



For Immediate Release:

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## Senator Pearce Visits Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City

JEFFERSON CITY—Senator David Pearce (R-Warrensburg) was recently invited to tour Children's Mercy Hospital (CMH) in Kansas City, as well as meet with staff from the hospital to discuss legislative issues relating to health care, the federal health care plan, and the impact of the voter-approved Prop C.

Dr. Rand O'Donnell, president and CEO of CMH; Maurice Watson, CMH board member; Dr. Karen Cox, CMH executive vice president and Co-COO; Dr. Laura Fitzmaurice, CMH chief medical officer; Chad Moore, director of Children's Mercy Family Health Partners; and Rebecca Baile Crouse, senior chaplain at CMH and a Warrensburg resident, were among those who attended the meeting with Sen. Pearce. Dr. Fitzmaurice led the senator on a tour of the hospital following the meeting.

"It was a pleasure to meet some of the staff at this award-winning hospital, and to get an inside look at how they help children and their families on a day-to-day basis," Sen. Pearce said. "I also gained valuable insight discussing some of the legislative issues that affect the hospital and its staff. We had a productive talk about how the state's budget crunch will affect health care, how implementation of the federal health care plan will impact Missouri hospitals, health care staff, and patients, and what the passage of Prop C means for our state."

Children's Mercy is the only free-standing children's hospital between St. Louis and Denver, and is consistently ranked among the leading children's hospitals in the nation.



*Senator Pearce (third from left) with Children's Mercy Hospital staff members, including (from left to right) Dr. Karen Cox, Dr. Rand O'Donnell, Maurice Watson, Dr. Laura Fitzmaurice, and Rebecca Baile Crouse of Warrensburg. Senator Pearce visited the hospital on Monday, Aug. 9.*

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