

Senator Bill Stouffer 21<sup>st</sup> Senate District Capitol Building, Room 332 Jefferson City, MO 65101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 28, 2009

## Senator Bill Stouffer Presents Tax Dollar Saving Bill

Files Legislation Eliminating Unnecessary State Job

JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, presented a bill to the <u>Senate Transportation Committee</u> today (1/28) that seeks to eliminate a position on the Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight.

Senator Stouffer introduced <u>Senate Bill 31</u>, which would remove the Transportation Inspector General's job. The position was created several years ago, before the arrival of the current director of the <u>Missouri Department of Transportation</u>. The job has been left unfilled for more than three years.

"This was something put into place back when MoDOT wasn't fulfilling promises," Sen. Stouffer said. "But that has all changed. The agency reports regularly to the committee and there is absolutely no need — especially with a tight budget — to have the position at all. I promised to introduce this bill late last year and it's time to get it on the books."

The inspector general's position was occupied for only a brief time this year, before the person resigned, thus leaving it vacant again.

"This position serves no purpose," Sen. Stouffer said. "It can be manipulated into a political pay off and I refuse to let that stand. MoDOT does a great job with the resources it has and they keep the public apprised of their actions at all times. There's no need for an inspector general to serve on the Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight."

###

Contact: Aaron Baker (573) 751-1507