



Governor Matt Blunt

Conservative Leadership, Positive Change for Missouri

Since taking office in January 2005, Governor Matt Blunt has provided the common sense, conservative leadership Missouri so desperately needed after years under liberal Democrat rule. He balanced a budget with an inherited billion dollar deficit, helped Missourians create nearly 100,000 new jobs, and made the education of our children his top priority – all without one dime in new taxes. Governor Blunt continues to provide sound leadership for our state, creating a new health care system that empowers participants and improves health and passing legislation that honors the values of Missouri families. Below are some of the many improvements Governor Blunt has enacted to make Missouri an even better place to live, work and raise a family. To learn more, visit www.MattBlunt.com.

Improving Education

- More than **half a billion new dollars** for Missouri classrooms without a tax increase
- New, fairer school funding formula based on student and classroom needs
- An end to higher education funding cuts put into place by the previous administration
- **\$40 million increase for higher education** per year for the next three years
- Accountability measures for colleges and universities to help keep tuition low and predictable
- \$72.5 million for **needs based scholarships**, more than doubled funding, to help over **36,000 students**
- \$335 million for capital improvements on campuses across the state through the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, **bringing campuses into the 21st century** and preparing students for the high-tech workforce
- \$4 million increase for Parents As Teachers to help parents with their child's **early development** years
- After school programs that **keep children safe** and incorporate math and science learning to give Missouri students an edge
- **State sales tax holiday** for school supplies and related needs to help with back to school budgets

Available and Affordable Health Care

- **MO HealthNet**, Gov. Blunt's bipartisan health care system that **focuses on wellness and prevention** and empowers patients by expanding access to care, increasing choices and improving health
- **Insure Missouri**, which helps low-income, working Missourians purchase health insurance for themselves and their families and will reduce the number of uninsured Missourians by 30%
- **Primary and preventive care** under MO HealthNet through Health Care Homes that provide regular check-ups, immunizations and a personal plan of care
- More affordable health coverage for Missouri families through legislation that expands health care coverage, lowers health care costs and **reduces the number of Missourians without insurance**
- \$25 million for the **Health Care Technology Fund** that improves health decisions and coordination among doctors, prevents dangerous drug interactions and reduces wasted tax dollars
- Long-term care insurance deduction increased to 100 percent to **help families prepare for the future**
- \$600,000 increase in funding for Meals on Wheels and \$400,000 for the Missouri Rx program to **allow seniors to maintain their independence** and remain in their homes and communities

Creating Family-Supporting Jobs

- More than **93,000 new, family-supporting jobs** since 2005 and lowest unemployment rate in six years
- 17,000 new jobs with **good pay levels and health coverage** through the Quality Jobs Act
- Expanded Quality Jobs Act annual capacity from \$12 million to \$40 million and boosts for pro-growth tax credit initiatives designed to promote economic expansion and job creation
- 10 percent ethanol standard for motor vehicle fuel, benefiting consumers, farm families and the environment while reducing our dependence on foreign oil and **positioning Missouri as a leader** in renewable energy
- Lawsuit reform to **end frivolous and abusive lawsuits** that were driving family physicians out of practice
- Workers' compensation reform that **protects and strengthens workers' compensation** to help workers injured on the job while fighting abuse of the system, resulting in reduced insurance premiums and more opportunities to create jobs

Responsible Government

- \$1.1 billion budget deficit in 2005 turned to **\$300 million budget surplus** in 2007 with no new taxes
- **Tax relief for seniors** by ending cuts in Social Security benefits through double taxation, benefiting tens of thousands of Missouri seniors, teachers, firefighters, police officers, and military personnel
- **Protection for property owners** from government abuse of eminent domain for the use of private interests
- **Katrina Doctrine**, guaranteeing Missourians their Second Amendment rights in times of emergency
- **Castle Doctrine**, ensuring the right of law-abiding citizens to protect their families and property from criminals
- Elimination of more than \$138 million in **waste, fraud and abuse in welfare**
- Increased efficiency with **less than 60,000 state workers** in Missouri for the first time since 1999



Governor Blunt and First Lady Melanie Blunt with their two-year old son, Branch

Protecting Missouri Values

- **Lifetime electronic monitoring** of criminals convicted of certain sexual offenses against children
- Jessica's Law, which mandates **life in prison for child sex offenders**
- Anti-meth legislation to crack down on meth-makers, resulting in **40 percent decrease in meth incidents**
- **Pro-life laws** to strengthen parental consent laws and require abortion "clinics" to have local hospital access
- **End to state payments to abortion providers**, including Planned Parenthood, with increased funding for health screenings to help 1,200 more women get important health care **without compromising their values**
- Tax credit for charitable donations for **pregnancy resource centers** that support a mother's decision for life
- Permanent **Alternatives to Abortion** program that offers counseling and services to pregnant women and encourages them to carry their unborn children to term
- Legislation to keep Planned Parenthood and other **abortion providers out of Missouri classrooms**
- **Upholding traditional marriage** as the union between a man and a woman

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