



THE MISSOURI BAR

THE MISSOURI BAR CENTER
326 MONROE ST.
POST OFFICE BOX 119
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102
573/635-4128
FAX: 573/635-2811
E-MAIL: MOBAR@MOBAR.ORG
WEB SITE: [HTTP://WWW.MOBAR.ORG](http://www.mobar.org)

DATE: March 31, 2009
TO: Senator Jack Goodman
FROM: The Missouri Bar
RE: Perfected Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 37

Recently, The Missouri Bar Executive Committee met to review legislation. The Executive Committee consists of the officers of the bar and three additional members annually elected by the Board of Governors. The members of this year's committee are Thomas M. Burke, President; H.A. "Skip" Walther, President-Elect; John S. Johnston, Vice-President; Charlie J. Harris, Jr., Immediate Past-President; Carol Chazen Friedman; Patrick B. Starke; and Deanna K. Scott. The committee has authority to act on behalf of the Board of Governors during the legislative session. In reviewing legislation, the Executive Committee considers comments received from various Missouri Bar legislative review subcommittees. All positions taken by the Executive Committee are communicated to the full Board as soon as possible after they are taken.

Recently, the Executive Committee reviewed the perfected version of Senate Bill 37. It was noted that this version of the bill does **not** repeal provisions in current law that provide for representation by the Public Defender in post-conviction proceedings, which had earlier been the subject of constitutional concerns.

The Missouri Bar supports adequate funding of a state-wide Public Defender system and the development of proper caseload standards.

Thank you for your work on Senate Bill 37 and your efforts to secure adequate funding for Missouri's Public Defender system. Your support is very much appreciated.