



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

**MISSOURI SENATE**  
JEFFERSON CITY

Capitol Building, Room 332  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

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## **Senator Bill Stouffer Files Measure Addressing Repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”**

JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, has filed a resolution to encourage Congress not to repeal “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” for the nation’s armed forces.

“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” (DADT) is the commonly used phrase for a policy that prohibits non-heterosexual service men and women from disclosing their sexual orientation while serving in the United States Armed Forces. It also bans the investigation of a service member’s orientation without just cause.

Senator Stouffer’s resolution asks Missouri’s Congressional delegation to help service members carry out their missions by continuing to support the policy.

Last week during his State of the Union address, President Barack Obama signaled he would work with Congress and the military to “finally repeal the law that denies gay Americans the right to serve the country.”

“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell protects folks on both sides of this issue,” Sen. Stouffer said. “We are in the middle of two wars, and we do not need the interruption of a culture war. We need our men and women to have their focus on their safety and ours – not a progressive agenda.”

The DADT policy was established to prohibit anyone who “demonstrates a propensity or intent to engage in homosexual acts” from serving in the military. The policy was established as a compromise to allow more Americans to serve while maintaining the military’s high standards of morale, good order, discipline, and unit cohesiveness.

Those joining Sen. Stouffer at an informal press conference in his office were Rev. Aaron McMullen, a 25-year-old veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and the Chaplain of the American Legion in Lexington, Mo., and retired Colonel Jack Jackson of Wildwood, a highly decorated combat veteran. Organizations attending included Concerned Women for America and the Missouri Family Network.

Senator Stouffer is the chairman of the Senate’s Republican caucus. He has successfully championed military issues in the Missouri Senate, including passage of [legislation](#) making Missouri a better place to live and work for Missouri military members and their families.

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