



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Jason Crowell Receives Appreciation Award at Missouri Statewide Autism Advisory Committee Rally

JEFFERSON CITY— Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today received an appreciation award from the Missouri Statewide Autism Advisory Committee for his support of autism organizations in Southeast Missouri. The awards ceremony took place during a rally to raise autism awareness and express appreciation to legislators who have helped to promote autism research and treatment in the state.

“There are more than 32,000 Missourians who have been diagnosed with autism, making it a disorder that affects many families in the state,” said Sen. Crowell. “I want to make sure we are doing everything we can to increase understanding and improve the quality of life for those diagnosed.”

The Tailor Institute, a non-profit organization located in Cape Girardeau that works with individuals with high-functioning autism, presented the award to Sen. Crowell. Over the past two years, the Tailor Institute has received \$400,000 in grants from the state. The budget for fiscal year 2008 includes \$3.9 million to go towards autism and \$2.6 million to construct an autism center at Southeast Missouri State University. The governor’s budget recommendations for fiscal year 2009 contain \$4.5 million for autism resources.

“I am appreciative of the award, and am glad that I have been able to make a difference in this effort,” said Sen. Crowell. “The impact of autism continues to grow, and I hope to continue to help those who are dealing with the disorder.”

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