education more affordable and accessible for Missouri students, including making Pell Grants available year round. I’m honored to receive this award, and will continue working to expand opportunity and make sure more students in our state and across the nation have the knowledge and skills they need to get ahead.”

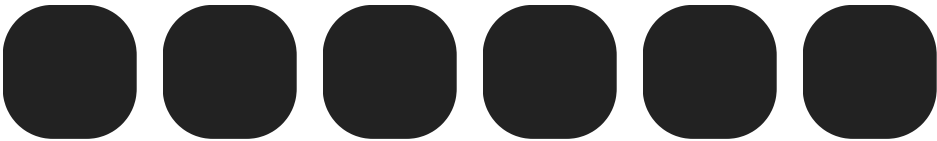
As chairman of the appropriations subcommittee that funds the Department of Education, Blunt secured a provision in the bipartisan, committee-passed FY 2017 appropriations bill that would restore eligibility for year-round Pell Grants. This would allow full and part-

time students to receive an additional Pell Grant during the year, helping them stay on track for graduation, enter or re-enter the workforce sooner, and graduate with less debt. Restoring year-round Pell would provide an estimated one million students, on average, an extra \$1,650 to help pay for college.

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# Rep. Tila Hubrecht Appointed to Leadership Position

FEBRUARY 22ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Rep. Tila Hubrecht Appointed to Leadership Position

## REPRESENTATIVE TILA HUBRECHT APPOINTED TO LEADERSHIP POSITION FOR NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Alexandria, Virginia - Rep. Tila Hubrecht, (R-Dexter) has been selected to serve in a leadership role for the National Foundation for Women Legislators, the nation’s oldest



non-partisan organization addressing the needs of elected women at the city, county, and state levels of government.

Hubrecht, was recently appointed to serve on the 2017 Policy Committee for the National Foundation for Women Legislators (NFWL). Hubrecht was also appointed last month to serve as the 2017 Missouri NFWL State Director.

“I am excited to be appointed to this position and to have the opportunity to impact policy development and policy issues coming before legislators across the nation and working with individuals across our nation in shaping our nation’s future,” said Rep. Hubrecht.

As a member of the Policy Committee, Rep. Hubrecht will contribute to all committee business by developing educational programs on policy issues, engaging with policy partners, and recommending which areas of policy the Foundation shall focus on. The 2017 Policy Committee will focus on shared legislation by encouraging elected women to exchange legislative ideas. This is a new emphasis for NFWL and the Policy Committee will play an integral role in the launch and maintenance of shared legislation.

Elected women from across the country will gather in Minneapolis, Minnesota November 14-18, for NFWL’s Annual Conference to identify effective solutions to some of the nation’s most timely and pressing issues. Providing a non-partisan environment that encourages dialogue and the sharing of information and experiences, women leaders are able to build coalitions, share the concerns of their constituents, and identify out-of-the-box solutions to the most pressing issues facing their communities today.

“We are so honored Rep. Hubrecht has accepted a leadership position in our foundation,” shared Minnesota State Senator Carrie Ruud, NFWL’s 2017 Chair. “She will play a crucial role in the continued success of NFWL, as we embark on our most exciting year yet.”

Hubrecht, begins serving in her new position immediately and will hold this office through the end of 2017.

About the National Foundation for Women Legislators, Inc. (NFWL)

Through annual educational and networking events, the National Foundation for Women Legislators supports elected women from all levels of governance. As a non-profit, non-partisan organization, NFWL does not take ideological positions on public policy issues, but rather serves as a forum for women legislators to be empowered through information and experience. [www.womenlegislators.org](http://www.womenlegislators.org)

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## Protecting Missouri's Peace Officers

FEBRUARY 17TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Protecting Missouri's Peace Officers

Jefferson City, Missouri - Missouri 151st State Representative Tila Hubrecht put in her Capitol Report the following comments about protecting Missouri's Peace Officers! The Missouri House took action this week to deter crimes against law enforcement officials. House members approved legislation that would create enhanced penalties for individuals who assault officers of the law.

The legislation would increase by one degree the penalty for voluntary or involuntary manslaughter; first- or second-degree property damage; unlawful use of a weapon;

rioting; or first-degree trespassing; when those crimes are committed against a law enforcement officer. As an example, voluntary manslaughter is a class B felony under current statute, but if HB 57 becomes law, voluntary manslaughter committed against a law enforcement officer would see the penalty increased to a class A felony.

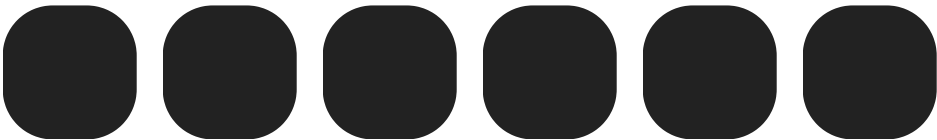
As the bill’s sponsor told her colleagues, “Hopefully these additional penalties will be a deterrent for anyone who may be considering engaging in a crime against these public servants. This law is intended to further protect those who have dedicated themselves to safeguarding our communities," stated Tila Hubrecht, 151st State Representative.

Supporters of the bill said the enhanced penalties are necessary because crimes against law enforcement officers have increased in recent years. They also said the bill would reinforce the legislature’s commitment to law enforcement.

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