

Jason Crowell 27th Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 323 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

For Immediate Release: February 27, 2006

Contact: Andrew Green (573) 751-2459

Crowell Works to Raise Autism Awareness

JEFFERSON CITY —Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, announced today that the application for a autism awareness specialty license plate has received approval from the Joint Committee on Transportation Oversight. Crowell introduced the application request to the committee on behalf of Ethan & Friends for Autism, a local nonprofit support group for children with autism.

"Committee approval is a significant victory for Ethan & Friends for Autism, because it is a step toward increasing awareness," Crowell said. "I'm glad that the organizations' efforts are paying off, and I'm honored to have been a part of the process."

To apply for an Autism Awareness License Plate, e-mail Mike Sciortino at <u>jamessciortino@semo.net</u> or Michelle McAdams at <u>mom2cjlukenick@aol.com</u> for the Ethan & Friends application donation form. A Specialty License Plate Application Form 1716, which can be acquired from local license bureaus, must also be filled out. The two completed forms, a \$20 donation to Ethan & Friends for Autism, and a \$15 check made out to Missouri DOR must then be sent to: ETHAN & FRIENDS FOR AUTISM, 232 Cameilla Dr., Cape Girardeau, MO, 63701. Once 200 applications are received, the Department of Revenue will begin production of the plates.

Donations go toward funding speech and occupational therapy, gluten-free diets and special physician care for families with autistic children. Crowell encourages his constituents to support this great cause by sending in the necessary documents, donations and fees as soon as possible.

-END-