



A Special Report from

**Congressman
DUNCAN HUNTER**

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Postal Patron-Local
52nd Congressional District
California

Official Business

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Hunter Leads Fight Against Illegal Immigration

Measure for Additional Border Fencing Passes House

Congressman Hunter has once again taken aim at the growing number of illegal aliens crossing America's land border with Mexico. During consideration of H.R. 4437, the Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Act of 2005, Hunter seized an opportunity to strengthen security at our nation's border and successfully added an amendment for additional security fencing.

The amendment, which passed the House by a vote of 260-159 on December 15, 2005, calls for a total of 698 miles of fencing at the five most transited and problematic locations along our Southern border.



Construction of border fencing continues in East San Diego County.

"It's understood that if you want to get into this country illegally, you come across our land border with Mexico," said

Representative Hunter. "Today's security threat mandates that we implement a strategy that prevents illegal entry into our nation and identifies who and what is crossing our border.

"Most alarming, foreign nationals from countries identified by the State Department as posing a direct security threat to the United States, including Iran, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen, have been apprehended attempting to come across our Southern border. In the post 9/11 world, we cannot afford to leave America's safety and security to chance."

See Border Fencing, p.2

USS Reagan and San Diego: A Perfect Match

Carrier Continues to Deliver Economic Benefits and Quality Jobs

Since its arrival at North Island Naval Air Station in 2004, the USS Ronald Reagan has become a proud fixture of the San Diego community.

The USS Ronald Reagan is the Navy's newest nuclear powered aircraft carrier and, in addition to giving America an added element of naval superiority, the carrier's presence in San Diego continues to stimulate the local economy and provide quality employment opportunities.

"The Reagan has been an excellent addition to San Diego's already extensive



inventory of national security assets," said Congressman Hunter. "While we continue to benefit economically as a result

See USS Reagan, p.3

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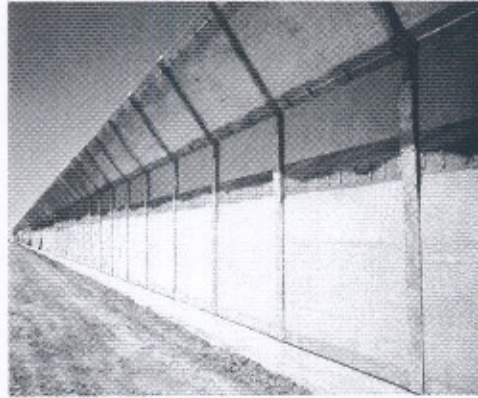
Border Fencing, from p.1

The Hunter Amendment stipulates that fencing in the five designated border zones be modeled after the existing fence currently in place in San Diego County. The successful design of the San Diego Border Fence, which includes a climb-proof barrier and a road for Border Patrol vehicles monitored by lights, cameras and sensors, will be replicated in the following border locations: Tecate, California (22 miles); from Calexico, California to Douglas, Arizona (361 miles); Columbus, New Mexico to El Paso, Texas (88 miles); Del Rio, Texas to Eagle Pass, Texas (51 miles); and Laredo, Texas to Brownsville, Texas (176 miles).

Since construction began on the San Diego Border Fence in 1996, San Diego County has experienced a dramatic drop in crime rates, a reduction in vehicle drive-throughs, and decreased apprehensions as a result of fewer illegal crossing attempts.

The Hunter Amendment, and the enforcement provisions included in H.R. 4437, will be an integral part of our efforts to effectively address our most immediate

border security needs. However, Congressman Hunter believes these efforts only serve as a starting point and more will certainly have to be done.



A section of the newly completed border fencing in San Diego County. This type of fencing is the second of two layers.

Over the last year, Hunter has continued his work with Homeland Security officials and introduced a comprehensive border security and immigration bill that puts in place necessary border infrastructure, increases the number of border security officials, and improves identification integrity standards and worker verification programs.

Making Students Safer at Shoal Creek Elementary School

Parents shouldn't have to worry about the safety of their children as they walk to school each morning. Unfortunately, at Shoal Creek Elementary School, parents have reason to worry as many students are forced to cross the dangerous intersection of Shoal Creek Drive and the Ted Williams Parkway.

On an average day, approximately 25,000 vehicles travel these roads and, upon completion of State Route 56, it is estimated that this vehicular traffic will double. With the Shoal Creek Elementary School located directly across the street from this busy intersection, a variety of short-term solutions have been implemented to guarantee the safety of students, residents, and other commuters. It

was determined that a pedestrian bridge would significantly reduce the risk of incident and rightfully address the safety concerns of the local community.

To ensure the safety of students attending the Shoal Creek Elementary School, and as an added benefit to the residents of the local community, Congressman Hunter successfully secured \$1.3 million in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2005, for construction of the pedestrian bridge. Initial planning for this project is currently underway and construction is scheduled to begin at the conclusion of this process.

"Parents deserve to know that it's both safe and convenient for their children to

BRAC: San Diego Bases Protected

San Diego, which is home to some of the most critical defense infrastructure in the world, enjoys a very special relationship with its military community. In addition to offering military families a high quality of life, this relationship helps fuel San Diego's economy and workforce. In fact, approximately 18.3 percent of San Diego's workforce is defense related and dependent on the continued operation of local bases.

As an active promoter of San Diego's military bases, Congressman Hunter worked to protect the region's network of military facilities in the 2005 BRAC process. When Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) San Diego was targeted for closure, Hunter partnered with community leaders and met with several BRAC Commissioners to ensure MCRD San Diego remain an integral part of the Marine Corps presence in San Diego County.

Through these efforts, the installation's value to the region and the Marine Corps was realized and the panel voted against recommending MCRD San Diego for closure.



Principal Wendy Smith-Rogers and lead parent Troy Daum discuss plans with Hunter.

commute to school on their own," said Hunter. "Once the Shoal Creek Pedestrian Bridge is completed, parents will be able to breathe a little easier knowing their kids will not be required to cross such a dangerous intersection."

USS Reagan, from p.1

of the Ronald Reagan being ported in San Diego, the Reagan's sailors and their families are benefiting most, with a high quality of life, outstanding schools, and a community that respects and contributes to their mission."

Despite efforts by the Navy to redirect the USS Reagan to Washington State, Representative Hunter worked to ensure the carrier would be ported at North Island Naval Air Station and remain an important part of the Navy's regional presence. It is estimated that since arriving, the Reagan has brought nearly 3,000 jobs



The Reagan sets sail from Coronado.

to San Diego County and, when combined with all other military assets in the region, contributes over \$18 billion annually to San Diego's growing economy.

On January 4, 2006, the Reagan set sail on its inaugural deployment, joined by three San Diego based ships – the cruiser Lake Champlain and the destroyers Decatur and McCampbell. The carrier's crew and complement of aircraft will undertake a six month rotation in support of the Global War on Terrorism and additional cooperative security commitments.

The USS Ronald Reagan is the ninth Nimitz class aircraft carrier in the Naval fleet. As a nuclear powered carrier, it can operate for more than 20 years without refueling and is designed to meet our national defense needs for the next 50 years.

Defense Bill Benefits Military Families

As Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Congressman Hunter has a longstanding commitment to America's servicemembers and their families. In addition to ensuring our brave men and women in uniform continue training and operating with the most optimal resources available, the FY2006 Defense Authorization Act includes many provisions to improve the services and benefits available to our military families.

The legislation, for example, includes: a 3.1 percent across-the-board pay raise; an increase in duty related compensation and basic housing allowances; special pay for injured and rehabilitating service personnel; income replacement for deployed Guardsmen and Reservists; and an extension of death gratuity payments to all military deaths since October 7, 2001. The bill also contains substantial increases in enlistment and reenlistment bonuses and offers a wide array of new retention and recruitment incentives.

"Just as we have an obligation to en-



Hunter talks with troops during a recent visit to Iraq.

sure our service personnel are protected on the battlefield, we must also ensure they are protected at home. This bill gives America's military families better benefits, improved services, and comfort in knowing they will have the support they need."

A detailed summary of the FY2006 Defense Authorization Act is available on the House Armed Services Committee's website at www.house.gov/hasc.

Constituent Survey

Please cut along the dotted line and return the survey in an envelope to *Congressman Duncan Hunter, 2265 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please circle one answer or provide your own:

1) Do you agree or disagree that additional security fencing is needed on our Southern border with Mexico?

(A) Agree (B) Disagree

2) Do you support making the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent?

(A) Yes (B) No

3) Do you agree or disagree that before a guest worker program is considered, America's borders must be secured?

(A) Agree (B) Disagree

4) Do you think Congress should consider proposals to reform the Social Security System?

(A) Yes (B) No

5) What do you believe should be Congress' greatest legislative priority over the next year?

- (A) Balancing the budget
(B) Strengthening national security
(C) Major tax reform
(D) Other: _____

Having Problems? We Are Here to Help

For Congressman Hunter, ensuring residents of California's 52nd Congressional District receive the services, benefits, and assistance they need is always a top priority. The local El Cajon office, which recently moved to 1870 Cordell Court, is available to help constituents resolve any problems they may be experiencing at the federal level.

Here are just a few actual examples of how Congressman Hunter's office can help:

- A veteran was being denied his VA benefits due to a clerical error which caused his Social Security number to be recorded incorrectly. Soon after contacting the El Cajon office, a correction was made and his benefits were immediately restored;
- Another veteran lost all his military

awards and decorations in a house fire. He contacted the local office for help and replacement service awards



Hunter frequently meets with constituents to discuss issues of importance and concern.

and decorations were provided through the National Personnel Records Center and the U.S. Army;

- Due to an error on the part of the Social Security Administration, an individual was denied several months of

earned benefits and began looking for help. Following an inquiry from Hunter's office, the problem was rectified and, in addition to restoring their Social Security benefits, this individual received back pay for those months in which payment was denied;

- A servicemember returning from Iraq wished to have his wife and daughter meet him at his next duty station overseas. They applied for their passports two months early and even paid an expedited service fee. When told the location of the passports were unknown and they would not likely be delivered in time, the local office intervened and tracked the passports down, ensured they were appropriately processed and delivered for their trip.

Congressman Hunter's offices are also available to have flags flown above the U.S. Capitol and accept applications for the Congressional Page program, internships and U.S. Service Academy nominations.

Whether in El Cajon or Washington D.C., Representative Hunter's offices are always available to help, so don't hesitate to write, call, or stop by with any questions. More information on how we can be of service to you is available at www.house.gov/hunter.

Hunter Supports Small Business

One of the most prevalent issues facing San Diego's small businesses is compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Unfortunately, several San Diego businesses have been targeted by predatory lawyers and plaintiffs, who are exploiting the ADA for personal gain.

Some businesses, however, don't learn of their non-compliance until a lawsuit is filed. The truth of the matter is that most businesses are in compliance with the ADA and continuously upgrading their facilities to meet ever changing standards.

Congressman Hunter believes compliance must be stressed over punishment and, as a result, is once again an original cosponsor of H.R. 2804, the ADA Notification Act. This legislation gives business owners 90 days to meet ADA standards before they are subject to civil action.

If you are a small business owner and have questions about current ADA regulations, please contact either of our offices.

Hunter has also supported several pieces of legislation benefiting small businesses during floor consideration, including:

- H.R. 8, the Death Tax Repeal Permanency Act, which completely repeals the unfair "death" tax;
- S. 256, the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, legislation reducing abusive and frivolous bankruptcy filings;
- A series of bills (H.R. 739, H.R. 740, H.R. 741, and H.R. 742) that provide business owners with fundamental fairness against actions by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

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