

# Meet the Adair Co. representatives



Sen. Brian Munzlinger

**Party:** Republican  
**District:** 18  
**Hometown:** Quincy, Ill.  
**Phone number:** 573-751-7985

**Background:** Munzlinger received a Bachelor of Science Degree in General Agriculture and a teaching certificate in agriculture from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1978. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Northeast Missouri Grain Processors Co-op and on the advisory board to the University of Missouri's Greenley Research Center. Munzlinger served in the House of Representatives from 2002- 2010, according to his biography on the Senate website. He is a member of the Missouri Farm Bureau and several other farm associations.

## What's your biggest legislative priority over the next six months?

"Since we don't start session until January, any priority could change. We do start special session, and that's on economic development. I thoroughly believe that we need to get people back to work for which we have the jobs bill, and that is right now the main objective."

## What is your top priority with higher education in the coming session?

"We did come into this year with a surplus of \$159 million and I really don't believe the governor should be doing any withholds from anybody. If you read the Constitution, when we've got a surplus you're not supposed to withhold. The money needs to go back where it belongs, where it was agreed upon by the legislature. And again, we need to look at and hope our economy continues to pick up. Of course, I don't know what the federal [budget] deal will actually do to the state, and we probably won't find out until that super committee is formed. Once we've got students graduating from high school, it's very important that we continue to educate them so that we have bright individuals ready to enter the work force."

## Anything in particular with your committees that you're looking forward to working on when session starts?

"The only committee that I'm on right now that is [currently] meeting is the Disaster Recovery Committee. Just having been in Joplin, there are some issues that we're going to look at there. I am chairman of the Ag Committee and we had a pretty good Ag bill passed this year and I'm sure there's other things we're going to look at this next year."

### Voting in Adair County

Munzlinger and Wyatt are up for re-election in November 2012. To register to vote in Adair County, visit the county clerk's office located in the downtown courthouse, 106 West Washington St. and fill out a voter registration card. Registration cards are available at the Missouri Secretary of State website and offices of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

**Party:** Republican  
**District:** 2  
**Hometown:** Greencastle, Mo.  
**Phone number:** 573-751-3647

**Background:** Wyatt graduated from Adair County R-I High School in 2003 and enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served as an Airborne Chechen/Russian/Ukrainian Linguist, according to his biography on the House website. Wyatt was elected to his first term in the House in 2010. He also serves as president of Novinger Renewal for Novinger, Mo. and is involved in the Kirksville Area Chamber of Commerce and Kirksville Young Professionals.



Rep. Zachary Wyatt

## What's your biggest legislative priority over the next six months?

"We're about to go into special session where we'll be talking about the economic development bills that are out there. During this special session, the governor has a list of priorities and the legislature has to stay within those parameters, but there's also a chance that the legislature can call their own selves into special session and we can set-forth what we want to do. Only time will tell with that one but the main priority is getting people back to work. Right now I'm working on the economic policies but I'm also working on getting the nuclear and renewable energy bills to be part of special session, because as of right now our energy costs are just going up. My end-goal is to make sure that Missouri can produce its own energy and be self-sustainable, which can be attained from all avenues of energy."

## What's your top priority for higher education in the coming session?

"The biggest priority right now for me is to petition the governor to release the funds that he's withheld from higher education. When we released our budget, each university had a 5.4 percent cut, and then the Governor withheld that money making it a 7 percent cut for Truman, and an 8 percent cut for other universities. We have a problem going on where the Governor has withheld quite a bit of money the last two years and hasn't done anything with it. So we have this money and our revenue is coming in and we're meeting our goals and revenues but he's still holding onto it. So we're trying to get that money back into the system. It might not seem like a lot but every little bit helps right now."

## What's the deal with you going back to school?

"I have done a few online classes but I haven't decided if I was going to go full-blown. I thought interim would be slower paced but it's been non-stop. So I don't want to hinder my ability to help out constituents when they need the help so it might be that I'll stick to online classes and finish my last semester that way. I have three associates — I seem like a collector. I have associates in Russian studies, informational technology and slovak languages. My bachelor's will hopefully be in Russian. You might see me in the classroom on campus sometime."

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