



Report to New York from Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney

APRIL 2006

<http://maloney.house.gov>

Dear New Yorker,

The second session of the 109th Congress is underway, and there are many issues of importance to New York and the nation on the agenda. As always, I would love to know your opinion on some of the main issues confronting Congress.

That's why I hope you will fill out this questionnaire and return it by mail or complete it online at <http://maloney.house.gov>. Your view is always vitally important.

2006 promises to be a crucial year in determining the direction of our nation and for our city and state. In my view the most crucial issues include:

The War in Iraq: While we wait for a clear strategy from the administration with regard to the situation in Iraq, several in Congress, including Rep. John Murtha, have articulated sensible policies for measured troop withdrawal, which I support. This is a key moment for the future of Iraq.

The Economy: Due to this administration's lack of fiscal discipline, it has run up record debts and deficits over the past few years. This is a serious problem that could jeopardize our economy for years to come.

Civil Liberties: It's been revealed that the President authorized a secret National Security Agency program to spy on Americans without notifying the courts. The scope of the President's actions need to be placed under a microscope. I believe judicial review of domestic surveillance is essential to protecting our privacy.

Homeland Security: The recent controversy regarding the transfer of control of six U.S. ports (including the port of New York and New Jersey) to a foreign government put a spotlight on everything that is not being done to protect our ports from a potential terrorist attack. While the deal now appears to be off, Congress and the president must do everything possible to ensure that all containers coming into our country are properly screened.

I look forward to hearing back from you on these and other key issues.

Sincerely,

Carolyn B. Maloney

Regular postal mail to my Washington office is subject to screening delays. If you would like to reach me quickly about an issue in Washington, the best methods now are via the Internet at <http://maloney.house.gov> or by fax at 202/225-4709.

Washington, D.C. :
2331 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
202/225-7944

Manhattan:
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New York, NY 10128
212/860-0606

Queens:
28-11 Astoria Blvd.
Astoria, NY 11102
718/932-1804

On the web:
<http://maloney.house.gov>

E-mail updates

If you'd like to receive updates from me by e-mail about news and issues affecting New York and the nation please sign up at <http://maloney.house.gov>

Overall, what's most important to you?

What are the three most important issues facing Congress this year?

(Please mark "1" for the most important, "2" next most important and so on. Due to space limits, not all issues can be listed.)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Gay rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil liberties issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare | <input type="checkbox"/> Second Avenue Subway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeland Security | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Israel | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Labor issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal deficit | <input type="checkbox"/> 9/11 Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> War in Iraq |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Pay equity | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

■ Veterans

Yes ___ **#1**
No ___
Undecided ___

The administration is trying to cut costs by closing veterans health centers around the country, including one or both of the Veterans Hospitals in Manhattan and Brooklyn. The Manhattan location has six Centers of Excellence and the only prosthetic lab in the Northeast. Do you think it makes sense to close these veterans hospitals?

Yes ___ **#2**
No ___
Undecided ___

Legislation has been proposed in the House of Representatives that would provide for a guaranteed level of funding to provide for veterans' health care. Do you support providing adequate funding to pay for veterans' health care needs?

Yes ___ **#3**
No ___
Undecided ___

The Veterans Administration provides low interest loans for veterans to purchase private homes or condominiums, but not co-ops. Should the law be amended so that veterans can purchase co-ops with Veterans Administration loans?

■ Iraq and International Issues

Yes ___ **#4**
No ___
Undecided ___

Since the president declared "Mission Accomplished" in May 2003, we have lost more than 2,000 of our troops in the Iraq War. It's evident that the public and Congress were not given the full picture in the lead-up to the war. Do you support Rep. John Murtha's plan to withdraw American troops from Iraq as soon as we are capable of doing so?

Yes ___ **#5**
No ___
Undecided ___

Approximately 300,000 people have died and 2 million civilians have fled their homes because of the genocide in Darfur, Sudan. Do you believe that the United States should make ending this genocide a higher priority?

Yes ___ **#6**
No ___
Undecided ___

Approximately 40 million people worldwide are infected with HIV, and tuberculosis and malaria kill more than 3 million people each year. Do you believe that the U.S. should increase its commitment to fighting AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and other communicable diseases?

■ Transportation

Yes ___ **#7**
No ___
Undecided ___

The Second Avenue Subway would be the first new subway line built in New York City since the Depression. Should building the Second Avenue Subway be a top transportation priority for the state?

Yes ___ **#8**
No ___
Undecided ___

The Long Island Railroad has not been expanded in a century and there is no room at Penn Station to run additional trains. East Side Access would add a new LIRR route bringing passengers to Grand Central Terminal. Do you agree that by eliminating the cross-Manhattan trip many commuters now take, East Side Access will make it easier for people to reach their jobs?

Yes ___ **#9**
No ___
Undecided ___

■ Seniors

Implementation of Medicare Part D, the drug benefit, has been fraught with problems—and many seniors have refused to enroll. Do you believe the program should be reformed?

Yes ___ **#10**
No ___
Undecided ___

Do you believe the federal government should be prohibited, under the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan, from negotiating with drug companies to obtain the lowest price, as it is now?

■ Housing

Yes ___ **#11**
No ___
Undecided ___

More than 128,000 families are on the waiting list for Section 8 subsidized housing in New York City, and nearly 150,000 families are waiting for public housing. Yet the Bush Administration has cut funding for NYCHA by \$14 million since 2001. Do you support increasing affordable housing opportunities for New Yorkers?

■ Homeland Security

Yes ___ **#12**
No ___
Undecided ___

Do you think that all containers entering our country should be screened to ensure that they do not contain a weapon of mass destruction?

Yes ___ **#13**
No ___
Undecided ___

The current funding formula for state homeland security grants sends more than \$28 per person to Wyoming, but just over \$4 per person to New York State. The 9/11 Commission criticizes this formula as “pork barrel” funding. Do you think Congress should change the formula for distributing homeland security funding so that it is based entirely on risk?

Yes ___ **#14**
No ___
Undecided ___

The World Trade Center Medical Monitoring Program reports that about half of all 9/11 responders that they have screened are still sick. Until recently, the government had not spent any treatment funds on these sick 9/11 responders. Should the federal government provide ongoing health care services for those injured or still sick after their exposure to toxins at Ground Zero?

■ Economic Policy

Yes ___ **#15**
No ___
Undecided ___

The federal government's debt limit was recently increased to \$8.96 trillion—it has been raised \$3.01 trillion since 2001. The federal government ran a deficit of \$319 billion for fiscal year 2005, five years after running a record surplus. Do you think the Bush administration's economic policies have caused these problems?

Yes ___ **#16**
No ___
Undecided ___

Job growth in the U.S. has been sluggish over the past five years and the average household income has declined, while the rate of “outsourcing” jobs to foreign countries has increased (since many jobs in the Information Age can be conducted electronically). Should the government take action to curb job outsourcing overseas?

■ Civil Liberties

Yes ___ **#17**
No ___
Undecided ___

Although federal law requires the administration to obtain a warrant from a special court before eavesdropping on any individuals in the U.S., the President argues that he has the right to bypass the court. Should the President have the ability to conduct wiretaps of U.S. citizens without obtaining a warrant?

Yes ___ **#18**
No ___
Undecided ___

Critics of the USA PATRIOT Act argue that the law should not be reauthorized without sufficient oversight by Congress. Do you believe that the PATRIOT Act should have been extended in its current form?

Yes ___ **#19**
No ___
Undecided ___

A Privacy and Civil Liberties Board was created by the 2004 Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act. Yet the administration completely left it out of the FY07 budget proposal. Should the Board be strengthened and should it investigate domestic eavesdropping?

■ Education

Yes ___ **#20**
No ___
Undecided ___

Do you support the plan by the Republican leadership in Congress to increase interest rates and the administrative costs associated with student loans?

Sign up here for e-mail updates

If you'd like to learn more about issues facing New York and the nation, please sign up for my email updates. By signing up you are authorizing me to send regular email updates to the email account you provide and return with this questionnaire. You may also sign-up online at <http://maloney.house.gov>

Name _____ Email _____

To return this questionnaire, re-fold so your address label faces in and my office address panel faces out, stamp, and mail!



Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Carolyn B. Maloney



Congresswoman
Carolyn Maloney
wants to know your opinion
on the issues facing Congress!

2006 ISSUES QUESTIONNAIRE INSIDE

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Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney
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