



# WEEKLY REPORT

State Senator Gary Nodler  
District 32



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**Week of January 12, 2009**

## **Focusing on the Future of Missouri**

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Last week, I discussed with you my hope that the Legislature and the new administration will work together in a bipartisan manner. On January 12<sup>th</sup>, the new governor was sworn in, and his speech echoed many of the themes I previously discussed. Adhering to these principles will be vital to having a successful session in which the General Assembly and executive branch work together effectively.

Monday's ceremony included the swearing-in of the governor as well as the lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treasurer, and attorney general. By noon, all of these statewide office-holders were officially serving the state of Missouri. After the swearing-in, the new governor gave his address to the crowd that was assembled in front of the Capitol steps. The speech's main theme focused on creating "A New Day for Missouri," by ushering in a new era of openness and bipartisanship.

I agree with the governor that the current challenges we face do not leave time for partisan bickering. Missourians want to see job creation now and to know that their priorities are being accomplished, and they are not concerned with the party affiliations of the people getting this work done. Above all, we must remain focused on the future and the creation of opportunities; rather than being fixed on the past or accepting its limitations.

Over the next several weeks, we will be working on specific legislation and policies that will help us accomplish these goals. Discussions on the budget remain a priority in offices throughout Jefferson City, as we continue to form the most accurate revenue estimates and craft a balanced spending plan. Committee meetings will soon

begin, giving Senate and House members the opportunity to more directly begin work on the many bills currently being filed. I will continue to keep you up-to-date throughout the year on what is happening here in Jefferson City.

*Senator Gary Nodler represents the people of Newton, Jasper  
and Dade counties in the Missouri Senate.*