## Only New Senate Member of the 93<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly To Head A Senate Panel

This past Wednesday, Jan.  $5^{th}$ , I was sworn-in as a member of the Missouri Senate after the First Regular Session of the  $93^{rd}$  Missouri General Assembly convened at noon.

It is a great honor to serve the citizens of the 27<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District representing Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry and Scott counties and I am grateful for the confidence you placed in me. This is truly a historic year to serve in the Missouri Legislature and it's hard not to be excited about the opportunity I have to make our state government work for you to improve your lives. It's clear to me that you, as voters, sent a message this past November that you want change, that you want action.

With that in mind, I'll take this opportunity to highlight three priorities for the session: workers compensation reform, tort reform, and providing a world-class education opportunity for every Missouri student.

Inherently what these three issues boil down to is one of balance. Right now, they are out of balance and therefore are deterring the state of Missouri from advancing to greater prosperity. We must and will make principled changes.

A day after the legislature convened, Senate President Pro Tem Gibbons appointed me to serve as chairman of the Senate's Pensions, Veteran's Affairs and General Laws Committee. This made me the only first-year Senator to chair a committee in the 93<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly. I was also appointed vice-chair of the Financial, Governmental Organizations and Elections Committee. Additionally, I will serve on the Gubernatorial Appointments Committee, the Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, and the Economic Development, Tourism, and Local Government Committee.

I am very pleased and honored to serve Southeast Missouri and all the citizens of Missouri in these new capacities. The descriptions of the committees I'm serving on are as follows:

<u>The Committee on Pensions, Veteran's Affairs and General Laws</u> handles all matters concerning retirement pension plans as well as veterans' affairs and general topics.

The Committee on Financial, Governmental Organizations and Elections looks at all matters relating to banks and financial institutions. It examines and reports on potential changes in the organization of state government. The committee also looks at potential matters regarding election law as well as those matters that involve the department of corrections.

<u>The Committee on Gubernatorial Appointments</u> considers and reports upon gubernatorial appointments forwarded to the senate by the governor for the chamber's advice and consent.

The Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence handles all bills relating to the judicial system. It also examines the constitutionality of potential laws and considers workers compensation laws.

The Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Local Government considers questions and reports on bills relating to the promotion of economic development, tourism, community and business development, county government, as well as township organizations.

## 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 or you may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at <a href="http://www.jasoncrowell.com">http://www.jasoncrowell.com</a>. Once again, my office staff for the upcoming session consists of Bev Scheulen and Andrew Green. They are available to help you with any of your constituent needs.

Thank you for your time.