FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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STREAMLINING GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
SCHEDULES "LISTENING TOUR"

CITIZENS URGED TO HAVE SAY
IN GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY & COST CUTTING EFFORT

The members of the Commission on Streamlining Government will hit the road next week for a statewide "Listening Tour" as part of their continuing efforts to make Louisiana state government smaller, more efficient and less costly. With regional public hearings scheduled in five cities, the 10-member commission, chaired by Sen. Jack Donahue, wants to give citizens the chance to voice their opinions and ideas about improving state government operations, programs and services.

"For almost two months now we have been gathering information from state officials, state agencies and research staff. It's now time to hear what the people have to say. It is time to take our government reform efforts out of the halls of the state capitol and into communities around the state," Sen. Donahue said.

The "Listening Tour" begins Monday, September 28th in Monroe and continues through October 1st with additional regional community meetings planned in Shreveport, Alexandria, Lake Charles and Jefferson Parish.

Monday, September 28, 2009
Monroe City Council Chambers
400 Lee Joyner Monroe, LA
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 29, 2009
Shreveport City Council Chambers
505 Travis Street Shreveport, LA
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Alexandria City Council Chambers
915 Third Street Alexandria, LA
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 30, 2009
Lake Charles City Council Chambers
After the regional community meetings, the Commission on Streamlining Government will begin considering recommendations from the commission's five advisory groups which have been focusing on outsourcing and privatization, efficiency and benchmarking, information technology, duplicative and non-essential services, and civil service and employee benefits. Those discussions are scheduled to begin at the commission's October 13th meeting. The commission is facing a December 15th deadline to submit its initial recommendations to the governor and the legislature.

Additional information regarding the work of the Commission on Streamlining Government is available on the web at http://senate.legis.state.la.us/streamline/.

To schedule an interview regarding the Commission on Streamlining Government's "Listening Tour" please contact Sen. Donahue at 985-966-0325.