



Todd Platts

U.S. Congress, 19th District

Adams County District Office
22 Chambersburg St., Gettysburg, PA 17325
(717) 338-1919

Cumberland County District Office
59 W. Louthier St., Carlisle, PA 17013
(717) 249-0190

York County District Office
2209 E. Market St., York, PA 17402
(717) 600-1919

Washington, D.C. Office
1032 Longworth HOB, Washington DC 20515
(202) 225-5836

Toll-free Phone: 1-877-902-1919
Web site: www.house.gov/platts

Todd R. Platts
M.C.
PRSR-STD

**Don't miss the
Town Meeting
schedule below!**

Summer 2006

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



Dear Friend,

I hope this letter finds you doing well. I am pleased to update you on the major actions of the United States House and Senate over the past several months. Please do not hesitate to contact one of my offices listed above if you have any questions regarding the items addressed in this newsletter or there is any other federal government matter for which my staff and I can be of assistance to you.

I am particularly pleased to encourage you to attend one of my upcoming town meetings. The dates, times, and locations of the meetings are found below. I sincerely enjoy my interactions with the citizens of the 19th at the town meetings. The insights and concerns shared at these meetings are critically important to my effective representation of our district in Congress.

In closing, I want to once again ask that you join me in giving thanks to our courageous and dedicated men and women in uniform who are truly on the front lines of democracy in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere around the world on our behalf. As a nation at war, it is especially important that we keep these heroic fellow citizens and their families in our thoughts and prayers. But for them and their predecessors in uniform, our freedoms would not be! May God continue to watch over them and our great nation.

Sincerely,

Todd Russell Platts

House Acts to Protect Children

There is no issue more important to parents than the safety of their children. Multiple bills currently being discussed in Congress are aimed at providing parents and other caretakers with the information and tools they need to better ensure children are protected. These measures include the Children's Safety and Violent Crime Reduction Act (H.R. 4472), the School Safety Acquiring Faculty Excellence Act (H.R. 4894), and the Deleting Online Predators Act (H.R. 5319).

The full House of Representatives passed the Children's Safety and Violent Crime Reduction Act without objection on March 8th. This legislation creates a National Sex Offender Registry, consisting of a database of every person required to register in any state registry, in order to ensure offenders cannot elude authorities by moving from state to state. H.R. 4472 also requires sex offenders to keep their information current and regularly verify their whereabouts.

The full House passed the School Safety Acquiring Faculty Excellence Act by a vote of 415 to 1 on June 13th. H.R. 4894 requires the Department of Justice, if requested by state officials, to conduct background checks within national crime databases for any job applicants in schools or agencies that work with children.

Finally, the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held hearings about the Deleting Online Predators Act on June 27th. This legislation requires the Federal Communications Commission to collect and make available to parents information regarding "social networking" websites that have been shown to allow sexual predators easy access to personal information of, and contact with, children. With respect to schools and libraries, where parents cannot fully supervise their children, H.R. 5319 requires the use of filtering or other technology to prevent children from accessing social networking websites without adult supervision.

I support all three of these measures. H.R. 4472 and H.R. 4894 are currently pending consideration in the Senate. H.R. 5319 is expected to receive House consideration in the near future. Crimes against children are heinous crimes against the most vulnerable and innocent victims. Society must resolve to protect, to the fullest extent possible, our children from sexual assault and other violence.



Expanding Markets - As a member of the Congressional Manufacturing Taskforce, I recently hosted a Trade Adjustment Assistance Seminar to update area manufacturers on resources available to them. During the seminar, three businesses were awarded the U.S. Department of Commerce's Export Achievement Certificate in recognition of their growth in international markets. Pictured from the left are: Deborah Doherty of the U.S. Commercial Service; William Stratton III and George Cramer representing Adhesives Research, Inc. of York; Jeffrey Snyder and Bill Bomberger representing Wagman Metal Products, Inc. of York; and Robert Wilson of York Wire & Cable Company, York.

Town Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, August 30

Stewartstown Borough Office
6 North Main Street
Stewartstown
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 30

Camp Hill Borough Hall
2145 Walnut Street
Camp Hill
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 31

Littlestown Borough Office
46 East King Street
Littlestown
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 31

Guthrie Memorial Library
2 Library Place
Hanover
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday, September 1

Fairview Township Municipal Building
599 Lewisberry Road
New Cumberland
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Greater Energy Independence Promoted

Greater energy independence is a critically important element of any truly comprehensive energy policy. The United States is more than 60% dependent on foreign sources of energy. This dependence leaves us dangerously subject to the whims of countries like Iran and Venezuela. The cost of energy, paid not only in gasoline and the electric bill but also built into the cost of nearly every other product, makes it much harder for families to make ends meet. It is also a jobs issue, with energy imports constituting one-third of the trade deficit and energy costs burdening American manufacturing.

We must continue to invest in renewable and alternative energy resources. We also must increase our efforts at conservation and crack down on any gouging or price manipulation. At the same time, we must recognize that renewable and alternative energy sources will not become the basis for our economy overnight, and we must face the reality that demand is continuing to outstrip supply.

On June 29th, the House of Representatives passed the Deep Ocean Energy Resources Act (H.R. 4761) by a vote of 232 to 187. I voted in favor of this bill. H.R. 4761 would replace the current across-the-board moratorium on additional offshore energy exploration with a more balanced, flexible process. Specifically, the moratorium would be lifted for natural gas and oil activities more than 100 miles off the United States coast. Within 100 miles of the coastline, nearby coastal states could choose whether to have the moratorium lifted. Importantly, no leases for natural gas or oil exploration activities could be signed without a study to determine the impact of the proposed activities on the environment.

The United States is alone among developed nations in failing to broadly develop its own energy resources along the outer-continental shelf. The most recent technology makes it much less likely that offshore drilling will harm the environment. Off-shore energy activities could have a particularly positive impact on natural gas prices. Unlike oil, natural gas consumed in the United States is almost entirely produced here or in Canada. With the price of natural gas being as much as ten times more expensive in the U.S. than in foreign nations, tapping domestic sources of natural gas here could make a real difference to American families and businesses.

Other energy legislation recently passed by the House includes: 1) an appropriations measure increasing spending on energy efficiency and renewable energy programs in fiscal year 2007 (H.R. 5427); 2) a bill to establish a competitively-awarded "H-Prize" for breakthrough technologies that help to make hydrogen a practical alternative to oil in the transportation sector (H.R. 5143); 3) a bill to increase the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to define and punish oil price gouging (H.R. 5253); and, 4) a bill to increase coordination among all levels of government for the building of new oil or biofuel refineries (H.R. 5254). All of the aforementioned bills are now pending consideration in the Senate. Passage there will help the country take steps forward towards the important goal of greater energy independence.



Experiencing Public Service - Through the 19th District Internship Association's annual program, six local college students worked 10 weeks in my district and Washington offices this summer to learn about Congress and to serve 19th District residents. Pictured from the left are: *Daniel Wallmuth*, a junior at Penn State University, and son of Jim and Mary Wallmuth of York; *Matthew Daggett*, a senior at Penn State University, and son of John and Linda Daggett of York; *Benjamin Barron*, a senior at Wake Forest University, and son of Christine

Wirt and Richard Barron of Mechanicsburg; Meghan Anderson, a junior at Penn State University, and daughter of Kenneth and Jody Anderson of Carlisle; *Benjamin Timmins*, a graduate of York College, and son of Michael and Christine Timmins of New Oxford; and *Benjamin Melusky*, a junior at Gettysburg College, and son of Michael and Francis Marie Melusky of Dover.

Young People Making a Difference - It is a great privilege to recognize the strong moral character and leadership skills of 19th District Boy Scouts when they achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. From left: *Bill Sherod*, son of Frank and Pamela Sharod of Ft. Huachuca Az; *Todd Breitenbach*, son of Joseph and Paula Breitenbach of Carlisle; *Andrew DeLucio*, son of Raymond and Gene DeLucio of Carlisle Barracks; and *Kevin Beerman*, son of Kevin and Terry Beerman of Heidleburg, Germany; of Troop 173 based out of Carlisle Barracks were recent Eagle Scout recipients to whom I presented a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition and a U.S. flag.



Line Item Veto Is a Necessary Reform

"Line-item veto" authority, which allows specific provisions of a legislative proposal to be stricken while the overall bill is adopted, is currently provided to forty-three governors, including in Pennsylvania. Experience suggests that this authority reduces the influence of special interests within the budget process and acts as a deterrent to wasteful spending.

Under the Legislative Line Item Veto Act (H.R. 4890), which I cosponsored, the President would be allowed to force Congress to vote individually on certain individual provisions contained within larger appropriations or tax bills. Specifically, within 45 days of a bill being enacted into law, the President could propose the rescission of any dollar amount contained in the bill for a specific appropriation or targeted tax benefit. Congress would either have to approve or reject the proposed rescissions within twelve legislative days.

H.R. 4890 passed by a vote of 247 to 172 and is now pending in the Senate. I voted in favor of it. A previous attempt to provide the President with statutory line-item veto authority was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1998. H.R. 4890 was carefully crafted to overcome the constitutional problems of the previous law.

Ultimately, I would like to go further. The spending rescissions allowed under H.R. 4890 could be overridden by a simple majority vote in either chamber. Line item vetoes, just like the veto of entire bills, should instead require a two-thirds vote in the Senate and the House to be overridden. Such a change, however, could be enacted only through a constitutional amendment.

Members of Congress Should Not Be Above the Law

On July 10, 2006, the Chief United States District Court Judge rejected arguments that the FBI search of the office of Congressman William Jefferson for documents related to a bribery investigation violated the separation-of-powers between the legislative and executive branches. I applaud this decision.

Shortly after the search of Representative Jefferson's office, House leaders in both parties issued statements arguing that the United States Constitution prohibits searches of this kind. The argument rests largely on the Speech and Debate clause, which states Senators and Representatives are privileged from arrest and may not be questioned "for any Speech or Debate in either House." I disagreed with the House leaders' position and am pleased that the Court unequivocally rejected said position.

Courts have held that the Speech and Debate clause protects any legitimate legislative act from police questioning, not just speeches on the House floor. Clearly, however, the taking of bribes is not a legitimate legislative act entitled to protection by the plain language of the Speech and Debate clause nor any court decision interpreting it. Moreover, in the case of Representative Jefferson, the FBI acted pursuant to a duly issued court order that limited the search so as to protect legitimate legislative acts.

Credible allegations of the bribery of public officials must be vigorously investigated pursuant to the law to ensure the integrity of our governing process. I fully support the efforts of the FBI in ensuring that no one, including a member of Congress, is above the law.

Platts Opposed to Senate Immigration Bill

In the 1980's, legislation was enacted to provide amnesty to 2.7 million immigrants residing in the United States illegally. The argument was that this legislation would help resolve the illegal immigration problem once-and-for-all, legalizing those who are already here while acting to stop future illegal immigration. Instead, the enactment of this legislation seems to have signaled to those outside the country that it is okay to break the law in order to enter the United States. Now, with an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants living here, amnesty is once again being debated in the United States Congress.

I am opposed to amnesty for illegal immigrants. I define amnesty as legalizing the presence of large numbers of illegal immigrants without requiring them to leave the United States and then return in a lawful manner. By this definition, a recent bill passed by the United States Senate (S. 2611) is amnesty. I would vote against this bill if it came before the House for a vote.

In its current form, the Senate immigration bill would allow millions of illegal immigrants to stay in the country mainly by paying a \$3,250 fine. S. 2611's remaining requirements for achieving legal status - such as paying back taxes and learning English - are expected of all new citizens. An amendment to the bill that would have required increased border control and immigration enforcement prior to the amnesty being offered was rejected by a vote of 40 to 55.

Amnesty is the wrong approach for several reasons. It encourages more illegal immigration, especially if border control measures and enforcement are not implemented first. It undermines respect for the law. And, it is blatantly unfair to those individuals who have been waiting in line, sometimes for years, to come to the United State legally.

While our priority focus should be on controlling the border and enforcing the law, an improved and expanded temporary worker program is critically important to certain sectors of our economy. However, such a program needs to be implemented without undermining the integrity of our nation's immigration laws.

The House passed a very different immigration bill (H.R. 4437) late last year that focused on border security and immigration enforcement. Various House and Senate committees have scheduled hearings on the issues of illegal immigration and a temporary worker program. Senate and House conferees will work to address the differences between S. 2611 and H.R. 4437 once these hearings are completed.

America's Fallen Heroes Act Signed Into Law

On Memorial Day, May 29, 2006, the Respect for America's Fallen Heroes Act (H.R. 5037) was signed into law by President George Bush. I cosponsored and supported the passage of this common-sense measure aimed at protecting the decorum of the funerals of our nation's service members who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country and the principles for which it stands.

Lately, organized protesters have been showing up at military funerals. Some protestors have verbally abused family members and held up signs too distasteful to relate here, subjecting families to additional emotional hardship at an already difficult time. Thankfully, H.R. 5037 received broad bipartisan support, passing in the House by a vote of 408 to 3. Some civil liberties advocates have expressed concerns about the impact on free speech, but the bill is carefully crafted to meet constitutional objections. It bans demonstrations within 500 feet of a national cemetery from 60 minutes prior to and 60 minutes following a funeral. Courts have long held that such reasonable "time, place, and manner" restrictions are compatible with the First Amendment guarantee of free speech.

Several states, including Pennsylvania, have recently enacted similar restrictions on protests at cemeteries within their jurisdictions. Together, federal and state legislation will help to ensure military families and their loved ones receive the respect to which they are entitled for their heroic service to all Americans.

Platts Votes to Override Stem Cell Veto

On July 19, 2006, the United States House of Representative voted on whether to override a Presidential veto of legislation authorizing federal funding for embryonic stem cell research (H.R. 810). Because overriding a Presidential veto requires a two-thirds vote, the effort gained a majority but still failed by a margin of 235 in favor of the override and 193 opposed to the override. While I sincerely respect the views of the President on this matter, please allow me to reiterate the reasons why I support H.R. 810 and thus voted in favor of the veto override.

H.R. 810 would authorize federal funding for embryonic stem cell research only when three specific conditions are satisfied. First, the stem cell line at issue must be derived from an embryo originally created for the purposes of fertility treatment, not "cloned" or otherwise created for the purposes of experimentation. These embryos are no more than 5-10 days old and consist of no more than 40-150 undifferentiated cells. Second, the individuals seeking fertility treatment must affirm that the embryos at issue are in excess of their clinical needs and that they would otherwise choose to have the embryos destroyed. Third, the individuals donating an embryo must provide written informed consent and are prohibited from receiving any financial or other inducements for the donation.

As a pro-life member of Congress, I have long struggled over the issue of federally funded embryonic stem cell research. Ultimately, I have come to view embryonic stem cell research - strictly regulated in the above manner - as ethically appropriate and important for the well being of millions of disease-afflicted Americans. There is limited debate over the moral or ethical status of in vitro fertilization. Yet it results in the creation of multiple embryos, which are frozen and - if not used by the individuals seeking fertility treatment or adopted - destroyed. Stopping embryonic stem cell research therefore does not guarantee that one more baby will be born, but the denial of federal funds for this promising area of research will likely slow or halt medical breakthroughs for countless individuals of all ages who are suffering from spinal cord injuries and disorders such as juvenile diabetes, Parkinson's, and heart disease.

Significantly, in addition to my support of H.R. 810, I have voted in favor of other legislation to fund umbilical chord stem cell research (H.R. 2520) and other alternatives that do not involve destruction of an embryo (S. 2754). Many leading medical and science experts, however, contend that embryonic stem cell research holds potential that umbilical chord or adult stem cell research does not and that alternatives to current methods of embryonic stem cell research are far off at best. Under the above-described circumstances, I believe the course of action which will best promote and enhance life is the limited approach of H.R. 810, in conjunction with H.R. 2520 and S. 2754.

Keeping Kids Healthy - As a co-chair of the House Taskforce on Tobacco and Health, I believe greater efforts must be made to educate children about the dangers of tobacco and drug use. I recently met with students at Hanover Middle School to help them gain a better appreciation of how these substances can harm their bodies and the benefits of remaining drug and smoke-free.



Promoting Early Education - As a member of the House Education and Workforce Committee, I understand the importance of children receiving quality early education opportunities as a way to improve their chance of success in later learning. I was grateful to join Congressman Tim Holden, Pennsylvania -17, and the Pre-K Now organization in presenting a Pre-K Champion Award to the Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children (represented here by its early childhood education director, Diane Barber) for its advocacy on behalf of early childhood education.



House Budget Plan Adopted

On May 7th, following weeks of negotiations, the full United States House of Representatives voted 218 to 210 to pass a budget resolution setting overall spending levels for fiscal year 2007 (H. Con. Res. 376). The adoption of a budget resolution is an early step in the nearly year-long process to determine the nation's fiscal priorities in the year ahead. The House and Senate must still enact the ten major annual appropriations bills that are necessary to fund federal operations.

Under H. Con. Res. 376, spending on homeland security and defense would receive modest increases. Overall discretionary spending not related to homeland security or defense would be frozen in fiscal year 2007. Importantly, however, the resolution proposes a spending level specifically for health and education programs that would be sufficient to restore previous cuts to priority programs such as the National Institutes of Health, the Community Services Block Grant, and special education.

I was part of a group of 23 members who worked together to obtain the aforementioned guarantee for health and education programs. Although the additional health care and education funding represents only about 0.2% of the total federal budget, it is sufficient to restore cuts enacted to health care and education programs in fiscal year 2006, plus a minimal increase to account for inflation. Savings found elsewhere in the federal budget have already offset a majority of the additional funding, and Majority Leader John Boehner has pledged to find other savings to offset the remainder of this funding prior to completion of the appropriations process.

As a member of Congress, I have long advocated for proper priorities in the federal budget. This does not mean simply spending more taxpayer money. Rather, it means spending taxpayer funds more wisely. The final, compromise version of H. Con. Res. 376 reflects this principle.

Subcommittee Focuses on Port Security and Freedom of Information Act

The recent debate over foreign ownership of United States ports highlighted a key vulnerability in our homeland security strategy: port security. Secure and functioning ports are not only vital to our economy; they serve as a first line of defense against a terrorist attack.

The vast majority of maritime cargo flows through a few major ports, including the Port of New York and New Jersey - the nation's third largest. This port brings together diverse, complex, economically intertwined, and competing interests, serving not only the states of New York and New Jersey but also Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania.

Since the terrorist attacks of September 11th, government leaders and security experts continue to express concerns over the security of our ports.

On May 4, 2006, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4954, The SAFE Port Act of 2006, which calls on the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish Maritime Security Command Centers - essentially an integrated network of virtual and physical command centers at seaports to enhance information sharing and coordination. This legislation adds to previous efforts by the Congress to address port vulnerabilities.

The Subcommittee on Government Management, Finance and Accountability, which I chair, recently held a hearing in Brooklyn, New York, to review the structure of the information security and sharing networks of our ports. New York Police Commissioner Ray Kelly, the New York Sector Commander of the Coast Guard, Captain Robert O'Brien, and the Security Manager of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Bethann Rooney, shared



Securing Our Ports - Captain Robert O'Brien, a 36 year veteran of the United States Coast Guard, shared valuable testimony at the recent subcommittee hearing on port security. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, New York -14, participated in the hearing as well.

their expertise and recommendations in discussing the challenges inherent in securing a large port with national significance.

It is important that decisions made in Washington reflect the realities faced on the front lines. Securing our ports must be a top priority, and Congress must ensure that all stakeholders - from local government officials to federal agencies - have the resources and structure to succeed.



Frontline of Security - New York City Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly discusses port security issues prior to the July 21st subcommittee hearing in New York City.

On the heels of a May 2005 oversight hearing by my subcommittee focused on improving public access to government documents, President Bush issued an Executive Order aimed at improving the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Under the Executive Order, federal agencies are required to develop a plan to streamline FOIA request processing, designate a Chief FOIA Officer, and establish a Requester Service Center to provide a single point of contact for anyone making a FOIA request. While not a complete solution to the problems raised at the May 2005 hearing, the Executive Order was a positive step in addressing some of the operational problems that cause delays for citizens making FOIA requests.

More recently, in July 2006, my subcommittee held a second hearing to look at Federal agencies' FOIA streamlining plans and related improvement efforts. The hearing also focused on proposed legislation that would enhance and strengthen FOIA. Witnesses included representatives from the Department of Justice, which bears the responsibility for FOIA compliance government-wide, as well as the National Newspapers Association and open-government advocacy groups. Transparency is the cornerstone of democracy, and the Subcommittee on Government Management, Finance and Accountability will continue to focus on the effective implementation of FOIA.

Platts Votes to Block Congressional Pay Raise

On June 13, 2006, the House of Representatives voted to allow a 2% cost-of-living increase scheduled for Members of Congress in January 2007 to go forward. I voted to block the increase, as I have consistently done since first being elected to Congress in 2000.

Every year, Congressional salaries increase automatically by formula unless Congress acts to stop the increase. Unfortunately, Republican and Democrat leaders in the House have routinely prevented a direct vote from taking place on the issue. This year was no different. Opponents of automatic pay increases must use procedural motions to force a debate on the issue. Traditionally, these procedural motions occur when the House of Representatives considers the Department of Treasury appropriations bill.

As one who is adamantly opposed to the automatic pay increases, I have sponsored legislation (H.R. 4494), along with Congressman Jim Matheson, to permanently repeal such increases. H.R. 4494 remains before the House Administration and Government Reform Committees for consideration.

Bill Enacted to Address Indecency on the Airwaves

On June 15, 2006, the Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act (S. 193) was signed into law. This legislation, passed 379 to 35 in the House and unanimously in the Senate, is a modest effort to provide teeth to existing laws prohibiting indecency on the public airwaves.

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that indecency—which is defined by court precedent and contemporary community standards—can be prohibited on the airwaves during the day or prime time hours, when children may be listening. The stated rationale for this decision was rooted in the limited availability of spectrum and the prevalence of radio and television broadcasts in every day life.

S. 193 increases penalties for violations of indecency standards during the day or prime time hours from \$32,500 per incident to a maximum of \$325,000 per incident. The old fine level had become increasingly insignificant in comparison to the profits that can be generated by airing indecent programming.

I voted in favor of S. 193. Nothing can replace parental supervision in determining which shows children may or may not watch or listen. However, indecency standards aid parents who are struggling to draw a line in a society saturated with radio and television broadcasting, and they guarantee that not all of the public's limited spectrum winds up in a "race to the bottom."



Joint Address - I was pleased to have the opportunity to visit with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist following the prime minister's address to a joint session of Congress. Prime Minister Olmert delivered an inspirational message emphasizing the importance of Israeli-American relations and our shared struggle against terrorism.

Arts Competition Winner - Each year, the Congressional High School Art Competition recognizes the artistic talents of young citizens. The 19th District's 2006 winning entry was "Listen," an oil on canvas painting by Brian Souser, an incoming senior at York Suburban High School. Brian is the son of Craig and Sue Souser of York. Information regarding the 2007 competition can be found on my website at www.house.gov/platts.



Promoting Competition in Cable and Broadband

At the request of Congress, the General Accounting Office (GAO) on March 25, 2004 issued a report on subscriber rates and competition in the cable television industry. The GAO report found that, where competition exists, cable rates are approximately 15 percent lower and quality is better. Unfortunately, competition between wire-based companies is limited to very few markets. On June 8, 2006, the full United States House of Representatives passed legislation intended to address this issue (H.R. 5252).

Specifically, H.R. 5252 would establish a process to allow for national franchises of cable television and broadband services. National franchises would still be subject to certain local and state requirements, but the proposed uniform, nationwide system would make it easier for new competition to enter local cable and broadband markets. The bill would also codify the current requirement that Internet service providers not deny customers access to any legal web site.

H.R. 5252 passed by a largely bipartisan vote of 321 to 101. I voted in favor of its passage. The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is currently considering similar legislation.

Receive Congressional Updates by E-Mail

If you are interested in receiving regular updates on what is happening in the U.S. House of Representatives, I encourage you to visit my web site (www.house.gov/platts) and sign up for my monthly E-Newsletter. You need only provide your name and e-mail address. **This information will be used for the E-Newsletter only and will not be disseminated to others in any way.**

The E-Newsletter is e-mailed to subscribers monthly to discuss recent House votes and other legislative activity. The E-Newsletter is also used to alert constituents to town hall meetings or other items that may be of interest to you. The E-Newsletter is sent only to those who specifically "opt in" to the e-mail list. Currently, about 4,000 people have chosen to subscribe. If you would like to view back issues of the E-Newsletter prior to subscribing, please visit <http://www.house.gov/platts/eneews/archive.shtml>.