



Office of
Jason Crowell State
Senator

The Crowell Connection



Senator Jason Crowell – Serving Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott Counties.

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Economic Stimulus Payments Unclaimed by Missouriians Most in Need

To boost the flagging economy, Congress authorized economic stimulus payments for eligible households that can be claimed by filing a 2007 tax return. However, it was recently announced that 113,147 low-income seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities in Missouri have yet to claim their economic stimulus payments. This is due to the fact that many of these individuals do not make enough to be normally required to file a tax return. These Missouriians need and deserve their stimulus payments, and I want to make sure they have the resources they need to claim their payment.



stimulus payments are critical.

Missourians have until October 15 to file a tax return in order to receive a stimulus payment. These unclaimed payments in Missouri alone add up to \$33.9 million. The stimulus payments (rebates) are worth a minimum of \$300 per person. This money could go towards basic expenses like food and shelter. With the cost of energy, food and other expenses increasing, these economic

The unclaimed payments affect those in our community with Southeast Missouri residents being some of the Missouriians who have yet to claim their economic stimulus payments. Cape Girardeau County was included in the top 20 list of areas with Missouriians who have not filed for their payments. More than 1,200 unclaimed stimulus package payments—a total of more than \$360,000—are attributed to the county.

Those who qualify for payments include individuals that have had \$3,000 or more in income from earnings; Social Security benefits, Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); Veterans' disability benefits; Railroad Retirement benefits; or a combination of any of these benefits and pay in 2007. Individuals (and their spouses and children) must have a valid Social Security number, and individuals cannot get a payment if they can be claimed as a dependent by another person.

To receive the payment, individuals must file a 2007 tax return. Even people who are otherwise not required to file have to file a Form 1040A to claim their economic stimulus package. Those in Southeast Missouri needing assistance with filing can contact the Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging located at 1219 N. Kingshighway St., Suite 100 in Cape Girardeau, which can be reached by calling 1-800-392-8771.

These economic stimulus payments are specifically designed to ease the burden on families and individuals. If you know someone who might be eligible for an economic stimulus payment, please pass on this information. If you are eligible and have not filed a tax return, please do so or seek assistance to get the money you deserve.

Contact Me

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at <http://www.senate.mo.gov/crowell>.

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