

Eric Schmitt 15th Senate District Capitol Building, Room 334 Jefferson City, MO 65101

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Contact: (573) 751-2853

Sen. Eric Schmitt Begins Work to Advocate for Solid Investments in Job Growth, **Economic Development**

JEFFERSON CITY - Yesterday, Senator Eric Schmitt, R-Glendale, attended the first meeting of the Senate Select Committee on Oversight of Federal Stimulus Plan. The new committee will focus on efforts that will allow the state to gain preference if and when federal stimulus dollars are being distributed.

Sen. Schmitt was appointed to the committee by Senate Leader Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph, specifically for his dedication to job creation and economic growth. Sen. Schmitt also serves on the Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and Local Government.

"During this critical time, we must ensure that we are making the right investments in Missouri's long-term economic prosperity," said Sen. Schmitt. "I am honored to be chosen for this important select committee."

The committee will work with officials to make sure essential programs in the state benefit from the federal stimulus plan. The committee has invited officials such as the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and the members of Missouri's Congressional Delegation to share their views on how to best prepare the state for the stimulus plan.

To further an environment of economic recovery, Sen. Schmitt recently filed Senate Concurrent Resolution 14, which would create the Blue Ribbon Panel on Job Retention and Economic Growth. The panel would advise and make recommendations to the Governor, General Assembly, and state agencies on matters concerning the social and economic effects of major corporate losses and other businesses within the state. The panel would develop a comprehensive statewide plan for job retention and economic growth.

"These difficult economic times require us to focus our resources on job growth and economic development," said Sen. Schmitt. "This concurrent resolution would create a panel of officials, experts, and professionals that live throughout our state with the specific goal of tackling this critical issue."