



## MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

Chris Koster  
31<sup>st</sup> Senate District

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# **KOSTER AWARDED BY NATIONAL MS SOCIETY FOR LEADERSHIP IN STEM CELL RESEARCH**

*National MS Society cites Koster's long legislative track record of fighting for multiple sclerosis and stem cell research*

JEFFERSON CITY — Today Sen. Chris Koster (D-Harrisonville) received the National MS Society's "Committed Statesperson Award," a high honor bestowed to public servants for their dedication to combating the ills of multiple sclerosis. Citing his longtime support for stem cell research funding and advancement of cutting edge science, the MS Society chose to recognize Koster for his efforts in helping to permanently rid the world of this deadly disease.

"The promise stem cell research brings to this country is limitless. Public servants from across the country need to rise above partisan politics and do their duty to ensure that the healing power of stem cells becomes a reality," Koster said. "When I imagine a world where we've successfully harnessed the magic of stem cells, bringing lifesaving cures to millions, I simply can't think of a more profound purpose worth fighting for. I thank the MS Society for this truly touching honor."

"Chris Koster has been very supportive of MS issues and established himself as one of the key legislators helping to move the MS research community forward," said MS Society Kansas City Chapter President Kay Julian. "Senator Koster is greatly deserving of this award and we look forward to working closely with him in the future."

The National MS Society addresses the challenges of multiple sclerosis by driving change through advocacy, facilitating professional education, collaborating with MS organizations around the world, and providing

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programs and services designed to help people with MS. They are considered one of the world's top authorities on MS, leading the charge for major MS breakthroughs in medical science.

Koster has been a tireless champion of stem cell research in the Missouri State Senate, where he is widely considered one of the chambers most knowledgeable and respected leaders on the subject. On August 1, 2007, Koster made Missouri political history when he announced he was leaving the Republican Party and becoming a Democrat, in large part because of his desire to advance the cause of stem cell research.



Sen. Chris Koster receiving the "Committed Statesperson Award" from the National MS Society on Feb. 27. A high-resolution photograph is attached to the press release for use in publications.

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