



News Release

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WESTERN'S NAME CHANGE MOVES ONE STEP CLOSER

St. Joseph, Mo. —Feb. 22, 2005—The Higher Education Committee of the Missouri House of Representatives voted 10 to 1 to pass Senate Bill 98 this afternoon, which contains provisions for the change of Missouri Western State College's name to Missouri Western State University.

“The positive vote is a testimony to the quality of Missouri Western and its readiness to be a university,” Dr. James Scanlon, Western's president, said about the committee vote.

Dr. Scanlon testified on behalf of the bill. He told the committee that, as a university, Western will be better able to serve students, meet business and industry needs in the region, , and attract federal and foundation grant funds.

Senate Bill 98 was passed by the Senate on Feb 16. Now that the House Higher Education Committee has voted in favor of the bill it will go to the House Rules Committee. If it receives a favorable vote there, it will go to the House floor for consideration, perhaps as early as next week. If passed in the House without change it will be sent to Gov. Blunt for his signature. If changes are made it will return to the Senate.

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.