



NEWS RELEASE

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Senate approves bill aiding Newport Depot redevelopment

INDIANAPOLIS— Today the Indiana Senate and Indiana House of Representatives gave final approval to legislation that would help local communities redevelop land previously used for military purposes. Senate Bill (SB) 249 sponsored by State Senator Tim Skinner (D-Terre Haute), was approved by a vote of 50 to 0 in the Senate.

SB 249 would allow the local community to redevelop and reuse the Newport Chemical Depot near Terre Haute. Formerly the Newport Army Ammunition Plant, the facility was built during World War II where it stored RDX and VX nerve agents. The chemicals were neutralized at the plant in 2005. The legislation would allow Vermillion County to reuse this land for community development purposes.

“This is going to be beneficial to economic development in Vermillion County,” said Sen. Skinner. “There’s great potential for this legislation to help the community in the future.”

Once approved by the House of Representatives, the bill will be sent to the governor for final consideration and possible enactment.

In other action, on Thursday the General Assembly honored United States Marine Corporal Gregory S. Stultz, originally of Brazil, Ind. Cpl. Stultz was killed in action on February 19, 2010, while serving his first tour of duty in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

“It is important that we show our recognition for Cpl. Stultz and all of those that serve our country,” said Sen. Skinner. “Cpl. Stultz served his country honorably and it is important for him to be remembered.”

Cpl. Stultz was memorialized by a moment of silence in the Senate and House upon the passage of House Concurrent Resolution 74.

For more information on Sen. Skinner, his legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit www.senatedemocrats.in.gov.

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