

## **MTC REPORT 1-22-09**

**The budget-writing process has begun in the House of Representatives as the Missouri legislature heads into the fourth week of its 2009 session.**

**The House Appropriations Committee for Economic Development began hearings this past week on drafting a new budget for the Department of Economic Development, which includes the Division of Tourism. The committee spent this week discussing priorities and reviewing major issues that could face the committee in the coming weeks. There was no discussion of the Division of Tourism.**

**Gov. Jay Nixon will deliver his State of the State and Budget address Tuesday night at the State Capitol. At that time, he will unveil his proposed budget for the coming year.**

**The House Appropriations Committee should begin deliberations on the governor's proposed economic development budget next week.**

**Meanwhile, other committees are expected to begin hearings on the over 600 bills already filed in the 2009 session, much fewer than in any recent legislative session.**