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Josh Lanier Explores Senate Run

**Former Senate staffer, Viet Nam Vet, and Business Exec files FEC papers;
Instructs committee to set national example for “Clean Campaign”**

Statesboro, Ga. (October 17, 2007) – Democrat Josh Lanier of Statesboro has approved the formation of an exploratory committee for a run for the U.S. Senate. Lanier filed required paperwork with the Federal Elections Commission for the Friends of Josh Lanier exploratory committee to raise funds and assess support in the State. The move by Lanier had been the subject of speculation in the press and political websites over the past ten days.

In approving the action, Lanier also took the unusual step of requiring the exploratory committee to operate to the spirit and requirements of pending bipartisan legislation in the U.S. Senate, known as the “Fair Elections Now Act” that, if law today, would provide voluntary public funding for Senate elections. By doing so, Lanier restricted donations to his exploratory committee to a maximum of \$100, among many requirements.

In a video message on the committee's website – www.friendsofjoshlanier.com – Lanier told supporters that “we must face the truth that big money and special interests have paralyzed and polarized our political process” and that it was “time to do right.” He also sharply challenged the Bush Administration's actions in Iraq, called for a return to federal fiscal discipline and stressed the need for “fearless and affordable health care for all Americans.”

A fifth generation Georgian and Statesboro native, Lanier enlisted in the Army on his 18th birthday at the height of the Viet Nam war in 1970, served with the top secret Army Security Agency in Viet Nam and, upon his return, joined the staff of Georgia Senator Herman E. Talmadge in Washington, D.C. He went on to work in Washington for over three decades on major national issues as a staff member in the House of Representatives, an executive with national associations for the cable television, manufactured housing, and shell fish industries, as well as Executive Trustee of the former U.S.S. Sequoia. He was most recently Vice Chairman of LightStream Technologies, a developer of advanced technologies for the treatment of water. -- ## --