

Column from Sen. Matt Bartle for

Week of: Dec. 12, 2005

Deadlines Extended For Veterans Recognition Programs

The Missouri National Guard is promoting an awards program available to Missouri veterans to honor them for their service to our state and nation. The Missouri World War II and Korean War Veterans' Recognition Programs have extended eligibility deadlines thanks to recently passed legislation. The legislation, passed this year, removes application deadlines and allows Missourians to be acknowledged for their service.

The brave Missourians who put their lives on the line in World War II and the Korean War deserve formal recognition for their sacrifices. They have gone overseas to ensure our nation and its people are allowed to be free. Fortunately, this new legislation permits any Missouri resident who either entered or was discharged from military service during these wars to be recognized for their service to the United States and the state of Missouri.

The Missouri World War II and Korean War Veterans' Recognition Programs award a medal, medallion and certificate to these Missouri veterans.

Of course, these courageous individuals did not engage in warfare for medals and certificates. They did so to preserve freedom and security for Americans. However, these tokens of merit allow fellow Missourians to express our gratitude for the achievements of these heroic veterans of international war.

I encourage all veterans who have not already done so to apply for these medals recognizing your contributions to the history of our nation.

Questions about the 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 'Programs' link.

If you have questions or would like assistance in applying for a medal, contact my office by e-mail at matt_bartle@senate.state.mo.us or by phone at (888) 711-9278.

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