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



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## Senator Bill Stouffer Applauds AT&T's 2009 Expansion Plans

Company's Plan Means 21st Century Technology Coming to Rural MO

JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, announces AT&T has unveiled its list of locations for new technologies and an expanded network.

"This is the result of a lot of hard work by a lot of great folks," Sen. Stouffer said. "I'm happy to see this come to rural Missouri. We've had to wait a long time for modern Internet and phone options and maybe now we'll start to see some of these changes take place. This is a huge win for our area."

Among the company's plans is one to add High-Speed Internet in the City of Armstrong, which would mark the first time the city has had DSL service. This should be completed by summer.

AT&T also plans to add roughly 55 new cell phone towers throughout Missouri this year, 3G (third-generation) mobile broadband and other services throughout 2009. These sites include Marshall and Marceline. AT&T spent over \$1 billion between 2006 and 2008 to prepare for the improvements that are coming this year.

"A lot of folks may not think of rural Missouri as needing these improvements," Sen. Stouffer said. "In the past, I've struggled with telecoms when they've approached me about their legislative ideas. I've had to remind them time and time again how little they've done for the district in some places, including no cell coverage in some areas. Hopefully, they're now beginning to understand."

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