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For Immediate Release: August 29, 2007

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## **Sikeston Selected as DREAM Initiative City**

JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, and Representative Ellen Brandom, R-Sikeston, today applauded the Department of Economic Development for naming the City of Sikeston as a "DREAM City". The Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) Initiative is designed to help communities receive state assistance to ultimately improve the area's economy.

"I am pleased to see that Sikeston, an already enthusiastic and impressive community, has been selected as a DREAM City," said Sen. Crowell. "This designation will help the area receive a lot of assistance, which can take the city to a new level of success and prosperity."

The DREAM Initiative is a comprehensive approach to downtown revitalization that includes aid navigating through various state assistance programs to help with job creation and community betterment projects. Support for DREAM Cities includes technical assistance and planning, historic preservation, public infrastructure, facade renovation, housing development, and additional trainings. The communities receive the designation for a three year period.

"The opportunities that will be available through the DREAM Initiative will be an asset to our city," said Rep. Brandom. "I am looking forward to seeing the program in action, and I'm excited about the difference it will make in the community."

Cities are selected based on their potential to invest time and effort into the process. In order to apply, the city must present a comprehensive, multi-dimensional approach to revitalization to the Department of Economic Development.

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