

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 427 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

Frank A. Barnitz 16th Senate District

For Immediate Release: April 12, 2007 Contact: Tony Benz (573) 751-2108

Sen. Frank Barnitz Announces Missouri Veteran Stories Project

JEFFERSON CITY- Sen. Frank Barnitz (D-Lake Spring) announced recently a program meant to honor and preserve the history of Missouri's veterans. The state funded program will record the stories of Missouri veterans in order to have a permanent record of their service.

"The stories that Missouri's veterans have to tell are invaluable," said Sen. Barnitz. "This is a unique opportunity to record our veterans' strength, knowledge, and courage for future generations."

The videos of veterans will also be featured in the History Hall of the Missouri State Museum on the first floor of the Capitol building so that visitors can view them.

A bill passed several years ago encouraged the recording of veterans' stories, but didn't allocate any funds to the project. This year approximately \$400,000 was set aside for the project in order to record over 200 stories.

"The men and women who dedicate themselves to serving our country deserve recognition for their sacrifice. This is certainly a worthwhile use of state funding," said Sen. Barnitz. "This effort to capture and record the history of some of Missouri's 592,000 veterans is truly a meaningful task."

Forever Network, a St. Louis based company, is recording the veterans' stories. For more information or to nominate a veteran to tell their story call 1-888-FOREVER.

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