



[\[Print\]](#) [\[Close\]](#)

Jetton: Public cares most about eminent domain, gas prices

By Jo Mannies

Friday, Oct. 21 2005

Missouri House Speaker **Rod Jetton**, R-Marble Hill, says the Republican legislative caucus will meet in early December to discuss how best to deal with eminent domain when the Legislature reconvenes in January.

As detailed in an earlier Political Fix post, some rural Democrats already have unveiled their own proposal. And St. Louis Mayor **Francis Slay**, a fellow Democrat, has said that plan goes too far.

Jetton, interviewed Friday, said that legislators already are informally discussing the differences between how eminent domain is practiced in urban and rural areas.

Jetton has yet to take a position on the two initiative petitive drives being conducted around the state. One would hike tobacco taxes to raise money for health care programs, including boosting Medicaid reimbursement rates for hospitals and doctors. The other would protect most forms of stem-cell research.

He says he still has to study the stem-cell proposal. As for the tobacco proposal, "I really have a problem with tax increases."

And what about the **Log Cabin Republicans'** proposal for civil unions? "There's no chance I'll support that," Jetton said.

The speaker added that none of the above issues seem to be as important to his southeast Missouri constituents as the rising gas prices. "My sister got collared with the grocery story by someone who said, 'What's your brother going to do about this?'" Jetton said.

Other than encouraging ethanol production and providing energy assistance for the poor, there isn't much that the state can do, he added.

Article printed from STLtoday.com Blogs: <http://www.stltoday.com/blogs>

URL to article: <http://www.stltoday.com/blogs/news-politicalfix/2005/10/jetton-public-cares-most-about-eminent-domain-gas-prices/>

If you enjoy reading about interesting news, you might like the 3 O'Clock Stir from STLtoday.com. Sign up and you'll receive an email with unique stories of the day, every Monday-Friday, at no charge.

Sign up at <http://newsletters.stltoday.com>
