

Jason Crowell 27th Senate District

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Sen. Jason Crowell Encourages Consumers to Utilize Sales Tax Holiday

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today promoted the state's sales tax holiday and emphasized its usefulness for consumers doing back-to-school shopping. This year, families will once again get the chance to save up to 9 percent at the cash register during the Missouri sales tax holiday, set for August 3-5.

"Back-to-school shopping can mean buying new outfits, notebooks, pens, and even computers," said Sen. Crowell. "Making sure our children are prepared for a new school year can be draining on the resources of families, and I'm proud that Missouri is helping to alleviate the financial burden while stimulating business sales for our communities during the sales tax holiday."

In 2005, Sen. Crowell handled legislation in the Missouri Senate making the three-day tax holiday an annual fixture on Missouri's calendar. Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 3rd, and ending the following Sunday, August 5th, at midnight, back-to-school supplies will be exempted from state sales tax. Back-to-school supplies, which are usually taxed by the state at 4.225 percent, include clothes, school supplies, and computers or their accessories.

The tax waiver applies to the following purchases:

- Clothing any article (including footwear) having a taxable value of \$100 or less
- **School supplies** any item normally used by students in classrooms, not to exceed \$50 per purchase

- **Computer software** software with a taxable value of \$350 or less
- **Personal computers** laptops, desktops, or tower computer systems not to exceed \$3,500
- **Computer peripheral devices** devices designed for use with computers (disk drives, modems, etc.) not to exceed \$3,500

"I encourage anyone anticipating making back-to-school purchases or anyone planning to invest in a computer to take advantage of the savings available during the holiday," said Sen. Crowell. "I applaud the communities in the 27th district who have decided to participate this year, further easing the financial burden on families in these areas and boosting the local economy."

Local governments have the option of participating in the holiday by rescinding their city or county sales taxes. In the 27th Senate District, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott counties are all going to waive county sales tax this year during the sales tax holiday. Sales on exempt items in most cities — such as Benton, Cape Girardeau, Charleston, Fredericktown, Jackson, Perryville, and Sikeston — will be waived of city and county sales taxes, in addition to state taxes. For an exact listing of the cities and counties participating in the holiday, visit http://www.dor.mo.gov/tax/business/sales/taxholiday/ or call the Sales/Use Tax Department at the Department of Revenue at (573) 751-2836.