

## Washington Weekly



13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Of Michigan U.S. Congresswoman
CAROLYN CHEEKS
KILPATRICK

This E-Newsletter is a weekly summary of the events taking place in the United States Congress that affect the State of Michigan and primarily Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

## Legislative Action From the Week 0f 2/17/06

- H.Res.322 Honoring the United Service Organizations
- H.Res.629 Supporting a Day of Hearts
- S.2275 Increasing Borrowing Authority for the National Flood Insurance Program
- S.Con.Res.79 Urging Conditions for Continued Aid to the Palestine Authority
- H.R.4745
   Supplementing Small Business
   Administration
   Disaster Loans
- H.Res.341
   Condemning the
   Government of Iran

## Hill Highlights

# H.Res.322 Honoring the United Service Organizations

This resolution states that Congress extends its gratitude to the United Service Organizations—six agencies selected to coordinate the on-leave recreation of the U. S. armed forces—on its 65th anniversary. It also recognizes that the USO's efforts to support servicemen, servicewomen, and their families are critical to the success and mission of the military. This measure passed the House unanimously.

## H.Res. 629 Supporting a Day of Hearts

Congenital heart defects are the leading cause of death in infants. More than one million Americans have some type of congenital heart defect, for which treatment can often be prohibitively expensive. This resolution supports designating February 14, 2006, as a Day for Hearts: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day. The purpose is to increase awareness about congenital heart defects, encourage research on the condition, and support U.S. citizens affected by the disease. This measure passed by a voice vote.

# S.2275 Increasing Borrowing Authority for the National Flood Insurance Program

This bill temporarily increases the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Under this legislation, the amount of money FEMA may borrow from the U.S. Treasury to pay claims under the National Flood Insurance Program is increased from the current temporary limit of \$18.5 billion to \$20.775 billion. The increased borrowing authority would remain in effect through September 30, 2008. This amendment passed the House by a voice vote.

S.Con.Res.79 Urging Conditions for Continued

### News You Can Use

 Educational Program Helps Honor Students Attend Harvard

#### This Month Is

Library Lovers Month

#### Official Statements from Congresswoman Kilpatrick

Bush's new budget is unfair to American families

#### **Helpful Resources**

Directory of
Homeownership
Assistance in the Detroit
Area *Printable booklet of*homeownership resources.

Medicare's New
Prescription Drug Plans
Printable handout with
important facts to help you
understand the program.

Energy Saving
Brief compilation of tips
and tricks to help your
energy efficiency in both
your home and on the road.

#### Contact Us

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### Aid to the Palestinian Authority

This resolution expresses the sense of Congress that financial assistance to the Palestinian Authority should be withheld if the political party holding the majority of seats in parliament supports the destruction of Israel. I supported this measure, which passed the House by a vote of 418 to 1.

## H.R.4745 Supplementing Small Business Administration Disaster Loans

This bill makes supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for the Small Business Administration's disaster loans program and for other purposes. It provides critical funding to assist victims of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma by making \$712 million in loan subsidy funds available for the Small Business Administration's disaster loans program. The funding provided in this bill translates into \$4.8 billion in loans that will now be available to victims of the gulf coast hurricanes. Without this critical infusion of funds, the Small Business Administration is in danger of depleting its loan funds prior to the Congress considering the administration's next supplemental request for hurricane-related costs. This funding helps ensure that lending to affected homeowners and businesses can continue uninterrupted. I voted in support of this measure, which passed by a vote of 410 to 5.

## H.Res.341 Condemning the Government of Iran

This resolution condemns the many breaches and failures of the Government of Iran to comply faithfully with its nuclear nonproliferation obligations. It declares Iran has forfeited the right to develop any aspect of a nuclear fuel cycle. This legislation expresses support for efforts to report Iran to the United Nations Security Council and asks all responsible members of the international community to impose economic sanctions designed to deny Iran the ability to develop nuclear weapons. It also urges the President to keep Congress fully and currently informed concerning Iran's violation of international nuclear nonproliferation obligations. I supported this bill, which passed by a vote of 404 to 4.

To read more about these measures, or any other legislation, please visit the Library of Congress' legislative information site at <a href="http://thomas.loc.gov/">http://thomas.loc.gov/</a>.

## News You Can Use

## Educational Program Helps Honor Students Attend Harvard

Harvard University recently announced an initiative designed to give talented students an opportunity to attend the Ivy League school free. In an effort to help ensure that students with financial challenges have access to higher education, the university will pay tuition expenses for honor students from families that earn less than \$40,000 a year. Harvard

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**HOME PAGE** 

will also reduce the contributions expected of families with incomes between \$40,000 and \$60,000. To learn more about the program and application deadlines for the 2007-2008 school year, visit Harvard's financial aid website at <a href="http://fao.fas.harvard.edu">http://fao.fas.harvard.edu</a> or call the school's financial aid office at (617) 495-1581.

## This Month Is...

## **Library Lovers Month**

Show your support for libraries in your community! All kinds of libraries—school, public, or private—are wonderful repositories of information. They promote a love of reading and foster the exploration of knowledge. Many libraries are also a valuable community resource. They provide Internet access, computer training, income tax preparation assistance, and other vital programs and services. For information about how to demonstrate love for your library visit

<u>www.librarysupport.net/librarylovers</u> or call your local library to see how you can help.

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