

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz
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Official Business

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Debbie Wasserman Schultz
M.C.
PRSRT STD



CONGRESSWOMAN
Debbie Wasserman Schultz



Health Care - Seniors

A Department of Health and Human Services report released in December shows that an additional 2.5 million young people now have health insurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act, which enabled parents to keep adult children on their insurance up to age 26.

Additionally, seniors are seeing more benefits this year as a result of the health care reform law that passed last year. In Florida more than 1.7 million seniors on Medicare have taken advantage of new free annual preventive care services, including mammograms, colonoscopies, and annual wellness visits.*

The Affordable Care Act also caps out-of-pocket expenses, even for private insurance plans, and works to close the donut hole completely over the next nine years, saving seniors more than \$3,000 a year in drug costs. 2.5 million seniors saved an average of \$569 on prescription drugs because of our move to begin closing the donut hole.*

**figures from to the Department of Health and Human Services*

Debbie's recent senior town hall provided seniors with the opportunity to ask questions about Medicare and Medicaid as Debbie explained the financial implications of proposed legislation.



www.wassermanschultz.house.gov

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If you'd like me to keep you up-to-date on these and other issues, contact my office at the phone numbers listed here or visit my website at www.wassermanschultz.house.gov and sign up for my electronic newsletter.

Dear Friend,

As the year draws to a close and we look back at all that 2011 brought us, there is much to be thankful for this year, despite some of the challenges we've faced. This mailer provides you with a summary of some of the issues important to South Florida that I have worked on in Congress this year, including:

- Health Care and Seniors
- Jobs and the Economy
- Small Business Job Creation
- Support for Our Veterans
- Children's Safety
- Holocaust Survivors Act
- Rebuilding after the Tornado in Sunrise and Plantation

I am proud to be an advocate for South Florida, and my office is always open to you. Your questions, thoughts and concerns are important to me. Please do not hesitate to let me know of any problems or issues you consider significant by contacting me at one of my offices listed here.

And you can stay updated on the issues important to the residents of FL20 by visiting my website, liking my Facebook page and signing up for my E-Newsletter.)

Debbie

**"I am proud to be an advocate for South Florida,
and my office is always open to you." – REP. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**



Rep. Wasserman Schultz talks about employment opportunities at her veterans job fair in Fort Lauderdale.

INSIDE:

**Rep. Wasserman Schultz's
work to connect veterans
with jobs**

Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz: Year End Report

Economy

“The jobless rate fell to 8.6 percent last month from 9 percent in October, the lowest level since the economic free fall in March 2009. Job creation was steady, with employers reporting that they added 120,000 people to their payrolls.”

– *Washington Post*, 12/2/11

I believe that small business is the engine of our economy. Each year I host small business workshops so that local leaders can have productive discussions about the triumphs and challenges they face; and new prospective small business owners have a one-stop shop for information. Since most Americans get their first job through a small business, and with 60 to 80 percent of new jobs coming from them, it is imperative that small businesses have the support they need to be able to expand or launch new ventures.

Jobs for Veterans

To help small businesses find the workers they need, and to help our Florida veterans who are looking for employment, Rep. Ted Deutch (FL-19) and I hosted a Veterans Jobs Fair at the Fort Lauderdale Armory on Dec. 3. We had a great turnout from businesses, veterans, and active duty guardsmen.

The event happened shortly after the passage of new tax credits for employers who hire unemployed veterans. With so many of our troops returning home as we end the war in Iraq and wind down our involvement in Afghanistan, this event provided some of our servicemen and women with an opportunity to meet with local employers interested in hiring a hero.



Rep. Wasserman Schultz talks about employment opportunities at a veterans job fair in Fort Lauderdale.

Children's Safety



In November, I hosted the Republican Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Congressman Lamar Smith of Texas, at two events here in South Florida. I invited him to Florida because we're working together on bipartisan legislation, including H.R. 1981, the Protecting Children from Internet Pornographers Act.

This legislation, endorsed by the National Sheriff's Association, ensures that law enforcement has the same subpoena access to IP addresses as they do for telephone logs. I believe that together through federal, state and local cooperation, we can help save children from these sexual predators.

Holocaust Survivors Act

For the seniors living in Florida and across the country who are Holocaust survivors, I introduced the Holocaust Survivors Assistance Act of 2011 along with co-sponsor Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18). This legislation would add Holocaust survivors to a priority list for social services that are provided as part of the Older Americans Act, including nutrition services, mental health counseling, and home modifications. Many of the estimated 127,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States today rely on local agencies to help them afford basic necessities such as food and health care. The legislation would also assist survivors who prefer to age in their home since many face challenges living in institutional settings.

Rebuilding after the Tornado

When the recent tornado struck parts of Sunrise and Plantation, my staff was on the ground hours later, talking with homeowners to see if they had insurance, what kind of help they needed, and to make sure they knew about the resources available to help them with rebuilding their homes and their lives. We also made sure that local, state and federal agencies were aware of the needs on the ground, and coordinated with them to facilitate assistance to those in need of help.



Sunrise homeowners talk with Rep. Wasserman Schultz about damage from the tornado.



Rep. Wasserman Schultz answers questions at her small business jobs press conference in Hallandale Beach.

Small Business Job Creation

I strongly supported President Obama's proposal to help turn our economy around and boost job creation - the American Jobs Act. Earlier this year I met with three local independent small business owners from Hallandale, Miami and Hollywood to talk about a specific part of the American Jobs Act that would help 98 percent of all small businesses in America by providing much-needed payroll tax relief and deductions for buying equipment and hiring veterans.*

*Source: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/09/08/fact-sheet-american-jobs-act>

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“To regain strength for middle-class families, we first need an economy where folks on Wall Street and Main Street are playing by the same set of rules.” – REP. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ