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MEDIA ADVISORY

JEFFERSON CITY

Sen. Jason Crowell to Sponsor Prize for MoDOT's 6th Annual Bridge Building Competition

Largest turnout in competition history is expected

JEFFERSON CITY — For the third consecutive year, Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, will sponsor prizes as part of the Missouri Department of Transportation Southeast District's sixth-annual bridge building competition.

"This competition is a great way to spark student interests in civil engineering" said Sen. Crowell. The experience encourages students to call upon their creativity and mathematical knowledge to craft a bridge that will withstand the toughest of tests."

Each student participant received a bridge building kit containing 20 pieces of balsa wood, a spool of thread, and a bottle of glue in an effort to build the lightest bridge that can carry the greatest load. After weighing the bridges, the winning bridge will be determined by loading them with water until they break or deflect one inch.

MoDOT expects over 300 high school juniors and seniors to participate, making this the largest number of participants to compete since starting this event. Bridges will be tested at Cape West 14 Cine on Thursday, November 12 with awards being presented around 1:30 p.m. In addition to the cash prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$200 to the first, second, and third place winners; numerous universities have partnered with MoDOT to offer winning seniors up to \$10,000 in civil engineering scholarships

WHO: Senator Jason Crowell and over 300 high school students from Southeast Missouri

WHAT: Sen. Crowell to present awards to winners of MoDOT's Annual Bridge building Competition.

WHERE: Cape West 14 Cine; 247 Siemers Dr, in Cape Girardeau

WHEN: Thursday, November 12, 2009. Event begins at 8:30 a.m. with judging beginning around 1:30 p.m.