



Congressman
BRAD SHERMAN

Report to the San Fernando Valley



Congressman Sherman and Valley residents discuss solving problems with federal agencies.

Visit Our Web Page. Sign-up for periodic reports on what is going on in Congress. Tell us what you think—complete the Federal Issues Questionnaire.

<http://www.house.gov/Sherman>



Dear Neighbor:

Only part of my job is working on legislation in Washington, DC. It is important for me to stay in touch with Valley residents, to keep you informed and to hear your views. On the back of this mailing you will find information on my upcoming Town Hall Meeting. This meeting provides us an opportunity to discuss issues confronting Congress, and I hope you can attend.

Also, I encourage you to visit my website: **www.house.gov/sherman**—and sign up to receive my periodic e-newsletters. On the website you can also fill out my Federal Issues Questionnaire, which will let me know your views on critical issues before Congress.

Thank you very much for reading my report. Please do not hesitate to contact my office to let me know where you stand on the issues of the day, or if I can be of assistance to you in dealing with any federal agency.

Sincerely,

BRAD SHERMAN
Your Congressman

Social Security and Medicare: Protecting Retirement Security

Recent press reports indicate that Republican leaders may attempt to partially privatize Social Security. In addition, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan suggested recently that Congress



should either cut Social Security benefits or raise the age at which retirees can begin collecting benefits. Chairman Greenspan said that such actions were necessary to pay

for the tax cuts which the President proposed and the Congressional Majority passed. The lion's share of these tax cuts go to the wealthiest Americans.

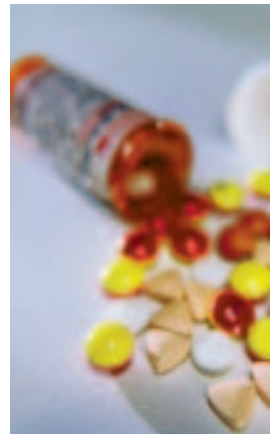
Proposals to partially privatize Social Security include reduced benefits, unless the beneficiary is willing to select risky investments and happens to select stocks that perform well. Sherman is against these proposals because he believes it would be irresponsible to replace a guarantee with a gamble.

Congressman Brad Sherman strongly supports providing prescription drug coverage under the Medicare program.

Unfortunately, the recently passed Republican legislation includes large gaps in coverage such that seniors with annual prescription

costs between \$2,250 and \$5,100 will get almost no benefits.

Seniors with medication costs less than \$800 would actually pay more under this new legislation, because their premiums and out-of-pocket costs would exceed their benefit. Congressman Sherman knows that our seniors deserve better.



Homeland Defense: Keeping America Secure

Congressman Sherman believes we can protect America while also preserving the freedoms and rights that Americans cherish. He also believes that it is irresponsible and unfair to provide massive tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans while the nation faces huge costs in the war on terrorism.



Congressman Sherman sits on the *International Relations Committee* and is the Ranking Democratic Member of the *Subcommittee on Terrorism and Nonproliferation*, the panel responsible for overseeing efforts to work with our allies to defeat terrorism and prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. Sherman believes we need to take strong diplomatic and economic measures against countries which are developing and expanding their nuclear weapons programs, such as Iran and North Korea.

Sherman is the lead sponsor of the *Iran Freedom and Democracy Support Act*, which would foster democracy in Iran and impose economic sanctions on the current Iranian government as long as it continues to develop nuclear weapons. Sherman also supports increased funding and tough measures to secure our borders,



seaports and airports to prevent terrorists from smuggling weapons into the country.

Sherman was the lead sponsor of an amendment to the *Iraq Appropriations Bill* to prohibit “no-bid” and “sole source” contracts to companies such as Halliburton.

Improving Valley Life: Transportation, Recreation, and the Environment



Congressman Sherman has worked to make sure the Valley gets its fair share in federal transportation funds. In recent years Sherman has secured over \$20 million for

special transportation projects in the San Fernando Valley. Sherman has worked closely with Valley leaders to fund recent improvements near the 101/405 interchange and the new southbound lane on the 405 through the Sepulveda Pass.

Earlier this year Sherman secured federal funds to help build a Bus Rapid Transit route running from Ventura Blvd to the Sylmar/San Fernando Valley Metrolink Station, and a regional transit hub near the Burbank Airport that will serve as a centralized facility for air and ground travelers. Sherman was also successful in securing funds for the East-West Valley Busway, which will run from the North Hollywood Metro Station to Warner Center. Sherman is continuing to work to secure funding for additional lanes on the 5 Freeway between the 170 and 134, and a new northbound lane on the 405 through the Sepulveda Pass.

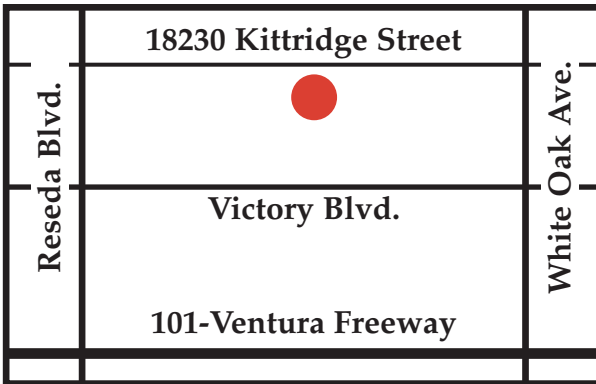
Congressman Brad Sherman has a 100% lifetime voting record on the key environmental issues identified by the Sierra Club. He has worked consistently for strong clean air and water regulations and to protect and improve our national parks. He has acquired funds to purchase parkland in the Santa Monica Mountains, and to open new areas for recreation within the Sepulveda Basin.



Come to Congressman Brad Sherman's Town Hall Meeting

Join Congressman Brad Sherman at his Town Hall Meeting to discuss issues facing Congress today including taxes, the federal debt, the environment, foreign policy, education, Social Security and Medicare. Congressman Sherman's staff will be on hand to help resolve any problems you might have with a federal agency. Free parking and refreshments will be available.

Sunday, April 18th
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Reseda High School
18230 Kittridge Street



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