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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2006

State Senator Gary Nodler Re-Elected to Senate Leadership Position

Nodler is First Leadership from Southwest Missouri in 50 Years

JEFFERSON CITY -- State Sen. Gary Nodler, R-Joplin, was today unanimously reelected by his fellow Republicans to serve as Assistant Majority Floor Leader of the Missouri Senate. Nodler is also the first Republican from Southwest Missouri elected to a Senate majority leadership post in more than 50 years.

"Gary is the first majority party leader from Southwest Missouri in more than 50 years and there's a reason he was chosen," Senate President Pro Tem Michael R. Gibbons, R-Kirkwood, said. "He is an outstanding leader who brings great insight and a powerful voice to benefit the people of Missouri and to advance the common sense conservative values of Southwest Missouri."

As Assistant Majority Floor Leader, Nodler will be directly involved with deciding the pieces of legislation that will come before the Senate for debate, the scheduling of debates and the approaches the Senate will use to address the more than 1,500 bills that are introduced each session.

"We have accomplished many positive changes for the people of Missouri over the past two years," Nodler said. "I plan to build on my leadership experience and continue to efficiently pass legislation that will benefit all Missourians, especially those I represent in Southwest Missouri."

When Nodler was first elected in 2004 for this position, he became the first Republican from southwest Missouri to be elected to a Senate majority leadership position in more than half a century. His re-election extends the region's leadership presence.

The First Regular Session of the 94th Missouri General Assembly that will convene in Jefferson City on Jan. 3, 2007.

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