

Missouri State Representative

Jim Guest



Capitol Report

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Stimulus or Pork

By
Rep. Jim Guest

Pork seems to be the food of choice in government these days and all Americans suffer because of it. Let's take the current stimulus package out of Washington. How do you spend the millions of dollars that the federal government is giving to the state? The easy way would be to incorporate the money into the state budget to offset the shortfall and let future legislators deal with the inevitable deficit. We are now confronting our first major difference with our Governor Jay Nixon.

The Governor is proposing that we expand the welfare system by using this federal money. Think of the money as credit card debt with a twist. The "government money", is actually not government money but your tax money. We would be barrowing our own money and it will have to be paid back by future generations. While the government attaches strings to the debt that hurt our citizens in the process.

There is reluctance in the Missouri House to accept the money that has strings attached to it that will dictate to the states how and when it must be spent. We will use what money we can for one time expenses to help our economy. The wisdom of the taxpayers is very evident when they state that to stimulate the economy you need to get the money into the hands of the consumer. I hear this everyday from the constituents in my district. They are appalled at the amount of money that is being put into the pet or pork projects. They are also upset that President Obama who campaigned on rejecting "Earmarks" is now accepting them. It is time for our federal elected legislature to vote no on wasteful spending.

Today the continued expansion of the federal government is detrimental to its citizens and history is showing that government control of business and the economy doesn't work. As government expands our freedoms retreat, and as liberty expands government retreats. Remember, we are meant to be a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

We are in a serious financial condition but with prudent and conservative decisions we will work our way out of this.

As always, I can be reached at my CAPITOL OFFICE @ 573-751-0246 or 866-586-1645, FAX 573-526-7740 or by e-mail at jim.guest@house.mo.gov. My mailing address is Room 233-b, State Capitol Building, Jefferson City, MO 65101 or at my DISTRICT OFFICE at PO Box 412, King City, MO 64463, Phone #660-535-6664. or by e-mail at jimoguest@msn.com. You can catch me on the web at