



Missouri Senate  
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President Pro Tem

# SENATE NEWS SERVICE

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## State Sen. Gary Nodler Appointed To Serve on Six Key Senate Committees; Appointments Include Appropriations, Transportation and Governmental Accountability

JEFFERSON CITY -- State Sen. President Pro Tem Peter Kinder, R-Cape Girardeau, today appointed State Sen. Gary Nodler, R-Joplin, to five key Senate committee posts, including the legislative panels responsible for appropriations, transportation, tourism and governmental oversight in the Missouri Senate.

"In making these committee appointments, it should be obvious that we are depending greatly on Sen. Nodler in a significant number of key areas," Kinder said. "We've set out some pretty big jobs ahead of him in the next two years, but I've worked with Sen. Nodler enough to know that he is ready and capable to meet any challenge."

Sen. Nodler has been appointed to serve as the Senate Chairman of the Joint Committee on Legislative Research. This is a special committee set up under the Missouri Constitution. Its responsibilities include overseeing legislative departments that draft legislation, revise statutes, maintain the legislative library and prepare financial estimates on the effect bills will have on taxpayers.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to help improve our state and the services we provide for citizens," Nodler said. "This constitutional committee has tremendous responsibility in legislative research and the oversight of bills heard in the Legislature."

Sen. Nodler also will serve as vice-chairman of the Senate Rules Committee. This committee is responsible for considering procedural rule changes in the Senate and reviewing proposals in the Legislature that will be sent to the voters.

In addition, Sen. Nodler has been appointed to serve as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, a key post on the committee that has direct control over all expenditures by the state.

This is also the Senate committee that is responsible for making key financial decisions to ensure that Missouri's budget balances to the penny as required by the state Constitution.

"The financial situation facing our state is a serious concern," Nodler said. "I am confident that through the appropriations process we will be able to bring our state spending in line with revenue collections."

Nodler also has been appointed as a member of the Senate Transportation Committee, a committee that will continue to work to address problems involving transportation, highways, air travel and river traffic in our state.

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"Transportation is a critical issue and one that lawmakers must work to address in a way that citizens find satisfactory," Nodler said. "We have already begun making progress in ensuring that outstate Missouri receives its fair share of highway revenues."

Sen. Nodler was also appointed to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism and Local Government -- a committee that faces the challenge of helping Missouri recover from the contracting national and state economy.

"I am pleased to serve on the committee that will consider these issues that are most critical to our state," Nodler said. "The economy is the key issue, tourism is a strong economic force in our state and local government plays a key role in both."

Nodler will also serve in a leadership capacity as vice-chairman of the Senate Committee on Governmental Accountability and Financial Oversight, a committee that has been reshaped this session to play an expanded role in limiting government expenditures and maximizing the use of tax dollars.

"This is truly an important role, because this committee must review every measure that raises or spends more than \$100,000 in our state," Nodler said. "With this appointment and the appointment to Senate Appropriations, I will be able to play a direct role in helping achieve governmental efficiency and assuring that citizens get the maximum return on every dollar they pay in state taxes."

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