

State Senator Robert Mayer The Mayer Memo

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



[Website](#) | [Contact Me](#) | [Biography](#) | [Newsroom](#)

Why Every Vote Counts

JEFFERSON CITY — As the Oct. 8 deadline to register to vote in the upcoming Nov. 4 presidential election approaches, I want to share with you a voting story from American history that highlights the power of just one vote. It emphasizes the importance of voting, and I hope it will encourage you to cast a vote on Election Day.

Back in 1776, when the delegates of the Second Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia to debate a formal resolution of independence from Great Britain, Congressional delegate General Caesar Rodney was some 80 miles away in his home state of Delaware dealing with rebellions from Loyalists who threatened the cause for independence. Rodney was also absent from Congress because of failing health. He suffered from asthma and had a disfiguring form of cancer that was spreading across his face.

On July 1, 1776, Rodney received a letter from his fellow Delaware delegate, Thomas McKean, notifying him of an imminent vote on independence and asking him to make an immediate appearance in Philadelphia to cast a vote for freedom. With less than 24 hours to get to Philadelphia, Rodney quickly mounted his horse and traveled toward Philadelphia without pause or uncertainty. He was mindful that a third Delaware delegate, George Read, would cast an opposing vote. Rodney's vote was necessary to determine where Delaware would come down on the issue. A unanimous vote from every colony was vital to support the resolution.

During his journey, Rodney weathered conditions that would have tested anyone's resolve and strength. He rode for hours through the scorching July heat and endured powerful rainstorms that saturated his clothes. Undaunted by the elements, Rodney didn't think twice about his mission, didn't rest, and didn't turn back.

The rest, of course, is history. Rodney arrived in Philadelphia, exhausted and dirty from his long journey, and as his colleagues described, "in his boots and spurs." He cast his

vote for independence, thus tilting the balance of the Delaware delegation in favor of independence and ultimately solidifying Congress' movement towards a new form of government free from British rule.

Please exercise your civic duty as a Missourian and U.S. citizen and cast your vote in the upcoming presidential election. From now until Oct. 8, you can register to vote at city clerk's offices, Missouri Department of Revenue License Bureaus, Missouri Division of Family Services locations and at the following County Clerk offices:

Butler County

100 N. Main, Room 202
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
573-686-8050

Dunklin County

Courthouse Square
Room 201, Box 188
Kennett, MO 63857
573-888-1374

New Madrid County

450 Main, Box 68
New Madrid, MO 63869
573-748-2524

Pemiscot County

610 Ward Ave, Ste. 2-A
Caruthersville, MO 63830
573-333-4203

Ripley County

100 Courthouse Sq.
Ste. 2
Doniphan, MO 63935
573-996-3215

Stoddard County

316 S. Prairie
Box 110
Bloomfield, MO 63825
573-568-3339

Wayne County

109 Walnut Street, Box 48
Greenville, MO 63944
573-224-3012

Voter registration applications are also available online at www.sos.mo.gov.

Absentee ballots may be cast until 5 p.m. on Nov. 3 with your county clerk's office.

One person. One vote. It does make a difference.

###

Capitol Office

State Capitol Building
Room 331
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Website:

<http://www.senate.mo.gov/mayer>

Phone Number:

573.751.3859

Fax:

573.526.1384