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Sen. Jason Crowell Earns Committee Chairmanship, Appointments

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today announced that he will continue his work to serve the veterans of Missouri, better the economic environment for small businesses, and watch out for the state’s retired seniors. As well as being re-appointed chairman of the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and Pensions, Sen. Crowell received three new appointments to the Committee on Small Business, Insurance and Industry; the Committee on Progress and Development; and the Select Committee on Oversight of Federal Stimulus.

“I am proud of the work we have accomplished in the past for our brave Missouri veterans and in ensuring our retirement system is fair,” said Sen. Crowell. “While continuing that work, I will also utilize these positions to better our economy for the many families in our community that are struggling to make ends meet.”

The Committee on [Veterans’ Affairs and Pensions](#) handles all matters concerning retirement pension plans as well as veterans’ affairs. In 2007, Sen. Crowell passed legislation that phased in a state income tax exemption for Social Security benefits and non-public retirement benefits. In 2008, he helped usher through the Missouri Returning Heroes’ Act, which caps undergraduate tuition at state-funded universities to \$50 a credit hour for returning combat veterans.

Sen. Crowell will continue to serve on:

- The Committee on [Financial and Governmental Organizations and Elections](#), which looks at legislation relating to banks and financial institutions, potential changes in the organization of state government, and election law.
- The Committee on [Gubernatorial Appointments](#), which considers and reports upon gubernatorial appointments forwarded to the senate by the governor for consent.

Sen. Crowell was newly appointed to:

- The Committee on [Small Business, Insurance and Industry](#), which considers bills relating to the operation of small businesses, fair employment standards, and workers’ compensation. Sen. Crowell has worked diligently to reform workers’ compensation and, thanks to those reforms, the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations’ Division of Workers’ Compensation recently announced that it would be reducing taxes on workers’ compensation premiums by 50 percent this year.
- The Committee on [Progress and Development](#), which will address a variety of bills and issues. Sen. Crowell will serve as one of the majority members of the Senate’s first minority-controlled panel in at least 40 years.
- The [Select Committee on Oversight of Federal Stimulus](#), which will manage oversight of securing any federal stimulus money for programs to benefit Missourians. Sen. Crowell was specifically chosen as a member of the committee for his knowledge of veterans’ affairs.

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