## **Commitment to Arizona Veterans**

This nation is served and protected by the bravest and most noble soldiers in the world. I am deeply grateful to each and every one, for the enormous sacrifices made to preserve America's freedom and our cherished way of life.

Veterans deserve not only the best healthcare benefits available, but also alternative options to best accommodate their specific needs. I will continue to support legislation that assists America's veterans.

Passed by the House

Passed by the House

#### H.R. 2046, the Service-members' Health Insurance Protection Act of

2005 will strengthen the rights of men and women serving in the Reserve components of our armed forces when they seek to have their health insurance reinstated upon release from active military duty. This measure would prohibit a premium increase upon reinstatement if it affects only the individual service member, but it would not change the ability of an insurance company to create a general increase in premiums if they apply to persons with similar coverage.

#### The Veterans' Compensation Costof-Living Adjustment Act of 2005

provides a cost-of-living adjustment to veterans' benefits effective December 1, 2005. Language was included in the appropriations bill to fund the COLA increase and has already passed the House.



Congressman Franks meets with Veterans to discuss his support of Concurrent Receipt.

Please cut here

Please return this survey in an envelope addressed to:

Office of Congressman Trent Franks
7121 West Bell Road
Suite 200
Glendale, AZ 85308





CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, DC 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

It is provided as a service to my Congressional District constituents.

PreSorted Standard
CAR-RT SORT



Congressman Trent Franks invites you to a town hall meeting in Sun City.

Date ..... Saturday, October 15, 2005

Time..... 10am - 12pm

Location . . . . . SunDial Recreation Center

14801 N 103rd Avenue Sun City, Arizona

How to reach Congressman Franks:

#### **Washington Office**

1237 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: 202-225-4576 Fax: 202-225-6328

#### **District office**

7121 West Bell Road Suite 200 Glendale, AZ 85308 Phone: 623-776-7911

Fax: 623-776-7832





## A Legislative Update from

Congressman

## Trent Franks





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Arizona Veterans ......5

### **Dear fellow American,**

It is one of the most precious honors of my life to represent you in the United States Congress. I earnestly want to do everything possible to keep you informed, to know your views and serve you and this nation to the absolute best of my ability.

This brochure is to report to you what I believe are important achievements of the 109th Congress. Your thoughts and concerns are deeply important to me. I sincerely hope you will take a few moments to complete and return the enclosed survey so I may better understand your views on the issues facing America.

I am truly grateful for this country and for the privilege of representing you in the United States House of Representatives. I hope you will never hesitate to contact me if I can ever be of assistance.

Very sincerely,

Congressman Trent Franks

accomplishments of the 109th Congress.

## Defending our Constitutional Rights

It is our constituational duty to protect innocent human life. The phrase in the 14th Amendment epitomizes our entire Constitution that states: 'No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law.' As your Congressman, it will always be my first priority to protect these rights and I will work hard to protect them.

- Provide equal protection under the Constitution for the right to life of each born and pre-born human person
- Protecting the rights of incapacitated persons
- Protect the Constitution in defense of marriage
- Limit Federal court jurisdiction over questions under Defense of Marriage Act
- Support the Child's Safety Act of 2005

## Keeping America Secure - Protecting our Borders

In a post-9/11 world, protecting our borders has taken on a whole new importance. We cannot separate the issue of border security and homeland security. In order to successfully fight the War on Terror, we must protect our borders and ports of entry. This year in Congress, I have supported several pieces of legislation to help keep America secure.

- The Real ID Act implements

  driver's license reforms, closes asylum loopholes, enhances border security and strengthens deportation laws.
- The Homeland Security Authorization Act provides funding to heighten border security and port enforcement, streamlines counterterrorism and intelligence-gathering efforts, increases analytic expertise and improves readiness through training exercises.
- House Concurrent Resolution 50 strongly expresses disapproval of the current totalization agreement with Mexico that gives benefits to illegal immigrants, undermining our Social Security system and rewarding illegal behavior.

# nplishments of the 109th Con

## **Looking Out for Arizona's Seniors**

Social Security will not change. Protecting Social Security is a solemn promise to our seniors that I always intend to keep. We are faced with the challenges of strengthening Social Security for future generations. We owe it to our children and grandchildren to ensure that the future of Social Security is safe, solvent and fair to each generation, so that they will enjoy the same safety net that older Americans do today.

### **Key Facts About Social Security**

- In 1935, there were 60 workers for every one retiree. Today there are only 3.3 workers paying for each retiree.
- Americans are living longer and therefore drawing benefits longer. In 1935, life expectancy was 59 and now, due to improved health care, it is 77.
- In 2008, the first of 77 million baby-boomers begin retiring. The current Social Security surplus begins to shrink.
- In 2017, Social Security will pay out more in benefits than it collects in payroll taxes.
- By 2041, the Trust Fund will be depleted and Social Security will be forced to reduce benefits by 27%.
- The Social Security Administration estimates the program's projected shortfall at over \$10.4 trillion. Every year we wait to fix the system makes any solution more difficult and adds \$600 billion to the shortfall.

## **Protecting the 2nd Amendment** and the Rights of **Law—Abiding Citizens**

Our Founding Fathers deliberately guaranteed America's law-abiding citizens the right to own and bear arms. Criminals have always preferred unarmed victims. Prison surveys indicate when a criminal considers breaking into a home, the greatest deterrent, in his mind, is the fear that his intended victims might be armed. My commitment to protect American citizens' right to own and bear arms will not waver.



#### District of Columbia

Personal Protection Act would allow honest, law-abiding citizens of the District of Columbia to own rifles, shotguns and handguns, without the current registration requirements. The plan would not affect any law directed at criminal conduct and would leave in place strict penalties for gun possession by criminals and for violent crime committed with guns.

Passed by the House



## Strong Economy, More Jobs, More Family Income

The U.S. has gained over 3.7 million new jobs since May 2003. In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, we are now facing new challenges of displaced workers and struggling businesses. As part of relief efforts, President Bush has proposed initiatives such as Worker Recovery Accounts to assist evacuees with job training, education and even to provide daycare expenses during their job search. These relief efforts will allow the economy to continue on a steady course of good health.

By encouraging savings and investment, we can ensure that these positive trends continue. I have worked to ensure that Congress remains committed to pro-growth and pro-jobs policies.

Class Action Fairness Act of 2005 — Helps curb frivolous class action lawsuits by putting an end to class action forum shopping, and ensuring that plaintiffs are the primary beneficiaries in class action cases, not their attorneys.	Signed into Law
<b>The Death Tax Repeal Permanency Act of 2005</b> — Permanently eliminates the death tax, one of the most damaging taxes American families and small businesses	Passed by the House face.
The Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 — Refocuses the bankruptcy system on covering those who legitimately need protect fraudulent claims and lessening the burden faced by consumers who pay their deb	_

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Please take a moment t	o answer a few questions. I wan	nt to know your views on these issues:		
Jame:	Would you be interested in receiving regular legislative email updates?			
ity:	Zip:	Yes/No  If so, please provide your email address:		
Phone:				
. Which of the following best describes your position on the War in Iraq:	2. Which of the following best describes your position on immigration in the United States:	<ul><li>3. Which of the following best describes your position on tax cuts?</li><li>Taxpayers deserve to keep more of their</li></ul>		
I support the U.S. mission in Iraq as part of the Global War on Terror.	$\hfill \square$ Stricter U.S. immigration laws must be enacted to discourage illegal immigration.	hard-earned money to save or invest as they choose.		
I support the use of the U.S. military in Iraq only to train Iraqi forces.	☐ Better enforcement of current U.S. immigration law is sufficient to discourage illegal immigration.	☐ Tax cuts should be targeted to help only low-income families and individuals.		

☐ The U.S. should have a guest worker program

that allows the legal hiring of migrant workers.

because the federal government needs tax

revenue to fund government programs.

☐ I do not support the U.S. mission

in Iraq.