

Welcoming You to the Capitol

This week, the new governor and other state-wide officials were sworn in on the Capitol steps. During his inauguration speech, Gov. Jay Nixon focused on working together in a bipartisan way so that we can overcome the many challenges Missouri is facing.

I was happy to have many visitors from the district that chose to make the trip to Jefferson City for the festivities. I was especially happy to see the marching band from De Soto High School, which was chosen to lead the traditional inaugural parade that wound through downtown Jefferson City the morning of the event. They did a fantastic job, and I enjoyed their performance.

On a daily basis, a wide variety of visitors come to our State Capitol in Jefferson City. I really appreciate everyone who chooses to make the visit. As our schedules become busier, we often lose sight of all the Missouri State Capitol building has to offer.

Tours of this historic building are available throughout the day and include the famous Thomas Hart Benton mural, the state museum, and the many artistic details that adorn the interior. Not far from the Capitol, there are also other historic sites, including the Jefferson Landing State Historic Site and the recently added Lewis and Clark monument, and of course the Governor's Mansion.

If you do make the trip to the Capitol, please feel free to stop by and say hello. The ability to talk with visitors about the legislative process and the work being done is an important part of my job in Jefferson City. If you visit while we are meeting in the Senate chamber, you can see first-hand what a typical day in the Missouri Senate is like from the gallery above the

Senate floor. Please let us know you are here, and I can formally introduce you to my Senate colleagues.

If you are planning a trip to Jefferson City in the near future, do not hesitate to contact my office. You may reach me at 573-751-3455, send your e-mails to kevin.engler@senate.mo.gov or write to me at the Missouri Senate, State Capitol, Room 331, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

If you know anyone who would like to receive these updates electronically, please <u>send me</u> an email.

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