

Proudly Serving the People of Pennsylvania's 10th District <u>http://marino.house.gov</u>

CONTACT: Renita Fennick 202-870-3386 Renita.Fennick@mail.house.gov FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *Aug. 1, 2011*

REP. MARINO'S WEEKLY WRAPUP – AUG. 1, 2011

MAJOR VOTES THIS WEEK:

S365: Budget Control Act Agreement

SUMMARY: A budget resolution that begins to address the debt crisis and set the stage for job creation by cutting federal spending, placing caps on future spending, and advancing the cause of a balanced budget amendment without raising taxes. Makes initial cuts in federal spending of more than \$900 billion with deeper cuts of at least \$1.2 trillion that will take effect later this year. Requires both chambers to vote on a proposed balanced budget amendment to the Constitution by the end of the year. **PASSED:** 269-161, Aug. 1

MARINO: Yes

S627: Budget Control Act of 2011

SUMMARY: Resolution that adheres to the principles of Cut, Cap and Balance; does not contain a tax increase, includes strict caps on federal spending, cuts discretionary spending by \$917 billion while raising the debt ceiling by \$900 billion, and provides for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

PASSED: 218-210, July 29 MARINO: Yes

HR 440

SUMMARY: Provides for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia. **PASSED**: 402-20, July 29 **MARINO:** Yes

HR1938: North American-Made Energy Security Act

SUMMARY: Directs the president, through the Secretary of Energy, to coordinate with each federal agency responsible for coordinating or considering an aspect of the President's National Interest Determination and Presidential Permit decision regarding construction and operation of the Keystone XL pipeline (from Hardisty, Alberta, to Steele City, Neb., and then on to the U.S.

Gulf Coast through Cushing, Okla.) to ensure that all necessary actions are taken on an expedited schedule. PASSED: 279-147, July 26 MARINO: Yes

HR1383: GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011

SUMMARY: Restores the GI Bill Fairness Act in regard to educational funding for people enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs post-9/11 educational assistance program from Aug. 1, 2011 to July 31, 2014. Extends through fiscal year 2012 the VA's authority to collect a fee from each individual obtaining an additional VA-guaranteed housing loan. Reduces loan fee amount from 3.3 percent to 2.8 percentof the total amount guaranteed. **PASSED:** 424-0, July 26 **MARINO:** Yes

HR2480: Administrative Conference of the United States Reauthorization Act of 2011 **SUMMARY:** Authorizes appropriations for the Administrative Conference of the United States for fiscal years 2012-2014. Prohibits more than \$2,500 from being made available in each fiscal year for official representation and entertainment expenses for foreign dignitaries. **PASSED:** 382-23, Aug. 1 **MARINO:** Yes

HR1933: Amends Immigration and Nationality Act

SUMMARY: Modifies the requirements for admission of non-immigrant nurses in health professional shortage areas to: permit a one-time, three-year extension of admission; and reduce the maximum number of such visas per fiscal year to 300. **PASSED:** 407-17, Aug. 1 **MARINO:** Yes

HR398: Amends Immigration and Nationality Act

SUMMARY: Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to toll, during active-duty service abroad in the Armed Forces, the periods of time for an alien spouse or petitioning spouse to file a petition and appear for an interview to remove the conditional basis for permanent resident status.

PASSED: 426-0, Aug. 1 MARINO: Yes

HR2715

SUMMARY: To provide the Consumer Product Safety Commission with greater authority and discretion in enforcing the consumer product safety laws, and for other purposes. **PASSED**: 421-2, Aug. 1 **Marino:** Yes

COMMITTEE WORK:

Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security: Held a hearing on H.R. 2572, the "Clean Up Government Act of 2011"

Homeland Security: Held its third hearing on the issue of the radicalization of Muslims, "Al Shabaab: Recruitment and Radicalization within the Muslim American Community and the Threat to the Homeland."

Foreign Affairs: Passed HR2583, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for fiscal year 2012, as amended, by a vote of 23-20. Cuts spending, mandates reform, and enhances U.S. security. Cuts \$6.4 billion off the President's budget request and authorizes \$4.8 billion less than the 2010 spending levels.

Homeland Security Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Security Technologies passed HR2658, The Federal Protective Service Reform and Enhancement Act which authorizes the functions and responsibilities of the Federal Protective Service within the Department of Homeland Security and includes several provisions to standardize training and improve contract guard oversight.

House Judiciary: Passed HR1981, The Protecting Children from Internet Pornographers Act of 2011 which would help investigators track down dangerous pedophiles and protect children from sexual exploitation. Directs Internet Service Providers to retain subscriber information for 12 months in order to assist federal law enforcement in online child pornography and child exploitation investigations. Similar to existing federal law that requires telephone companies to retain caller information for up to 18 months. Makes it a federal crime to financially facilitate the sale, distribution and purchase of child pornography. Increases the maximum penalty for certain child pornography offenses.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:

• Met with Elizabeth Smart and her father, Ed Smart, to discuss issues related to Internet crimes against children.

SCHEDULE:

Rep. Marino will be working throughout the district this week Please check the events section on the website for updates: <u>http://marino.house.gov/events</u>