



MISSOURI SENATE  
JEFFERSON CITY

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## **Sen. Crowell Sponsors Resolution Recognizing Congenital Heart Defects**

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JEFFERSON CITY – A concurrent resolution sponsored by Senator Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, commemorating February 14<sup>th</sup> as Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day in Missouri is nearing final approval in the General Assembly.

“Congenital heart defects are the leading cause of birth defect-related deaths worldwide. Each year about 40,000 babies are born with the condition in this country,” Crowell said. “We want to increase awareness of the condition so that more babies and children are screened to prevent extreme health problems down the road.”

Crowell drafted Senate Concurrent Resolution 3 after Darrin and Amanda Tipton of Jackson, Mo., came up with the idea for establishing a special day to recognize congenital heart defects (CHD). The Tiptons’ daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, was born with the congenital heart defect Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome in 2000.

“Millions of people are affected by these unfortunate defects in the body’s most vital organ,” Crowell said. “Along with increasing awareness, we want to pay homage to the people who face the challenges of the often devastating condition with an official day to recognize those born with heart defects, remember loved ones who lost their battle to congenital heart defects, and honor the dedicated health professionals who work to treat the condition.”

Upon House approval of SCR 3, February 14<sup>th</sup> of each year will officially be recognized as Congenital Heart Defects Awareness Day in Missouri.



**An electronic copy (“jpeg” format) of this photo showing (from left to right) Amanda, Darrin and Sarah Elizabeth Tipton and Sen. Jason Crowell can be obtained by calling Sen. Crowell’s capitol office at: (573) 751-2459.**

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