

Capitol Building, Room 332 Jefferson City, MO 65101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Senator Bill Stouffer

21<sup>st</sup> Senate District

January 22, 2009

## Sen. Bill Stouffer Named Chairman of Transportation Committee

Local State Senator named Vice Chair of the Committee on Agriculture

JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, has been named Senate Transportation Committee chairman for a second straight term. Senate committee appointments were made this week.

"Transportation is a major factor in getting our economy back on track," Sen. Stouffer said. "We are facing new challenges with funding and I don't want our infrastructure to suffer."

The Senate Transportation Committee hears bills related to roads, highways, bridges, airports, railroads and other means of transportation.

"We have to look at the overall picture," Sen. Stouffer said. "One of our tasks will be to find a way to keep funding MoDOT without raising taxes. I believe this can be done and I look forward to the opportunities that are ahead."

Senate Leader Charlie Shields, R-St. Joseph, said he reappointed Stouffer to the chairmanship because of the strong leadership he has shown.

"Sen. Stouffer leads with common sense and will protect taxpayers while making sure Missouri roads and bridges are safer," Sen. Shields said. "He has become a strong leader in the Senate and state on proposing innovative transportation solutions."

Senator Stouffer remains committed to improving and expanding Interstates 70 and 44 to an eight-lane system, with four lanes dedicated solely to truck traffic and four lanes for cars, as interstate traffic through Missouri continues to grow rapidly on these roads.

Senator Stouffer's other committee assignments include serving as the vice chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Food Production and Outdoor Resources. He is also a member of the Committee on Health, Mental Health, Seniors and Families as well as the Committee on Governmental Accountability and Fiscal Oversight.

Senator Stouffer represents the counties of Carroll, Chariton, Cooper, Howard, Lafayette, Macon, Ray, Saline and part of Clay. He can be reached toll free at (866) 768-3987 or email bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.

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