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Senator John Cauthorn Presents 'Golden Goose Egg Award' to Transportation Head

MoDOT Chief Henry Hungerbeeler Stops By Cauthorn's Capitol Office to Pick Up An Egg

State Senator John Cauthorn, R-Mexico, this week presented Department of Transportation Director Henry Hungerbeeler and Former Chief Engineer JT Yarnell with a *Golden Goose Egg*, an honor the director earned by deciding to fly on a state owned plane to a conference in Washington, D.C. (*Photo inserted below, attached in email transmissions and electronically available.*)

“The bill to taxpayers for this flight of fancy – more than \$6,400,” Cauthorn said. “The bill for a taxpaying couple flying coach on a commercial airliner to D.C. – about \$1,100. Now, what would you be able to do with an extra \$5,000 or so?”

Chairman of the Senate’s Government Accountability and Fiscal Oversight Committee, Cauthorn earlier this year launched the *Golden Goose Egg Award* after the actions of a former U.S. Senator who regularly handed out “Golden Fleece” awards to government agencies and entities executing less-than-capable fiscal policy.

Recent awardees joining MoDOT in the field of fiscal imprudence include the Department of Conservation and the Office of Administration, both two-time winners in this calendar year alone.

In fact, Hungerbeeler’s high-flying trip to the nation’s Capitol was the inaugural winner of this new award program. MoDOT followed up its win with Ollie Gates, Chairman of the Transportation Commission taking home an award for nearly \$38,000 in travel on state owned

jets for the year 2002, rather than driving across the crumbling asphalt and concrete he is charged with overseeing.

“Look, this award thing is obviously a tongue-in-cheek deal,” Cauthorn said. “But it’s meant to spotlight some very serious problems within the burgeoning ranks of the taxpayer-funded state bureaucracy and to help ensure that we correct these misuses of the people’s money.”

Events leading to the senator’s award were beneficial to Missouri taxpayers, according to Hungerbeeler, “We understand that the taxpayers are our bosses, and this has encouraged us to develop a flight policy that saves money and is efficient for business.”

“It is encouraging that this award has led to a review of MoDOT’s flight policy and new accountability measures setting guidelines for state plane use,” stated Cauthorn.

MoDOT’s new flight policy can be accessed at their website www.modot.org



Senator John Cauthorn
presenting MoDOT Director
Henry Hungerbeeler with a
Golden Goose Egg.

Hungerbeeler earned the award after jetting to the nation’s Capitol on a state plane, rather buying a coach-class ticket on a commercial airliner.

Cauthorn noted that no taxpayer dollars are being used in his awards program – and that no shortage of award nominees exists, either...

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