



THE STOUFFER REPORT

Senator Bill Stouffer
Senate District 21

Capitol Building, Room 332
Jefferson City, MO 65101

For the Week of:
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Fighting Against Hunger and for Rural Values

To start this week's report I want to tell you a story about how one family helps in the distribution of over 18 million pounds of food, which is equivalent to more than 13 million meals in Central Missouri alone and how you can help.

Don and Marg Scott of Boonville for two years have set aside 80 acres of cropland to grow soybeans, with all proceeds going to local charities. Now they want to find agricultural partners for the benefit of the Central Missouri Food Bank, which provides free food to 142 non-profit hunger-relief agencies in 33 Missouri counties.

The Scotts are looking for other generous Missourians to donate land to help feed the hungry. They would like to meet with farmers interested in donating 20 or more acres of farmland. They are also looking for suggestions on how to find donations of seed, fertilizer, fuel, pesticide and labor. For every dollar invested in this project, food banks provide \$96 worth of food to the hungry. Most important, those dollars stay right here in Central Missouri.

I urge everyone in the 21st District to consider what they can do to help the Scotts. You could do so much to help the hungry in our communities.

While we are using farmland as a means of charity, legislation to open new markets for Missouri farmers was heard in committee recently. The measure, Senate Bill 569, would require all gasoline sold in Missouri to have a 10-percent ethanol blend. This bill will add value to our crops, provide cleaner burning fuel for our vehicles and reduce our dependence on foreign oil by allowing our citizens to fuel their vehicles with products grown right here in Missouri.

Finally, I would like to thank all the constituents who came to the Capitol this week to demonstrate against eminent domain abuse.

In spite of the 2005 U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing municipalities to seize private property for use by developers, Missourians have come out against such misuse of eminent domain. I am pleased to report that several measures to prohibit this use of eminent domain have advanced in the Missouri Senate, and I am optimistic of success.

This week I experienced firsthand how one person in one small rural community can change the lives of one nation whether through donating land or just making their voice heard, and I am honored to be a part of it.

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

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