



# Congressman Ben Cardin

Maryland's Third District



## Congressman Ben Cardin - Maryland's Third District

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Dear Friends,

Recently, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released its update on the budget and the economy. It showed that this year we face a budget deficit of \$422 billion, the largest deficit in our nation's history and one that should concern all of us.

The CBO's bleak budget outlook highlights the fact that the President and Congress have done nothing to bring the budget back to balance. Instead, the \$5.6 trillion surplus projected in 2001 has evaporated, replaced by deficits that threaten the Social Security Trust Funds, funding for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the war on terrorism and other important priorities such as education, veterans' benefits and homeland security.

Compounding the problem is that our deficits continue to add to our mounting debt. We currently have a national debt of more than \$7 trillion, which is projected to increase by an additional \$2.4 trillion in 10 years. Economists warn that chronic deficits of this magnitude threaten our economy by crowding out private investment, driving up interest rates, and, ultimately, slowing economic growth.

A stagnant economy and large deficits make it very difficult for us to take care of our national priorities and plan for the future. I, along with many of my colleagues in Congress, want to see our budgetary problems dealt with in a serious way. To that end, I will continue to focus my efforts on reducing the deficit and improving our nation's economic outlook.

Sincerely,

**Benjamin L. Cardin**  
Member of Congress



### Congressman Cardin Presents Olympian Michael Phelps with Congressional Record Statement Commending His Achievements

On Sept. 11, the Congressman joined the Phelpstival in Towson honoring Olympian Michael Phelps. He presented Michael with a copy of his remarks in the Congressional Record honoring Michael and two other residents of Maryland's Third Congressional District who participated in this year's Olympics in Greece. For a copy of Congressman Cardin's Congressional Record remarks honoring the three Olympians from the Third Congressional District, [click here](#).

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

On Saturday, Oct. 16 at 10:30 a.m., I will be at the National Wildlife Visitors Center, 10901 Scarlett Tanager Loop, Laurel, which is located at the Patuxent Research Refuge. I will be speaking about the importance of protecting and preserving the environment for future generations, and the need to strengthen our nation's environmental programs. This year, the Patuxent Research Refuge is celebrating its 65th anniversary.

### Previous Survey Question Results

Do you support a major restructuring of our intelligence community that would give a new National Intelligence Director strong budgetary and personnel authority?

Answer	Percent
Yes	76.16%
No	23.84%
Totals	100%

### New Survey Question

Congressman Cardin Wants To Hear From You

**The 2001 and 2003 tax cuts have not been fully implemented. Would you support halting further tax cuts to help reduce the deficit?**

- Yes  
 No

Submit

### Contact Information

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