

State Senator Robert Mayer The Mayer Memo

Senator Robert Mayer - Serving Butler, Dunklin, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Ripley, Stoddard & Wayne Counties



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Hats Off to Our Founding Fathers

JEFFERSON CITY — I always look forward to the Fourth of July — a day when Americans gather to watch parades, enjoy picnics and fireworks displays, attend patriotic events and spend time with their families. During my tenure as a state representative and now as your state senator, I've had the opportunity to participate in a number of community parades, and believe me, there's nothing that showcases the indelible American spirit more than a good old-fashioned 4th of July parade.

Whether you spend your Independence Day along a parade route wearing your red, white and blue to support your community and our U.S. troops or whether you choose to celebrate quietly at home, I hope you and your families have a safe and enjoyable holiday. I also hope all of us will take some time to remember our brave men and women of the Armed Forces and, if possible, thank them for selflessly serving and protecting the freedoms we enjoy today — freedoms our founding fathers fought for and implemented more than 200 years ago.

As a history lover and lawmaker, I often think about the significance of that momentous day on July 4, 1776, when our nation's founding fathers, the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence on a hot summer day — much like the ones here in Missouri — to declare our independence from British rule. Their course of action changed history and set in motion the creation of our unsurpassed form of government. In 1787, delegates to the Constitutional Convention, who were intent on fixing the existing Articles of Incorporation, instead skillfully drafted the U.S. Constitution that united the states into one nation. The

U.S. Constitution, with its first 10 amendments known as the Bill of Rights, was eventually ratified by all 13 states. The rest, of course, is American history.

Through more than two centuries, often marked by social and political struggles, the U.S. Constitution has withstood the test of time and scrutiny. As the late former Chief Justice Warren Burger so aptly said, “No other charter form of government had recognized so clearly that all legitimate political power flows from the people.”

That’s a philosophy I share as your state senator and one I know we all cherish as American citizens.

Have a great Fourth of July weekend and make sure to say hello if you see me along the parade route.

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