



Office of
Jason Crowell State Senator
The Crowell Connection

Senator Jason Crowell – Serving Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott Counties.

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Making Missouri's No Call List Stronger

To help stop the unwanted telephone solicitations, we established Missouri's "No Call" list in 2000. (You'll find No Call registration information by calling, toll free, (866) 662-2551 and online at: <http://www.ago.mo.gov/nocalllaw/nocalllaw.htm>)



The No Call list was an instant hit with Missourians wanting their phone to ring only when someone they wanted to talk to was on the other end of the line. While the program has proven wildly successful over the past seven years (nearly 2.5 million phone numbers are now registered with it), I continued to look at ways to expand the list's protections.

This year I advanced legislation allowing cell and fax numbers to be included on the No Call list. Currently, the program lists only residential landline phone numbers. The extension of the program to cover cell phone and fax calls was incorporated into an omnibus consumer-protection bill that is rapidly advancing through the Legislature. As of now, the cell and fax expansion applies to residential numbers.

Including cell phones is nearly a necessity in the midst of the ever-increasing use of this wireless technology. Not to mention that, with cell phones, you have to pay for incoming calls. And receiving a fax isn't free, either; there are paper and toner cartridges to pay for – plus the inconvenience of having your fax line tied up.



The No Call expansion measure also prohibits automated political phone calls to anyone registered on the list. The last election cycle clearly brought to light the need for shielding Missourians from these irritating and intrusive automated calls. For Missourians not on the No Call list, “robo-calls” must include a “paid for by” statement as part of the call so recipients know what person or group was behind the campaign. Violators of this provision could face a fine of up to \$5,000, making for a very expensive phone call.

Having already cleared the Senate, the measure (SB 49) is now in the state House for similar consideration before moving to the governor’s desk, where I expect it will be quickly signed into law. This legislation will provide more screening from unwanted phone and fax solicitations and save Missourians money in the process.

Contact Me

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at <http://www.jasoncrowell.com>.

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