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**United States Senate**  
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AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
CONTRACTING OVERSIGHT,  
CHAIRMAN

May 5, 2010

Saint Louis County Commission  
41 South Central  
Clayton, Missouri 63105

To the Members of the Commission:

I am writing to express my concern over the rapidly diminishing land space for burials of our brave veterans at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. Although burials at the Cemetery peaked in 2008 and are projected to decline in the coming years, the Cemetery is expected to run out of space as soon as 2025, which could deny many veterans and their families the peace of mind of having their final resting place assured in this hallowed national treasure.

I realize that in these tight economic times, Saint Louis County is making difficult choices to balance budget priorities with its economic expansion and development of the Jefferson Barracks area. However, I hope that you will continue to take the long view by pursuing strategies to ensure that the Cemetery has adequate land beyond 2025. Each additional acre of space that the Cemetery acquires adds approximately another year that we can accommodate our veterans with burial. We must all work to honor our veterans' service to our country and to preserve the Jefferson Barracks heritage by planning accordingly for future burial space needs.

Thank you for everything you do for our veterans and for the Saint Louis community. Please let me know how I can support you, Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, the local community, our regional veterans organizations and the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration in working towards a mutually-agreeable solution to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill  
UNITED STATES SENATOR