April 27, 2010

Brian Kelly, KMOX Radio

Now that the House has joined the Senate in rejecting automatic yearly pay raises, Missouri Congressman Russ Carnahan is calling them to go a step further...and take a five percent pay cut.

The St. Louis Democrat says, "It's all part of an overall strategy, that we focus on tightening our belts nationally, the same way many Americans are doing, the folks that I represent back home, that's what they're doing now during these tough economic times."

Carnahan says the cut would save $4.5 million a year, which isn't a lot when compared to the defecit, but he says everthing counts.

The rank-and-file congress member makes $174,000 a year.

Congress hasn't taken a pay cut since 1933, during the great depression. Carnahan says there's a "good" chance it'll do it this time.