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Sen. Kevin Engler Advises Local Leaders of Tight Deadlines for Federal Stimulus Grants

JEFFERSON CITY — Sen. Kevin Engler, R-Farmington, today urged cities, counties, and non-profit organizations to closely watch for federal funding opportunities available through the federal government’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Many of the grants available require immediate action and are becoming available on very short notice.

“While I do not believe that our federal government will be able to solve the nation’s economic crisis by throwing money at the problem, I recognize that local resources and projects could benefit from the plan,” said Sen. Engler. “If 3rd Senate District communities and organizations don’t utilize this funding, other communities in other areas of the state and nation will.”

Groups with eligible projects need to look closely at any terms or definitions associated with a grant. Some projects are required to be “shovel-ready,” which usually means they are required to be undertaken in a matter of months.

Federal stimulus fund grants are available in a number of areas, including clean water and other environmental efforts, social services, health services, energy efficiency, education, nutrition, broadband communication, and USDA grants for agriculture. Agencies distributing federal recovery grants include at least 25 national departments and organizations.

More information on possible federal funding is online at www.grants.gov, where a list of Recovery Act opportunities is available. For more information on the planned timeline for the legislation or full text of the federal stimulus bill, visit www.recovery.gov.

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