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## Legislator tours state prisons

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JACKSON – Mississippi Correctional Institute for Women (MCIW) in Rankin County was the latest stop on State Rep. Lawrence Blackmon's tour of state-run prisons.

Blackmon, a state House Corrections Committee member, visited all classes, toured a unit and the prison chapel, and walked the grounds with MDOC officials including MCIW Superintendent Tereda Hairston.

He also participated in the Reentry Simulation, a role-playing exercise that teaches inmates about their first month out of prison. The inmates must navigate complex obstacles and barriers to help them succeed in the free world. But, if they are not successful or innovative enough, they could end up in jail and ultimately back in prison. Guess who kept going to jail during the simulation?

Commissioner Burl Cain also spoke with Blackmon during the visit earlier this month.



