December 15, 2005

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Congressman Ben Cardin

Maryland's Third District

Congressman Ben Cardin - Maryland's Third District

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Dear Friends.

Marylanders have long known that the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore is the nation's premier institution for the treatment of trauma victims. What has not been well known is that since 2001 the Air Force has relied on Shock Trauma to help train military medical personnel for combat conditions.

I recently joined Lt. Gen. George Peach Taylor, Jr., the Air Force Surgeon General, on a tour of the Center for Sustainment of Trauma and Readiness Skills (CSTARS) program at Shock Trauma. Since its inception, more than 1,000 military surgeons, critical care doctors, nurses and other skilled professionals have worked side-by-side with their civilian colleagues to refresh their skills.

The House also recognized the importance of CSTARS when it appropriated \$2 million in new funding this year to study battlefield injury and shock, particularly from blastwaves.

Baltimore's Shock Trauma Center was chosen by the Air Force for CSTARS because it is the only completely integrated health care system in the nation that deals with a patient from the initial trauma through their rehabilitation. The military has a similar comprehensive approach to patient care.

Best wishes for a safe and happy year.

Sincerely,



Member of Congress



CARDIN ANNOUNCES \$300,000 FOR MARYLAND FOOD BANK

Rep. Cardin recently joined Bill Ewing, Executive Director of the Maryland Food Bank, and Jamie Miller of Giant Foods, in collecting holiday food parcels at the Glen Burnie Giant Food Store. Rep. Cardin said Congress has approved \$300,000 to help build a central food warehouse and distribution center for the Maryland Food Bank, which helps feed 45,000 Marylanders every week.

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raising enrollment fees and co-payments for higher-income veterans in order to access the VA health care system?

Answer	Percent
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No	45.83%
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