



MISSOURI SENATE  
JEFFERSON CITY

Bill Stouffer  
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# Senator Bill Stouffer Works to Name New River Crossing for Ike Skelton

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*Highway 13 Missouri River Span to Be 'The Congressman Ike Skelton Bridge'*

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JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, today introduced legislation naming the soon-to-be-opened Missouri River bridge linking Ray and Lafayette counties for Congressman Ike Skelton.

“Congressman Skelton has been an outstanding advocate for the people of west-central Missouri and the state as a whole,” Stouffer said. “His years of dedicated service warrant recognition and I feel naming the new Missouri River bridge in his honor would be a fitting tribute.”

A Lexington native, Congressman Skelton has served Missourians in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1977. Portions of Congressman Skelton’s 4th Congressional District encompass Stouffer’s state senate district, including Ray and Lafayette counties, which share the Missouri River as a common border.

Under construction and set to open this year is a four-lane bridge set parallel to an aging two-lane iron bridge that had been ferrying Highway 13 traffic over the Missouri River between the two counties since the 1920s.

Some 25 percent of the participants in a public bridge naming campaign held last fall suggested that Ike Skelton be commemorated as the bridge's namesake. Heartily agreeing, Stouffer gladly volunteered to sponsor the legislation needed for the new designation.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be able to help facilitate this project," Stouffer said. "I look forward to swift and strong support for the Congressman Ike Skelton Bridge from my colleagues in the House and Senate."

*Senator Bill Stouffer represents Carroll, Chariton, Cooper, Howard, Lafayette, Macon, Ray and Saline counties and northeast Clay County in the state legislature. He can be reached at his capitol office at (573) 751-1507, or toll free at (866) 768-3987.*