
U.S. Representative

John Spratt

South Carolina ■ 5th District

News Release

April 13, 2000, For Immediate Release

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Spratt Announces New MD for Shaw Clinic

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. John Spratt (D-SC) announced today that he has assurance from the U.S. Air Force Surgeon General that a new internal medicine physician will be added to the Outpatient Clinic at Shaw Air Force Base.

The agreement worked out by Spratt, a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, effectively reverses the Air Force's plans for allowing one of Shaw's two permanent internal medicine doctors to depart without replacement. A third internist has been temporarily assigned to Shaw and will move shortly to another assignment.

"After I learned that the Air Force planned to leave Shaw with just one internist, I called the Surgeon General of the Air Force, Paul Carlton, and asked to meet with him. General Carlton readily agreed to come and talk with me," said Spratt, "and he listened to my arguments. I stressed to him that Shaw serves a large retired population, as well as active duty and dependents, and older retirees tend to require more attention from internal medicine specialists. For full internal medicine coverage, I thought the clinic needed at least two internists."

"General Carlton was responsive. He understood the position I laid out," said Spratt, "and stepped up to the problem. I was delighted to learn today that the Air Force has decided to keep two internists on the clinic's staff. This ensures that those who need internal medicine attention will be able to see a doctor specializing in internal medicine, and other primary care physicians will have the benefit of consulting with them. This will help the clinic provide full coverage and quality care."

The new internist, Dr. John Serrick, will join the clinic this summer, no later than September 5.

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