December 3, 2009 Contact: Yancy Williams

Sen. Schaefer Proposes Measure for Improving State Fiscal Responsibility

In an effort to assist the dire budget circumstances facing our state, Senator Kurt Schaefer has proposed legislation to repeal the increase from the Federal Government for the daily living allowance provided to state legislators.

The Federal Government has issued a 20 percent cost-of-living increase in the per diem rate, which is given to each senator or representative for each day that they are recorded as present for legislative session.

"It's time for all of us to tighten our belts," Sen. Schaefer said. "We must address the fiscal crisis from top to bottom, and this is a first step in the commitment to turn our current budget situation around."

An emergency clause will ensure that the bill take effect upon approval and passage in the General Assembly and signing by the governor.