



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **Senator David Pearce Tours State Buildings with Joint Committee on Capital Improvements and Leases Oversight**

JEFFERSON CITY—Senator David Pearce, R-Warrensburg, as a member of the Joint Committee on Capital Improvements and Leases Oversight, this week toured several state-owned and state-managed buildings in St. Louis with his fellow committee members to gain first-hand knowledge of how state funding is used to maintain state facilities.

Included in the tour was the Old Post Office (815 Olive St.), St. Louis Community Release Center (1621 N. First St.), Peoples Health Center (11642 W. Florissant Ave.), St. Louis Veterans Home (10600 Lewis & Clark Blvd.), Bellefontaine Habilitation Center (10695 Bellefontaine Rd.), and School for the Blind (3815 Magnolia Ave.). Senator Pearce also had an opportunity to ride the MetroLink light rail and survey the Hwy. 40 construction project.

“To see first-hand the structures and facilities that depend on capital improvement funding and the poor shape that some of them are in reinforced my belief that as a state, we must constantly strive to improve our public buildings,” Sen. Pearce said. “I know we are in a tough economic situation, but it is critical that we maintain the upkeep of these facilities so they don’t just fall apart. Successful capital improvement projects are crucial in our goal to better public facilities, educational institutions and recreational opportunities.”

The Joint Committee on Capital Improvements and Leases Oversight is comprised of five members of the Senate Appropriations Committee and five members of the House of Representatives Budget Committee. Committee duties include examining all proposed state-funded capital improvement projects, monitoring new construction of such projects, analyzing the costs, and reporting on capital improvement projects to the General Assembly. The committee generally tours a different part of the state every other year to assess state projects in that part of the state. The tour in 2011 will likely be in Kansas City.

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