



NEWS

From the Illinois Senate

State Senator Dave Koehler

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Further information:

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Koehler Supports a Bill to Bring Funding to Hospitals

Springfield, IL- State Senator Dave Koehler (D-Peoria) joined his colleagues today in passing the Interfund Borrowing Act of 2009, which will help statewide hospitals qualify for funding from the federal government's recently-approved Hospital Assessment Plan.

The Hospital Assessment Plan makes \$900 million of federal matching money available, and the Interfund Borrowing Act of 2009 allows state hospitals to capitalize on this opportunity. All told, area hospitals expect to bring in over \$26 million.

"Without the Interfund Borrowing Act, Illinois hospitals would lose millions of dollars," said Senator Koehler. "This funding is especially targeted at high-needs hospitals—hospitals with lots of poor patients and other special-needs groups. Helping hospitals that provide healthcare to the underserved made passing this legislation even more important."

Four area hospitals will receive money from the Hospital Assessment plan. The amounts listed are estimates.

- Graham Hospital in Canton \$2.2 million
- Pekin Hospital in Pekin \$1.8 million
- Methodist Medical Center in Peoria \$11.6
- Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria \$10.6 million

Senator Koehler is a fervent advocate of improved healthcare. He is currently sponsoring a plan to make health insurance affordable for small businesses and individuals. He also recently received the Illinois Primary Health Care Association's 2008 Legislative Recognition Award for his constant efforts to improve healthcare opportunities for all Illinois citizens.

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