



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Senator Frank Barnitz Announces Funding for Proposed Veterans Cemetery

JEFFERSON CITY – State Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, is pleased to announce Gov. Matt Blunt’s intentions to earmark \$550,000 from the Veterans Commission Capitol Improvement Trust Fund for the proposed national veterans cemetery near Fort Leonard Wood. The state funds match an estimated \$8 million grant from the federal government for the 217-acre site, located just outside of the main gates to Fort Leonard Wood.

“I appreciate the work that Pulaski County residents and officials, St. Robert and Waynesville city officials, local chambers of commerce, and especially veterans groups have contributed to bringing out the importance of this veterans cemetery,” said Senator Barnitz, who represents the 16th Senate District.

Gov. Blunt made the announcement during his annual State of the State Address Wednesday evening in the chamber of the Missouri House of Representatives. Tim Norton, director of planning and property management for the Missouri Veterans Commission, has provided information to Sen. Barnitz. All studies are complete for the transfer of federal land, currently a part of Fort Leonard Wood, to the Missouri Veterans Commission. The transfer should be completed around March 1.

“I am pleased that Gov. Blunt is allowing funding for the veterans cemetery,” said Sen. Barnitz. “It is a great investment for Missouri and very appropriate for our area, which has a world-class U.S. Army base in Fort Leonard Wood and many retired veterans. I will work to the best of my ability to be sure these intentions become reality for the people of Missouri.”

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