

Jason Crowell 27<sup>th</sup> Senate District

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## Sen. Jason Crowell Receives Awards from Audiology Organizations

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, was recently honored for his work sponsoring and passing Senate Bill 308, which went into effect on August 28. Sen. Crowell received the awards from the Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA) and the Missouri Academy of Audiology (MAA) on Friday (10/26).

"I am honored to receive these awards from MAA and MSHA," said Sen. Crowell. "Hearing loss can be a serious condition for anyone, and these professionals work hard to prevent and treat hearing related disorders."

Senate Bill 308 allows Missouri to join 31 other states that allow audiologists to dispense hearing instruments under their audiology license. The law adds fitting, programming, and dispensing of assistive listening devices and other amplification systems to the definition of the practice of audiology. The bill also phases in heightened educational requirements for Hearing Instrument Specialists.

"Audiologists are trained professionals who have the expertise to perform the testing and rehabilitation required for those facing hearing loss," said Sen. Crowell. "They have the clinical and educational background to help those needing a hearing device and shouldn't need two licenses to perform the job they are trained to do."

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(Top) Sen. Crowell receives a plaque from the Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association represented by Jayanti Ray, PhD. (Bottom) Sen. Crowell is presented with an award from the Missouri Academy of Audiology represented by Steve Brown, AuD.

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