

*“Nothing is politically right  
which is morally wrong.”*  
– Daniel O’Connell



*“Free and fair discussion will ever be  
found the firmest friend of truth.”*  
– George Campbell

# MISSOURI SENATE

**Senator Bill Stouffer**  
District 21

**Capitol Building, Room 332**  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**For Immediate Release:**  
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## **Senator Stouffer: Promises Made, Promises Kept**

Every campaign we hear candidates make promises—often people elect the candidate with the best agenda. Once the candidate is elected, citizens decide if the official was true to their word. Looking back at 2004 and this legislative session, I have reviewed my campaign agenda and will allow you to decide if promises made were promises kept.

I promised to keep doctors in rural Missouri. The tort reform bill has been signed by the governor. This bill will put a cap for non-economic damages at \$350,000 ending ridiculous payouts. The bill also makes defendants liable for their fair share, not just the party with the deepest pockets. I have also sponsored SCR 19, which will set up an interim committee to look at creating a self-insurance fund to further reduce medical malpractice insurance. This has been successful in Kansas, giving them an advantage in recruiting and retaining doctors.

I promised to help reform workers' compensation to support Missouri business. The governor signed SB 1, which modifies the definition of "accident" to include only events that are specifically defined and occurred on the job. This moves us away from claims by workers injured while traveling or intoxicated.

I promised a predictable education formula. Although not perfect, SB 287 stops courts from deciding what is best for our children. Working with superintendents from across the state, the general assembly created a "students-needs" based formula, rather than one that is tax-driven.

I promised to help new generation co-ops. I introduced a bill encouraging the production of ethanol's byproducts, including but not limited to dry distilled grains. It was attached to another bill and then sent to the governor. Legislation to keep electronic animal identification confidential was approved in the same way.

I promised to keep toll roads out of Missouri and to help the district. A toll roads bill died in Transportation Committee, of which I am a member. I helped the city of Excelsior Springs place a museum tax issue on their ballot. Legislation was drafted and approved for the Cooper Co. Fire Protection. The program asked for help to receive pay for calls from people who lived outside the district but had a wreck in the district, including I-70. Another bill I sponsored, naming the Lexington Bridge after Ike Skelton, has also been approved.

Please look for a newspaper insert from my office in the near future. It will have a list of important legislation, a government directory, and a list of services my office will be providing throughout the year.

If you have questions or comments about this issue or any other issue please feel free to call my office toll free 866-768-3987 or by email at [bstouffer@senate.mo.gov](mailto:bstouffer@senate.mo.gov).

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