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Mike Kelly's December Third District E-Newsletter

Dear Friend,

As 2011 comes to a close, I wanted to take the opportunity to tell you what an honor it has been to serve as your U.S. Representative in the 112th Congress, and to outline the work I've done since I was sworn into office on January 5.

I was sent to Washington with a clear objective: **to change the direction of our country.**

In recent years, America has experienced historically high unemployment, record deficit spending, and now faces a more than \$15 trillion national debt that is not only a threat to our economic freedom, but to our national security.

I have worked to address these challenges through common sense solutions that restore fiscal responsibility in Washington and promote pro-growth policies that foster a better climate for job creation.

Here are some of my legislative highlights:

- ❖ **I voted to ban earmarks**, working to change the culture in Washington and holding it more accountable to the people it serves.
- ❖ **I voted to repeal the new health care law**, reversing the government takeover of nearly one-fifth of the U.S. economy and stopping the health care law from limiting health care choice while costing taxpayers more than \$2 trillion to implement.
- ❖ **I voted to cut spending**, reducing discretionary spending by \$95 billion compared to levels in fiscal year 2010, while maintaining funding for critical services and programs that our citizens rely on.
- ❖ **I voted to increase production of domestic energy**, creating jobs and reducing our dependence on foreign oil.
- ❖ **I voted to end excessive and burdensome federal regulations**, limiting Washington's power over the private sector and passing more than 30 bipartisan bills to protect job creators from government overreach.
- ❖ **I voted for a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution**, requiring Washington to live within its means, just as hard-working families do every day.

While many of these efforts have been blocked by the Senate, my colleagues and I in the House have been able to change the conversation in Washington, where the talk is now about spending reductions and job creation, instead of spending increases. In fact, for the first time since World War II, **we were able to cut discretionary spending for two years in a row.**



Photo: Rep. Kelly poses with teachers visiting Washington, D.C. from the 3rd District.

Of the People, By the People, For the People: An Overview of Constituent Services

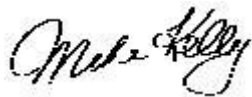
While the legislative process is a key component of my work, equally important are the services I provide to my constituents. As I always say, I am not Washington's voice in the Third District; I'm the Third District's voice in Washington.

To provide quality constituent services and to ensure that the Third District's voice is heard, I have:

- ❖ Opened 3 full time constituent offices and maintained 3 satellite offices;
- ❖ Formed **7 Issue Advisory Boards** with local participants who offer policy advice on their respective areas of expertise;
- ❖ Answered more than 42,000 pieces of mail and email;
- ❖ Held more than **two dozen public meetings** in a variety of formats;
- ❖ Helped more than 1,000 constituents with their challenges to navigate the federal bureaucracy;
- ❖ Organized or attended dozens of outreach meetings with constituency groups;
- ❖ Toured dozens of businesses and factories to talk with both employers and employees about issues affecting their industries;
- ❖ Started the American Job Creators Initiative to hear how federal regulations are affecting Third District job creators;
- ❖ Sent over 1878 American flags to constituents and assisted with 211 tours of the U.S. Capitol; and
- ❖ Conducted hundreds of interviews with local, regional, and national press.

In 2012, I will continue my efforts to be as available to the Third District as possible. As always, I welcome your feedback, and enclosed is a survey card that will let me know what issues matter most to you. You may also visit my website, at www.kelly.house.gov, where you can send me your comments and concerns, and where you can [sign up for my monthly e-newsletter](#) and join my email distribution list. This way, I can send you updates and information in the timeliest and most cost-effective way, saving taxpayer dollars while maintaining clear lines of communication with constituents throughout the district.

Thank you for taking the time to read my 2011 Annual Report. I look forward to serving you again in 2012, and wish you a very happy and safe New Year.



Mike Kelly

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