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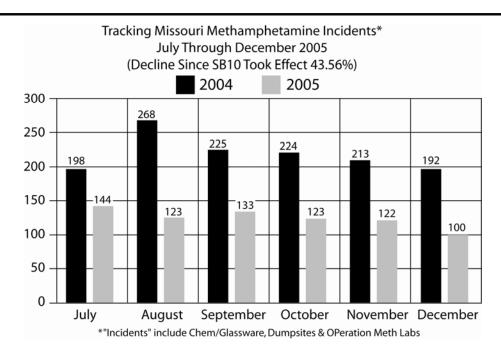
Senator Jason Crowell proudly represents the people of Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott Counties.

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Continuing the War on Meth

Missouri is known for its rich history, its distinctive landscape and its diverse population. But sadly in recent years, our state's identity was often associated with something far-more unflattering—the deadly and addictive drug, meth. Last year, the Legislature decided to declare war on meth in Missouri.

The new law that came out of last year's legislative efforts moved products containing pseudoephedrine behind pharmacy counters limited the amount of those medicines that an individual can buy and required the pharmacy to keep track of who makes the purchases. As you can see from the graph below, these restrictions had a dramatic result since they went into effect in July of 2005. Overall the presence of meth labs in Missouri declined by 46 percent. This means that there are fewer meth labs embedded in our communities and fewer toxic dump sites that are poisonous and extremely expensive to clean up. The collective willingness and diligence of Missouri law enforcement and pharmacies should be applauded.



In an effort to do more at the state level, I have introduced Senate Bill 797, which takes last year's law requiring pharmacists to maintain a log of pseudoephedrine purchases a step further. My measure will establish an electronic logging network for pseudoephedrine sales in Missouri, enabling a pharmacy to keep track of purchases in a connected database with other pharmacies. By logging sales electronically, law enforcement will be able to track down those who travel from pharmacy to pharmacy purchasing the maximum amount of pseudoephedrine at each stop.

SB 797 was recently heard in committee and once approved, it will go to the Senate floor for debate by the full body. I am expecting this legislation to receive bipartisan support so that Missouri can do even more to combat the drug that is filling our prisons, wrecking families, corroding society and endangering lives.

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.

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