

Jack Goodman 29th Senate District CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 331A JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

For Immediate Release: February 21, 2007

Contact: Patrick Morrow (573) 751-2234

Sen. Goodman Announces BIG Missouri Deposits in 29th District

JEFFERSON CITY— State Senator Jack Goodman announced today the approval of \$724,500 in low interest loan money to banks in the 29th Senate District participating in the BIG Missouri Linked Deposit Program administered through Missouri Treasurer Sarah Steelman's office. The BIG program is designed to strengthen Missouri's economic growth by enabling local banks to make low-cost loans to participating farmers and businesses at an interest rate up to 3 percent less than the current market rate. The program is made possible as a result of legislation recently passed by the General Assembly.

"I'm delighted to announce the approval of the BIG Missouri program in our district," Sen. Goodman said. "This will be a major financial resource to help strengthen the local economy and create jobs for our citizens."

Last year, Sen. Goodman and Treasurer Steelman worked with banking, business and agriculture organizations to win approval for SB 270 in the Missouri General Assembly. The legislation revitalizes and expands a dormant linked-deposit program to help Missouri farms and businesses succeed.

"BIG Missouri is yielding BIG results. Over 4,000 jobs have already been created from this program in just the first year," Steelman said. "But most important, BIG Missouri is a way for Missourians to make their dreams come true, and build strong families, communities and a growing Missouri."

Loan applicants in qualifying categories such as beginning farmers, small businesses, job creation and family housing can apply for a linked-deposit loan at their local financial institution. The state deposits funds with the institution at a preferred interest rate and the entire savings — up to 3 percent — is passed along to the borrower.

"The BIG stands for Believe, Invest and Grow," Steelman said, "Through wise investment strategies, our families, communities and state are growing to achieve a better and brighter future."

Sen. Goodman notes that more information on the BIG Missouri program can be found online at www.bigmissouri.com or by calling the treasurer's office at (573) 751-2372.