



MISSOURI SENATE  
JEFFERSON CITY

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**For Immediate Release:**  
**July 1, 2009**

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## **Assistance Available for Dent County Residents Affected by May Storms**

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JEFFERSON CITY — Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, today announced that Dent County has been included in a major disaster declaration recently issued by the President that included 28 Missouri counties. This designation allows residents and local governments in the area to apply for federal dollars to help recover from damage created by the storms.

The disaster declaration is a result of severe storms, tornadoes and flooding on May 8 - 16. Public Assistance funds are available for local governments, other political subdivisions of the state, and certain private nonprofits for the repair, restoration, reconstruction or replacement of public facilities or infrastructure that was damaged or destroyed. Missouri state, local and private nonprofit officials work together with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to coordinate the application process.

Individuals can also register for disaster assistance and could receive funding for temporary housing or home repairs as well as personal property loss, medical costs and other serious disaster-related expenses not covered by insurance. Registration is available at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov) or by calling toll-free **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)**, (TTY **1-800-462-7585**) from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week until further notice.

Disaster Unemployment Assistance is also available for affected residents if their employment was lost or interrupted as a result of the severe weather. The Missouri Department of Labor's Division of Employment Security will be accepting applications for disaster unemployment claims until August 23. For information about filing a claim, residents should call **1-800-788-4002**.

"One of the most important parts of emergency management comes after the emergency as we work to get our communities back to normal, and these federal programs can go far to help residents get back on their feet," said Sen. Barnitz. "I encourage those in Dent County affected by these storms to utilize these programs. I also want to thank the friends and neighbors in the community who have already given so much to help those who were affected."

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