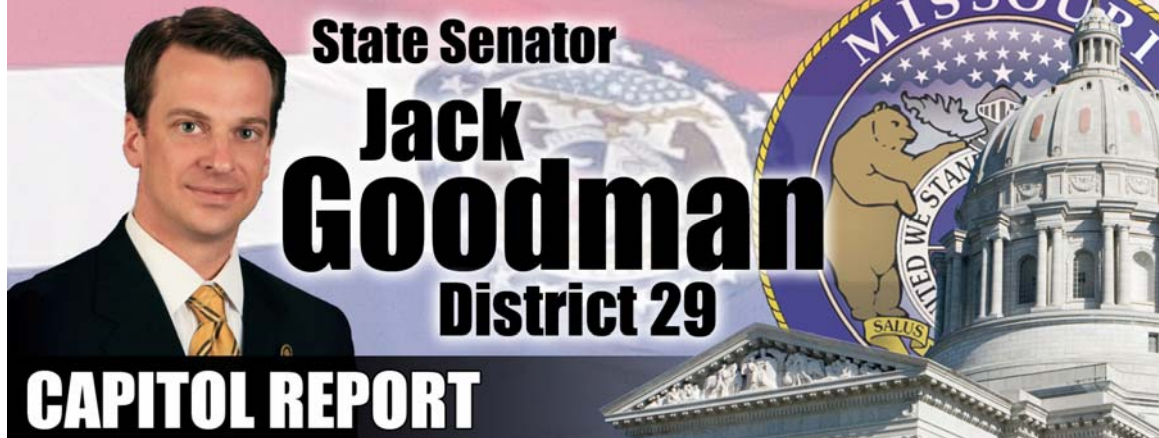


Week of March 9, 2009



Senator Jack Goodman – Serving Barry, Lawrence, McDonald, Ozark, Stone and Taney Counties

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## [Small Window of Opportunity for Federal Stimulus Funds](#)

The U.S. Congress and the President approved a \$787 billion federal spending package last month. While I did not support the federal spending package because of its massive price tag and unlikely ability to truly stimulate the economy, my role in the state Senate is to look for responsible ways to utilize the federal taxpayer dollars that will be coming to Missouri in ways that might save hard-working Missourians some state tax dollars. I will not support using these federal dollars to grow state programs that will require additional funding after the one-time federal money is gone. Nor will I support accepting any federal funds that come with unacceptable strings attached, such as required policy changes that the people of Missouri would not support.

Missouri expects to receive at least \$4 billion of the package. Additional grants also could become available. To take advantage of responsible, appropriate opportunities to use these funds, our communities and local leaders must act quickly as these funds become available.

Much of the package is contingent on the ability of our state to use the money as quickly as possible. This is reflected in the short time available for our communities, including cities, counties and non-profit organizations, to apply for stimulus funds.

I urge local leaders in the 29<sup>th</sup> Senate District to determine if our communities are eligible for funding, and then take the necessary steps to bring back the maximum amount of these taxpayer dollars. In some cases, a special application or other paperwork may be required, and the window of opportunity may be very small.

The package was voluminous and some federal regulations governing the package are not yet created. Still, office staff in the Capitol recently discovered an application in the area of arts funding that opened on March 2 and closed on March 13. This illustrates how difficult it is to determine what is available and how to bring it home.

I encourage local leaders to research the variety of opportunities to put stimulus funds to work for our communities. If local activities can be coordinated to fit within the stipulations of the one-time grants, it may increase the maximum benefit of the package to Missouri.

Federal stimulus fund grants are available in a number of areas, including clean water and other environmental efforts, social services, health services, energy efficiency, education, nutrition, broadband communication, and USDA grants for agriculture. I recommend using the following websites for federal stimulus funding information: [grants.gov](http://grants.gov) and [recovery.gov](http://recovery.gov).

Also, local leaders should be aware of scam artists who are 'offering' government money to applicants in exchange for underwriting fees. It is critical that they only use official government websites for securing grants.

If you have any questions or if I can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with my office. We will try to help point you in the right direction.

As always, I welcome your ideas, questions and concerns about Missouri government. You may contact me at the Capitol as follows: (573) 751-2234, [jack.goodman@senate.mo.gov](mailto:jack.goodman@senate.mo.gov) or by writing to Senator Jack Goodman, Missouri State Capitol, Room 331-A, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

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#### Contact Information

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