

Frank A. Barnitz 16th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 427 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

For Immediate Release: January 14, 2008

Contact: Tony Benz (573) 751-2108

Sen. Barnitz Appointed to Senate Education Committee

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, has earned an appointment to serve on the Senate Education Committee. The committee deals with legislation and issues affecting elementary and secondary schools in the state as well as higher education.

"I am very pleased to be given the opportunity to be able to have increased influence on the education of students in Missouri," said Sen. Barnitz. "It is one of my priorities to make sure that students throughout Missouri receive a quality education."

The Senate Education Committee reviews legislation and hears testimony on proposed bills before deciding whether or not to send the legislation to the full Senate for debate. Past legislation handled by the committee includes measures creating enriching programs for elementary and secondary education as well as funding institutes of higher education.

As a father of three, Sen. Barnitz is familiar with the achievements and challenges of the education system. He spent six years serving on the Dent-Phelps School Board, which provides a background on the inner workings of local school districts. His work with youth through 4-H, the Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee, and the Agriculture Leaders of Tomorrow will contribute to his knowledge of helpful programs, especially in rural and richly agricultural areas.

"It is important that the Senate Education Committee focuses on the concerns of educators, parents, and the students themselves in order to create legislation that is fair and addresses the issues that affect the education system as a whole," said Sen. Barnitz. "I am looking forward to beginning our work and continuing to improve the quality education that is available to Missouri's students."

-END-