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Sen. Frank Barnitz Reminds Community Leaders of Deadlines for Federal Stimulus Grants

JEFFERSON CITY — Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, today reminded leaders in the 16th Senate District's cities, counties and non-profit organizations that federal stimulus dollars could be available. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was passed by Congress in February, and funding is now available. Some applications for federal stimulus funding require immediate action and are becoming available on very short notice.

"These short deadlines could cost one of our local areas an important funding opportunity, and so I am encouraging our cities, counties, and non-profit organizations to closely examine any available grants," said Sen. Barnitz. "The legislation passed in Washington D.C. is hundreds of pages long, and I am confident there are opportunities there for communities in the 16th Senate District."

There are a variety of ways the stimulus funds will flow to state and local governments, including a predicted \$4 billion in federal stimulus funds for Missouri. This does not include additional one-time grant opportunities. Federal stimulus fund grants administered through at least 25 national agencies are available in a number of areas, including clean water and other environmental efforts, social services, health services, energy efficiency, education, nutrition, broadband communication, and USDA grants for agriculture.

Information on the federal stimulus legislation is available online at www.recovery.gov and citizens can track Missouri's portion of the funding at www.transform.mo.gov. You can also track Missouri's federal stimulus dollars at www.auditor.mo.gov. A listing of funding opportunities is available at www.grants.gov.

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