



# NEWS

## Missouri House of Representatives

Rod Jetton, Speaker

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
October 26, 2007

**CONTACT: Aaron Willard**  
**573-526-1383**

### **Rep. Bob Dixon Receives Award from NAMI Southwest Missouri**

**Jefferson City** – NAMI Southwest Missouri recently celebrated the organization’s twenty-fifth anniversary at its Annual Banquet in Springfield on October 6, 2007. At the same time, the local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness took time to honor several individuals for their unique contributions to advance the work and mission of NAMI. Included among the award recipients was Rep. Bob Dixon, R-Springfield, who received the Excellence in Government Award.

Rep. Dixon was recognized for his work on the school-based clinician program in Springfield. Through a collaborative partnership, the Springfield Public Schools will place school-based clinicians (SBCs), employed by Burrell Behavioral Health, in its secondary schools. These clinicians will provide mental health expertise and additional help for troubled students.

“NAMI appreciates Rep. Dixon’s dedication,” stated Executive Director Dewayne Long, “We value his willingness to listen, especially on issues affecting individuals with mental illnesses.”

“I am humbled and very appreciative of this award,” said Rep. Dixon. “NAMI Southwest Missouri does outstanding work on behalf of those affected by mental illness. They are truly community heroes. The well-being and mental health of our children is a particularly important priority, and I am pleased that this program has become a reality.”

###