



THE STOUFFER REPORT

Senator Bill Stouffer
Senate District 21

Capitol Building, Room 332
Jefferson City, MO 65101

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Senate Web Site Offers a Variety of Tools for the Legislative Session

I want to congratulate my constituents for keeping me informed. Now I want to share with you a few tools the Senate Web site and my Senate home page provide for you to help you track legislation, listen to the debate, or come visit my office in Jefferson City.

The Senate Web site, located at www.senate.mo.gov, offers a variety of resources to those interested in the legislative process. Missourians can find information about how the state Legislature operates and look up facts and definitions about state government. Residents can also track legislation and learn about Senate committees and past legislative sessions.

For those wanting to track legislation as it passes through the legislative process, the Senate Web site offers its "Bill Reporting System." Click on the link on the left side of the Senate home page and log on to the service with a personalized username, password and e-mail address. (This is a free service, although you must sign up for a username and password.)

The program allows users to file any combination of Senate bills into reports that automatically update the progress of the legislation. Users can create reports categorizing legislation according to sponsoring senators, co-sponsors, legislative topics, or other classifications. For instance, you can have a report named Stouffer which would list all my sponsored bills, and then you can name a report "Business/Work," which would list bills impacting your business or place of employment. (Users can make as many reports as they need.) Users then select bills for their reports by viewing organized indexes of Senate legislation. Their finished reports list the designated legislation and allow users to quickly view all or the most recent Senate action on the bills.

Of course, those looking to keep track of just one or two Senate measures can simply look up the legislation in the bill list under the "Session Information" tab. If you do not know the bill number, you can use the "Search for a Bill" tool or view the "Topical Index of Bills."

Visitors to the Senate Web site are also able to hear streaming audio of Senate and House debate. Click on the links under “Live Debate” on the right side of the page.

For those interested in legislative matters specific to the 21st District, www.senate.mo.gov/stouffer offers several services. Constituents can sign up for my weekly e-mail updates or schedule a Capitol tour. My “press room” offers a comprehensive listing of press releases and weekly reports I send out, and my 2005 End-of-Session Newsletter is also available to view. While on my Senate page, you can also learn a little about me in my biography, check out a map of the 21st District or read about the committees of which I am a member.

If you are planning to spend a day in Jefferson City, I would encourage you to go to my Web site and schedule a personalized tour of the capitol, which could include a tour to the dome and whispering gallery. When scheduling a “customized” capitol tour, the site will provide approximate lengths in time for the visit. It also provides you the opportunity to work with my office on visiting the rest of Jefferson City.

If you have questions or comments about this issue or any other issue, please call toll free (866) 768-3987 or by email at bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.

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