

CROWELL CONNECTION

DISTRICT 27

STATE SENATOR JASON CROWELL - ROOM 323, STATE CAPITOL - JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

New World, New Hope, New Possibilities

Today we take for granted that the world is round, but in the 15th century it was accepted as common knowledge that the world was flat. The belief that the end of the world was somewhere over the edge of the Atlantic was proven false when on October 12, 1492 Christopher Columbus stepped foot on an island in the Caribbean. The exact location of Columbus's landing is subject to debate, but there is no arguing that his discovery marked the beginning of a cultural exchange between America and the civilized world- the result of which was ultimately the United States of America.



This Monday our nation honors Christopher Columbus and his discovery as a day of great patriotism. In fact the Pledge of Allegiance was written in 1892 as President Benjamin Harrison drew up a commemorative proclamation in honor of the 400th anniversary of Columbus's discovery. The first known celebration of Columbus's discovery actually took place 100 years earlier in New York on October 12, 1792, making Columbus Day one of our nation's oldest holidays. Soon after, there was a movement to rename the country The United States of America Columbia. Instead, the nation honored Columbus by naming the capital the District of Columbia. By the late 19th century, several other metropolitan populations throughout the country followed suit- such as the City of Columbia, Missouri.

In conjunction with efforts in France to make Columbus a Saint, Irish Catholics joined the newly formed international fraternal society, the Knights of Columbus. Over the next several years, the Knights of Columbus lobbied state legislatures to declare October 12th a legal holiday in the name of Christopher Columbus. By 1971, the federal government officially recognized the second Monday in October as Columbus Day.

Please have safe and enjoyable Columbus Day this Monday, October 10th.

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.jasoncrowell.com> and <http://www.senate.mo.gov/crowell>.

Senator Jason Crowell represents the people of Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry and Scott counties in the Missouri Senate.