



# Congressman JIM DAVIS



*Representing the People of the 11th District of Florida*

Summer 2002

## Tampa Port Receives Federal Security Funds

The Port of Tampa handles over half of all the hazardous cargo in the State of Florida, and with the high volume of vessel and truck movements in and out of the port each day, securing the 2,500 acre premise poses an enormous challenge. After the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks, Congress created the Seaport Security Program and provided the Tampa Port Authority with \$3.5 million in emergency funds to respond to increased security threats.

H.R. 3983, which passed the House of Representatives last month, calls for the continuation of this important program and requires the Transportation Department to evaluate the vulnerability of each of the United States' 361 ports and develop antiterrorism plans to protect against attacks at our seaports.

Congressman Davis is spearheading an effort with his Florida colleagues to ensure that Congress provides funding for the bill and the Seaport Security Program in Fiscal Year 2003.

## Congress Cracks Down on Corporate Crime

In July, Congressman Jim Davis joined the House of Representatives in passing legislation to crack down on corporate crime and restore investors' faith and confidence in America's market and economy.

H.R. 3763 provides strong corporate and auditor accountability reform, setting new rules for accounting firms and corporate executives, imposing tough criminal penalties on wrongdoers and working to ensure audits are independent and objective. The bill establishes an independently funded Public Accounting Oversight Board to oversee auditors of public companies and provides the Securities Exchange Commission more funding to review all public companies at least once every three years.

"This legislation holds senior executives, corporate boards and auditors accountable for defrauding American investors and misleading employees," said Congressman Davis. "Congress has taken an important first step to shore



*In May, Congressman Davis visited the South Tampa Area Reclaimed Water Project (STAR) construction site. The STAR project has received 12.5 million federal dollars for the first phase of construction, which will provide 4,200 South Tampa customers with metered reclaimed water to irrigate their lawns, saving approximately 3.2 million gallons of drinking water a day in the dry season. Congressman Davis is working in Washington to obtain an additional \$11 million in federal funds for Phase 2 expansions.*

*"With the next dry season just around the corner, Floridians are in a constant search for new ways to conserve our limited water resources," said Congressman Davis. "The STAR project will soon provide a growing number of Tampa residents with a new option to help preserve our supply of drinking water and protect the natural treasures that made our state famous."*

up Americans' confidence in our market and chart a new course for our beleaguered economy. "

"However, to fully restore economic growth, Congress must also commit to keeping the books clean. With projected budget deficits reaching \$165 billion, Congress' next step should be developing a fiscally responsible budget that ensures we can both fight terrorism and boost our economy. "

## Saudi Arabia Should Play a Part in the Solution to Terrorism

In January, Congressman Davis returned from a journey through the Middle East with a better understanding of how the United States can help fight international terrorism. He has put this knowledge to work by introducing a resolution that calls on Saudi Arabia to reform its education system, abolishing curriculum that promotes religious extremism and intolerance.

In Saudi schools at all grade levels, Islamic religious education is compulsory and accounts for thirty to forty percent of the school day in lower grade levels. Over the last two decades, the government has allowed followers of a rigid interpretation of Islam to control religious education. These instructors are using texts and lesson plans that encourage intolerance and anti-Semitic, anti-American and anti-Western views, making some Saudi students prime recruiting targets for the same militant extremist groups that Crown Prince Abdullah has publicly denounced. The Saudi government is currently reviewing its education curriculum. Congressman Davis' resolu-

tion, House Concurrent Resolution 432, expresses support for the effort and calls on the Saudi government to ensure the review is thorough, objective and public. Most importantly, the resolution calls for education reform that promotes tolerance and focuses on developing civil society and preparing young people to function in a 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy.

Fifteen of the nineteen hijackers who carried out the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks were Saudi Arabian nationals, said Congressman Davis. It is critical that the United States actively supports Saudi efforts to combat extremism and promote moderate Islamic voices in education. The United States can track down every last terrorist, but unless we address the conditions breeding the next generation of terrorists, then we will not succeed.

Davis will be working with Rep. Henry Hyde (R-IL), the Chairman of the International Relations Committee and a cosponsor of H.Con.Res. 432, to bring the resolution up for debate.



*Earlier this year, Congressman Davis, a member of the House International Relations Committee, embarked on a fact-finding mission through the Middle East. The trip allowed him to meet with leaders from seven countries to discuss international terrorism and efforts for a peaceful resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Left, Congressman Davis is pictured with (from left to right) Senator Dick Durbin (IL), Lebanese President Emil Lahoud, and Congressman Adam Schiff (CA).*

### Congressman Davis Leads House Centrists

In April, Congressman Davis joined Congressmen Ron Kind of Wisconsin and Adam Smith of Washington in becoming the co-chairs of the New Democrat Coalition, one of the largest and most influential caucuses in the House. Whether the issue is teachers, trade or technology, the New Democrats have led the way in promoting bipartisan, pro-growth solutions to America's problems.

**Check out my home page on the World Wide Web for all the details:**

[www.house.gov/jimdavis/](http://www.house.gov/jimdavis/)

## Constituent Service Update

*Since the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedies and subsequent anthrax attacks, heightened security at the U.S. Capitol has delayed the delivery of mail to my Washington office and limited some of the constituent services my office has traditionally provided.*



### **Mail**

From October 15th until mid-January, all mail deliveries to House and Senate offices in Washington, D.C. were suspended while the Capitol Police instituted new mail security procedures including the temporary quarantine and irradiation of all mail. Although mail deliveries have resumed, all deliveries are delayed by a week or more due to the new mail security process. I apologize for any delay in responding to your letters and encourage you to contact me via fax at (202) 225-5652 or through my website at [www.house.gov/jimdavis/contact.html](http://www.house.gov/jimdavis/contact.html)



### **Tours**

If you are planning a trip to Washington, D.C., my office can give you a head start by providing passes to visit the House and Senate Galleries and information about the many wonderful sites and attractions in our nation's capitol. Unfortunately, my office can no longer distribute tickets to the White House or the National Archives, which are not offering regular tours due to new security measures.



### **Flags**

Since September 11th, because flag manufacturers have been unable to keep up with increased demand, there is a substantial backlog in orders for flags flown over the U.S. Capitol. While my office continues to accept orders for flags flown in honor of a special person, event or day, I can no longer guarantee a delivery time for flag orders. For prices, please visit my website at [www.house.gov/jimdavis/flags.html](http://www.house.gov/jimdavis/flags.html)



### **Mobile Office Hours**

My office is hosting monthly office hours at the Seminole Heights Branch Library and the Temple Terrace Public Library. A repre-

sentative of my office will be available to assist constituents who are having problems dealing with a federal agency and to provide information on services offered by the congressional office.

### **Seminole Heights Branch Library**

4711 Central Avenue

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

The fourth Wednesday of every month:

August 28th, September 25th and October 23rd

### **Temple Terrace Public Library**

202 Bullard Parkway

(near the intersection of

Busch Boulevard and 56th Street)

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

The second Wednesday of every month:

August 14th, September 11th and October 9th



### **Internships**

My Washington and Tampa offices are accepting applications for student internship positions. My internship program offers students the opportunity to receive college credit from an accredited college or university while participating in the daily operations of a congressional office and learning about the House of Representatives. This internship is unpaid. For more information, please visit my website at [www.house.gov/jimdavis/internships.html](http://www.house.gov/jimdavis/internships.html)



### **Academy Appointments**

The U.S. Service Academies ó Army, Air Force, Navy and Merchant Marine ó offer excellent educational opportunities for high school graduates. High school students and their parents can learn more about the application process by coming to Academy Day on September 21st. Call my Tampa office at (813) 354-9217 for more information.



*Congressman Davis, honorary chairman of the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District High School Art Competition, poses with Academy of Holy Names sophomore Kelly Versaggi and her pen and ink drawing, entitled *Down the Rabbit Hole*. As the grand prize winner in the competition, Kelly won a trip to Washington, D.C. to see her artwork on display in the U.S. Capitol, along with other winning entries from across the country.*

## Congressman Davis Promotes Real Prescription Drug Reform

A distressing number of our seniors are facing the agonizing choice of having to forego prescribed medications because the cost of these drugs far exceeds their limited budgets. Congressman Davis, joined by a group of centrist House Democrats, has just announced a proposal for a universal, progressive and affordable Medicare Part B drug benefit.

Frustrated that the House-passed prescription drug bill fails to provide meaningful relief to seniors, the group developed an alternative, fiscally responsible proposal that can gain support from both parties and reignite the stalled prescription drug debate.

The centrist proposal provides an affordable benefit that can be quickly started and offers substantial help to seniors with high drug costs and low incomes, while ensuring that all seniors receive relief. The benefit would be incorporated into the existing Medicare Part B program and all Part B enrollees would receive coverage. Participants would not be charged a separate premium, and their Part B premium would not increase. When purchasing their drugs, seniors would use a discount card that offers market based discounts on all drug purchases. Once the beneficiary has spent a total of \$4,000 on drugs, Medicare would cover 90% of

their drug expenses for the rest of the year. Beneficiaries under 150% of poverty would receive enhanced benefits through Medicare drug discount cards, Medicare + Choice, Medigap or other new coverage options.

While America's seniors continue to struggle with the exploding cost of drugs, Congress' partisan bickering over ineffective or fiscally impractical drug proposals has led to a breakdown in the prescription drug debate, said Congressman Davis. The centrist proposal will jumpstart debate on prescription drug reform by offering an affordable plan that provides real relief to all seniors.

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