



# Senator Kevin Engler

Capitol Report

Majority Floor Leader

3rd District

*Senator Kevin Engler proudly represents the people of  
Carter, Iron, Reynolds, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve,  
Washington counties and part of Jefferson County*

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Week of February 23, 2009

## Promoting Citizen Involvement in State Government

With the bill-filing deadline approaching, many legislators are hurrying to file their bills, and we are spending more time on the floor working on legislation. We approved several pieces of non-controversial legislation and also sent [Senate Bill 128](#) to the House. This legislation would remove current limits faced by the Missouri Department of Transportation when awarding design-build contracts for road and bridge projects. The legislation is designed to help Missouri receive additional federal stimulus money and build our larger projects in a more efficient or financially sound way.

Work is continuing on [Senate Bill 45](#), which would expand the Quality Jobs Act. As I mentioned last week, there are concerns about the amount of tax credits in the bill and whether these will really benefit Missouri's economy. I believe we need to start thinking seriously about using across the board tax cuts to bolster our economy instead of relying on tax credits. Tax cuts provide the greater benefit for all, instead of giving incentives to just a few.

This week, I was pleased to sponsor Michelle L. Hoffmeister, who was confirmed as a member of the Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities. This council plans and advocates for individuals with developmental disabilities in order to enhance their opportunity for independence and integration and inclusion into the community. I enjoy sponsoring citizens from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District who want to become involved and have expertise in a

specific area of state government, and I would like to encourage you to consider applying to serve on one of these boards.

Missouri has more than 200 boards and commissions onto which our governor appoints citizen members. Gubernatorial appointees then work with their state senator, who serves as a sponsor of the nominee in the confirmation process. The process begins before the Senate's Gubernatorial appointments committee, of which I am vice chairman. The process concludes with a consenting vote by the full Senate.

If you are interested in serving on a state board or commission, you can find a complete list of boards and commissions on the governor's Web site (<http://governor.mo.gov/boards/>). The process of becoming a member of a state board or commission begins with filling out an application, which you can access [online](#).

If you are planning a trip to Jefferson City in the near future, do not hesitate to contact my office. You can call me at 573-751-3455, e-mail me at [kevin.engler@senate.mo.gov](mailto:kevin.engler@senate.mo.gov) or write to me at the Missouri Senate, State Capitol, Room 331, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

If you know anyone who would like to receive these updates electronically, please [send me](#) an email.

#### Contact Information

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