



MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

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Senator Bill Stouffer Introduces Museum Finance Legislation

*Measure Makes Available Added Funding For
Excelsior Springs Historical Museum*

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, today introduced legislation allowing the city of Excelsior Springs to provide for added operating revenue to benefit the city’s museum. Senate Bill 361 would open the door for additional revenue for the Excelsior Springs Historical Museum by allowing the city to increase tax levy limits from the current 20 cents per \$100 of assessed property valuation to 30 cents per \$100. Excelsior Springs voters would then have final say on any actual proposed property tax increase.

“This legislation allows the city to ask for, not impose, what amounts to a relatively modest levy increase,” Stouffer said. “The voters of Excelsior Springs would then be able to decide whether to move forward on generating added funding for their museum. Some will be for the investment, others will be opposed to it, but the outcome will be controlled by the taxpayers.”

The Clay County State Bank was considered one of the most artistic bank buildings in Missouri when it opened its doors for business in 1908. The City of Excelsior Springs bought the building in 1968 with the stipulation that it be used as a museum. Now listed on

the local landmarks register and the Clay County Historical Register, the former bank also houses the Excelsior Springs Area Chamber of Commerce.

The mission of the Excelsior Springs Historical Museum is to collect, preserve and promote the history of the city and people of Excelsior Springs. Scores of school groups, tour groups and other visitors visit the bank building and view the museum's collection each year.

“The Excelsior Springs Historical Museum has done a fantastic job of stewardship in telling the city's stories of the past and present,” Stouffer said. “Advancing this legislation is a way of opening the door for the museum's future.”

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.