

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

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Senator Bill Stouffer Praises Passage of Bill to Help Long-term Care Facilities

Bill the Senator Helped Advance Awaits Governor's Signature

JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, announced a bill he handled in the Senate — House Bill 395 — has received final passage in both chambers and now sits on the governor's desk. The measure would make changes to several provisions that are related to long-term care facilities in Missouri.

"This bill is a long time in coming," Sen. Stouffer said. "A lot of folks have put hours of effort into writing this proposal. I think it will improve the lives of thousands of Missourians and their families."

House Bill 295 establishes fire safety standards for facilities built after August 2007, requiring these businesses to have approved sprinkler systems that are installed in accordance with the <u>National Fire Protection Association</u> (NFPA). The bill allows a facility to do a background check on residents and requires that long-term care inspectors have not worked in such a place for the past two years.

"We've heard stories about nursing homes and other facilities slipping through the cracks for too long," Sen. Stouffer said. "Too often, it's been because a licensed inspector let things slide because he worked there previously. Our bill would bring this to an end."

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