



MISSOURI SENATE

Jeff Smith
4th Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 329
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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**Contact: Christine Brauner
(573) 751-3599**

Senator Jeff Smith Chosen to Receive RCGA Lewis & Clark Statesman Award

JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis, has been chosen to receive the 2009 Lewis & Clark Statesman Award by the St. Louis Regional Chamber & Growth Association (RCGA) for his legislative efforts benefiting economic development in the St. Louis region.

RCGA presents the annual award to lawmakers who have demonstrated leadership and sustained effort on behalf of the St. Louis region. In particular, notable legislation regarding economic development, capital improvements and measures to support the area's regional transit system were noted by the RCGA for the award selection.

During the 2009 legislative session, Sen. Smith was the top defender of the state's Historic Preservation Tax Credits and introduced legislation to launch angel tax credits to spur investment in early-stage companies.

"The Historic Preservation Tax Credit program has been the most successful state program to help revive the city of St. Louis, and I am pleased I was able to work with lawmakers to reach a reasonable compromise sustaining the program, which is a national model," Sen. Smith said.

Smith noted the program has created thousands of jobs across the state and has sparked billions of dollars worth of development, not just downtown but in neighborhoods like Benton Park, Soulard, Shaw, and Forest Park Southeast. Similarly, the angel tax credits are expected to create jobs and boost the state's economy through revitalization opportunities.

Senator Smith will be recognized during an awards ceremony on Monday, Aug. 31, at the Renaissance Grand Hotel in downtown St. Louis.



Sen. Jeff Smith

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