



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Loudon Encourages Veterans to Apply for War-Medallion Programs

JEFFERSON CITY—As Missourians throughout the state recognize veterans, state Sen. John Loudon, R-Chesterfield, is encouraging eligible Missouri veterans and their spouses to apply for the Missouri World War II and Korean War Veterans' Recognition Programs. Legislation passed this year removes application deadlines and allows Missourians to be acknowledged for their service.

"As we pause to appreciate all American veterans on Veterans Day, these brave men and women, who have put their lives on the line in combat to protect our freedoms, deserve formal recognition for the sacrifices they have made," Loudon said. "To all World War II and Korean War veterans, these medallions symbolize the gratitude Missourians feel for their service."

The recognition programs award a medal, medallion and certificate to Missouri veterans who served during World War II or the Korean War. Missouri residents who entered or were discharged from military service during these wars are also qualified to apply.

Loudon took time to recognize all veterans on the Veterans Day holiday.

"On this Veterans Day, we tip our caps and bow our heads in appreciation of the sacrifices American veterans have made for our freedom," Loudon said. "Without their efforts, we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms we have as citizens of this great nation."

Veterans Day, originally Armistice Day in recognition of World War I veterans, is celebrated each Nov. 11. Its current name was instituted with an Act of Congress on May 24, 1954. In October of that year, President Eisenhower called on all citizens to observe the day by remembering and honoring the servicemen of all American wars.

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“There are more than 25 million living Americans who we recognize as veterans or retired military,” Loudon said. “Now more than ever, with thousands of American soldiers serving overseas, the service of our veterans deserves recognition.”

Questions about the medal programs can be directed to the Missouri Veterans Award Recognition office at (573) 638-9561. Applications for both programs can be obtained through the same office or are posted on the Missouri National Guard Web site at www.moguard.com under the ‘Program’ link.

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