



MISSOURI SENATE

Jason Crowell
27th Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Crowell Backs Governor's Vision for Higher Education

JEFFERSON CITY— Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today announced his support for the governor's Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, which will allow Missouri colleges and universities to make \$335 million worth of needed capital improvements. The plan also calls for the annual appropriation of \$25 million toward Missouri scholarship programs to help 10,000 new students each year afford continuing their education in Missouri.

Crowell is particularly enthusiastic about the call for \$17.2 million to go to the River Campus project and \$4.5 million to the Life Science Innovation Center, both of which are located on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University.

"The benefits of this breakthrough proposal are far-reaching as it will help college students, improve our state universities and boost the state economy," Crowell said. "Through this plan, college will become more affordable for young Missourians, and they will have the opportunity to learn and grow in some of the nation's best classrooms and laboratories."

Under the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, an annual \$2.4 million has been slated for the Primary Care Resources Initiative for Missouri (PRIMO) program. A total of \$60 million will provide capital improvements to the state's Federal Qualified Health Centers, and \$85 million will be directed to the construction of a new building to house the state's cancer institute, the University of Missouri's Ellis Fischel Cancer Center. The plan also includes \$15 million for the Missouri Technology Corporation, whose mission is to help Missouri become a leader in the technology industry.

"The money will be used to work with Missouri colleges and universities to facilitate and accelerate commercialization of new technologies," Crowell said. "Missouri has the chance to lead the nation in technology and science research, which can only mean good things for our state as a whole."

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