



CONGRESSMAN BOBBY L. RUSH
1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

Created: July 2007



Proudly Serving the People of the First Congressional District of Illinois

“I will continue to stand strong and fight aggressively to serve the people of the First Congressional District”.

Chairman of the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection

Appropriations

- Congress annually considers 11 or more appropriations measures, which provide funding for numerous activities, for example, national defense, education, homeland security, and crime.
- Congress has developed certain rules and practices for the consideration of appropriations measures, referred to as the congressional appropriations process.
- There are three types of appropriations measures. Regular appropriations bills provide most of the funding that is provided in all appropriations measures for a fiscal year, and must be enacted by October 1 of each year.
- If regular bills are not enacted by the deadline, Congress adopts continuing resolutions to continue funding generally until regular bills are enacted. Supplemental bills are considered later and provide additional appropriations.

As the new Chairman of the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer I am particularly interested in having a broader dialogue with the African American community on issues of trade and tourism, commerce, and product safety in our communities.

Examples of issues I am highlighting in the subcommittee include:

Commerce: small business diversity, fair marketing and advertising to youth (alcohol), and interstate commerce of generic drugs;

Trade: currency manipulation and its impact on jobs in

the U.S., increasing trade opportunities for small and minority businesses, and how trade and aid impact developing countries;

Tourism: international sporting events and impact on small and minority businesses (Olympics in 2016), travel security, and U.S. partnerships with developing countries to increase small and minority travel agencies and tourism companies;

Consumer Protection: children’s product safety (cribs, toys, car seats), food safety (spinach, dog food) and truth in marketing of products.

Hearings convened by Chairman Rush include:

- ~Protecting Our Children: Current Issues in Children's Product Safety
- ~Currency Manipulation and Its Effects on American Business and Workers
- ~H.R. 1902, Protecting Consumer Access to Generic Drugs Act of 2007
- ~Combating Spyware: H.R. 964, The Spy Act
- ~"The Lack of Diversity in Leadership Positions in NCAA Collegiate Sports"

Legislation Sponsored in the 110th Congress

I will continue to work aggressively for the people of the First Congressional District sponsoring bills such as:

H.Con.Res.108:Sense of the Congress that a commemorative postage stamp honoring Ms. Rosa Louise McCauley Parks.

H.R.20: Melanie Blocker-Stokes Postpartum Depression Research and Care Act to expand research and provide funds for postpartum depression research and services.

H.R.555: Family Telephone Connection Protection Act of 2007 to reform inmate telephone service.

H.R.600: Telecommunications Ownership Diversification Act of 2007 to expand business diversity in the telecommunications industry.

H.R. 958: Data Accountability and Trust Act to regulate commerce on electronic data containing personal information.

H.R. 1320: Interference Protection for Existing Television Band Devices Act of 2007 which allows the FCC to permit the operation of personal/portable devices non-licensed television broadcast channels between 54 megahertz and 698 megahertz in certain circumstances.

H.R. 1321: Medicare Advanced Laboratory Diagnostics Act of 2007 to expand covered diagnostic technologies under Medicare/Medicaid.

H.R. 1902: Protecting Consumer Access to Generic Drugs Act of 2007 to prohibit the practice of drug companies from paying

generic drug companies for not producing a cheaper form of the same drug.

H.R. 2182: Private Immigration Bill for the unification of separated immigrant constituents.

H.R. 2474: A bill that increase maximum civil penalty for violations under the Consumer Product Safety Act from 1,250,000to \$20,000,000.

H.R. 2606: 340B Program Improvement and Integrity Act of 2007 to expand the current 340B program to allow hospitals the ability to negotiate for lowered inpatient drug costs and expand the program to rural and children’s hospitals.

H.R. 2666: Blair Holt's Firearm Licensing and Record of Sale Act of 2007 to create a national gun registry.