

Frank A. Barnitz 16th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 427 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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Contact: Tony Benz (573) 751-2108

Sen. Frank Barnitz Advances Bill Allowing Tractor Parades

JEFFERSON CITY – A rural tradition would be legal and able to continue under a bill being handled in the Senate by Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring. House Bill 93, which received full Senate approval on April 20th, legalizes tractor parades, which are often organized as fundraisers by non-profit organizations and Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapters. Sen. Barnitz sponsored similar legislation this year in the Senate.

"We were approached by members of organizations in the state about this common fundraiser in our rural communities," said Sen. Barnitz. "Citizens wanted to continue holding tractor parades because they are a great way to show support for agriculture and fundraise for events, but were concerned about how to do so legally."

House Bill 93 provides a way to legally hold the parades and ensures this pastime is legal and safe by allowing licensed drivers to assemble tractors and parade down Missouri roads for fundraisers as long as they have approval from the highway patrol. Specifically, the bill allows the superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol to exempt tractors from certain width, height, and length regulations when the tractors are participating in tractor parades for fundraising activities.

"Without this legislation, Missouri law would not allow for these parades," said Sen. Barnitz. "I want to make sure that this rural tradition continues."