



**Senator Bill Stouffer**  
21<sup>st</sup> Senate District

**MISSOURI SENATE**  
JEFFERSON CITY

Capitol Building, Room 332  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 11, 2009

# **Senator Bill Stouffer Presents Plan to Require Drug Testing for Welfare Recipients**

*Senate Bill 73 Would Ask Those Who Receive Help from the State to Help Themselves*

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JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, today (2/11) presented [Senate Bill 73](#) to the [Senate Progress and Development Committee](#). His proposal would require drug testing for applicants and recipients of temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) based upon a reasonable suspicion.

“Drug testing happens throughout the rest of the real world,” Sen. Stouffer said. “Major corporations test people before hiring, truck drivers and athletes have to take random drug tests. Why not test people who are being supported by public money?”

Senate Bill 73 would have the Missouri Department of Social Services (DSS) develop a program to drug test applicants for TANF; an administrative hearing would be held for those who test positive; then a second hearing would be held three years after the original date.

“I believe this would move our welfare population to a healthier and less costly lifestyle,” Sen. Stouffer said. “Children of parents deemed ineligible due to drug use would not be affected and welfare fraud and abuse would be curbed.”

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