



Rep. Grace Napolitano

Representing California's 38th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives: Industry - La Puente - Montebello - Pico Rivera - Norwalk - Pomona - Santa Fe Springs - Avacado Heights - East Los Angeles - Hacienda Heights - Los Nietos - Valinda

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Napolitano Supports New Bill to Keep Infrastructure Jobs in U.S.

Rep. Grace F. Napolitano joined her fellow Democrats on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in unveiling the Invest in American Jobs Act of 2011 (H.R. 3533), a bill which would create U.S. jobs by requiring all materials used in federal transportation and infrastructure projects to be made in America.

"It is time we brought manufacturing jobs back to America," Napolitano said. "For too long, U.S. firms have taken advantage of tax breaks and loopholes to outsource work to other countries, while working American families have been left behind. The Invest in American Jobs Act will ensure that all of our bridges, roads, and railcars will be built here in America, and that all of the funding for these critical infrastructure projects will be used to create and sustain American jobs."



Rep. Napolitano discusses how transportation and infrastructure issues can help the economy

Napolitano Helps Create Jobs with Local Transportation Projects



New Metro stops are creating jobs and improving transit

- **Alameda Corridor East.** Helped secure \$217 million in federal funds to remove railroad crossings and build tunnels and bridges that keep railways separate from our streets. These projects mean more construction jobs, fewer accidents, less traffic congestion and less pollution.
- **Metro Gold Line.** Helped secure the \$735 million needed to expand the Gold line, which Metro expects to create 6,900 jobs.
- **Electric Buses.** Secured \$10 million for new, American made, rechargeable electric buses for the San Gabriel Valley.
- **Foothill Transit.** \$7.8 million for the new Industry Park & Ride facility currently under construction.
- **I 57-60 Confluence Project.** Federal funds to help improve safety and congestion where freeways meet.
- **National Transportation Bill.** Supports a fully-funded national transportation bill to put people back to work building roads, railways, airports, and infrastructure in California and across the country.

Napolitano Fights to Protect Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid

Rep. Grace F. Napolitano has fought to protect Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid benefits during the recent debates on budget cuts in Washington, D.C.

"Seniors and working families are still struggling in this economy, and we cannot afford to make deep cuts to the Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security benefits they rely on," she said. Napolitano has:

- Voted against turning Medicare into a voucher program
- Voted against the debt-ceiling package that could cut Medicare
- Voted to boost Medicaid funding for families and seniors
- Voted for a cost-of-living-adjustment payment for Social Security
- Joined 46 other Members of Congress on a letter pledging to protect Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid benefits from cuts

Napolitano Hosts Job Fair



Napolitano's job fair offered assistance to job-seekers

Rep. Grace F. Napolitano hosted a free job fair with Norwalk EDD and 95+ employers to help veterans and the unemployed. More than 500 people from the San Gabriel Valley came for job interviews, resume workshops, free haircuts, and health screenings.

"I just graduated from college and it's hard for me to get a job," said Carlton, a fair attendee. "This is a great event, a lot of companies out here – so far so good." "We must do everything we can to assist the many qualified and hard-working people who are out of work in this economy," Napolitano said.

🏠 Help with Housing 🏠

UPDATE: The Home Affordable Refinance Program recently made it easier for struggling homeowners to refinance their mortgages at lower rates - visit www.makinghomeaffordable.gov to learn if you might be able to apply for your home.

Napolitano's Youth Suicide Prevention Program Celebrates 10 Years



Napolitano discusses mental health issues and local education with one of her constituents

Rep. Grace F. Napolitano celebrated the ten-year anniversary of Pacific Clinics' Youth Suicide Prevention Program with local students, families, and students. Napolitano helped start the program with federal funding in 2001, and has supported it throughout its expansion into 15 local schools over the last ten years.

"For ten years, this program has provided critical care and healing for many students and their families," Napolitano said.

The program works by partnering local school districts with Pacific Clinics to put on-site mental health professionals in the schools, where they can assist students, make family visits to the home, and raise awareness about mental health issues.

"My experience was life changing. I learned to focus on the good things in my life instead of one bad experience," said Kristina, a student. "It's the best thing I ever did." Visit www.napolitano.house.gov and click "Mental Health in Schools Act."

Hoover Dam Bill Powers Local Cities



Napolitano's Hoover Dam bill determines how the power from the dam is distributed across the West

On Dec. 7, Congress passed Napolitano's Hoover Power Allocation Act, which ensures that many local cities like Azusa, Pasadena, and Los Angeles will continue to have access to the Hoover Dam's low-cost electricity through 2067. The bill also provides new access to power for Native American tribes and other groups that were previously excluded. "The Hoover Power Allocation Act carries on the dam's legacy of providing businesses and families across the West with clean and affordable power," Napolitano said. Visit www.napolitano.house.gov for info.

Napolitano Protects Payroll Tax Cuts and Unemployment Insurance

In recent weeks, Napolitano has pushed for continuing reduced payroll taxes and extending unemployment insurance for the millions of families still struggling in this economy.

- The payroll tax cut gives the average family \$1000 per year to put back into the economy
- Unemployment insurance money immediately goes into the economy as people spend it on necessities.
- Without the payroll tax cut and unemployment insurance, U.S. GDP could drop by half a point (according to economists at Moody's Analytics)

"Millions of people are unemployed through no fault of their own, struggling to put food on the table and looking for work," Napolitano said. "Many others are employed but have seen their savings and home values hurt by this recession. We must focus all of our attention on job creation and getting the American economy back to work."

Supporting Our Troops

New Laws to Assist Troops

Thousands of our troops are coming home from Iraq to their families. Napolitano has voted to support our troops and assist our heroes:

- **Vow to Hire Heroes Act** (HR 2433). Employers will now receive up to \$9,600 in tax credits for hiring a veteran, depending on how long the veteran has been unemployed.
- **Improving Veterans Healthcare** (HR 3288, 111th). Veterans Administration hospitals received increased funding and improved mental health services.
- **Pay Raises for Active Duty Soldiers** (HR 2647, 111th). Troops received a 3.5% raise in 2008, a 3.9% raise in 2009, and a 3.4% raise in 2010.
- **Stop-Loss Pay for Extra Tours** (HR 2346, 111th). Troops and veterans received \$500 for every extra month they served under stop-loss orders since 2001.

Napolitano continues to push for increased benefits for our veterans. Visit www.va.gov for more information.



Assistance for Military Spouses

The Veterans Administration is offering new resources to help military families as their vets adjust to civilian life. Visit www.caregiver.va.gov or call 1-855-260-3274 for information and assistance, i.e. phone counseling and advice on family stress, PTSD, TBI, and other issues.

Resources for Returning Vets

Here are some resources our returning veterans and their families can use to readjust to civilian life:



- "Coaching into Care" is a new program to help family and friends assist veterans who may have post-traumatic stress or other mental health issues. Call 1-888-823-7458 or visit www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching/ to receive expert assistance.
- "Feds Hire Vets" is a policy that gives veterans priority for government jobs. Visit www.fedshire-vets.gov about how to get jobs with "veterans preference."
- "Post-9/11 GI Bill" and the "Montgomery GI Bill" are two options to help veterans pay for college. Visit www.gibill.va.gov for more info.
- VA Home Loans can help veterans buy or refinance a home - visit www.homeloans.va.gov
- Housing and job training are available for homeless vets - go to www.va.gov/homeless for info
- Medical treatment and benefits are available. Visit www.vba.va.gov for general info, or call Rep. Napolitano's office at (562) 801-2134 for help if you have a case open with the Veterans Administration.
- Post-Traumatic Stress can be an issue for many vets. Call 1-800-342-9647 or visit www.ptsd.va.gov for free assistance.

Napolitano Secures Medical Benefits for Woman Affected by Agent Orange

Vietnam vet Henry Meraz appealed to Rep. Napolitano for assistance: he had been exposed to the toxic chemical used by the Army known as Agent Orange during his service, and the side-effects of this exposure had been passed down to his daughter when she was born. She had developed serious health problems and was confined to a wheelchair. After months of working with the Veterans Administration, Napolitano and her staff secured monthly financial benefits to help Henry's daughter. "It means a lot to me, because now I know she will be taken care of," Meraz said. Visit napolitano.house.gov for more info about what kinds of problems with federal agencies Napolitano can help you with.



Rep. Napolitano discusses veterans issues with Mr. and Mrs. Meraz

Napolitano Teams Up with L.A. Band Ozomatli on Mental Health



Rep. Napolitano and Ozomatli discuss mental health issues with Cerritos College Students

Rep. Grace Napolitano invited widely-acclaimed L.A. band Ozomatli to Cerritos College for a discussion about mental health and the college's mental health worker job training program.

"Dealing with all of the challenges in life is not something we should have to do on our own. Ozomatli has been successful for 15 years largely because of group therapy," said singer Raul Pacheco.

Napolitano supports youth access to mental health services, since 1 out of 5 young people suffer from a mental health issue. The stigma surrounding mental health prevents many from seeking help, but celebrities like Ozomatli can show it is ok to ask for help. Visit napolitano.house.gov for info

2011 Women of the Year

Honored by Rep. Napolitano for extraordinary volunteer service to the community

Reverend Jan Chase, City of Pomona * **Belen Chavez**, Pio Pico Women's Club * **Marilyn Curtis**, Foster Grandparent Program/SYCRCC * **Jazmin Garcia**, East Los Angeles Residents Association * **Mary Eva Gomez**, St. Hilary Church * **Marian Guerrero**, LA CADA * **Irma Hernandez**, Happy Years Senior Club * **Lihua Huang-Brawley**, Fo Guang Shan Hsi Lai Temple * **Yumei Lu**, Buddha's Light Hsi Lai School * **Monica Malooly**, St. Joseph Elementary School * **Patricia Martin**, Norwalk Presbyterian Women * **Rocio Ortega**, Garfield High School Army JROTC * **Marie Osenenko**, Silver Years Club * **Laura Ramirez**, Eastmont Community Center * **Mary Sabin**, Pico Rivera Department of Parks and Recreation * **Irma Schub**, Greater La Puente Valley Meals on Wheels * **Rosemary Shannon**, Soroptimist International of Norwalk Inc. * **Suzana Tapia**, City of Pico Rivera * **Ana Valencia**, Norwalk Lions Club * **Dede Vidales**, Garfield Alumni Foundation Inc. * **Angelina Waites**, Palomares Community Center

Advocate Ron Zaleski Walks Across USA for Vets Mental Health



Ron Zaleski

Vietnam vet and advocate Ron Zaleski walked hundreds of miles across the country to Washington, D.C. to draw attention to veterans mental health. He went barefoot, visiting with military families who have lost children to suicide along the way. Napolitano met him as Co-Chair of the Congressional Mental Health Caucus and congratulated him on his dedication. The need for more mental health services for our homecoming vets is great -18 veterans die by suicide each day.

Napolitano Holds Citizenship Fair

Napolitano hosted an immigration fair to assist 160+ local San Gabriel Valley residents with the legal immigration/naturalization process. "America is a nation of immigrants. If you work hard and play by the rules, you can join the long tradition of Americans who immigrated here and helped make this country great," Napolitano said. Visit www.napolitano.house.gov for info



Constituents learning about citizenship process

Free Export Fair Helps Local Businesses Create Jobs



Napolitano's fair gave expert advice to local businesses

Rep. Napolitano held a free business export workshop with the City of Pico Rivera and the Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce to show business people how to increase international sales and create jobs. "These federal experts can help our businesses increase their revenues and create new employment," Napolitano said.

"One of the ways we can create jobs is by exporting our products worldwide," said Philip Ramos Jr., CEO of Santa Fe Spring's Philatron International Inc. "This is a much-needed event because it helps us do that."

Updates from Congress

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PRSRT STD

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Constituent Services Guide

WE CAN HELP WITH:

- **Academy Nominations:** Students interested in an appointment to U.S. military academies should contact us their freshman year of high school or as soon as possible.
- **Flags:** Purchase an American Flag flown over the U.S. Capitol, on a specific day, if given two weeks notice.
- **Immigration/Naturalization:** Assistance with visas, work permits, legal residency and naturalization.
- **IRS:** Help with difficult tax problems and obtaining copies of old tax returns.
- **Military:** Assist active personnel with hardship discharge, extension of leave, compassionate reassignment, and medals.
- **Passports:** Expediting the passport process.
- **Presidential Greetings:** Presidential greetings for your event must be requested at least one month prior.
- **Seniors:** Assistance with Medicare, Social Security, disability, and Supplemental Security Income issues.
- **Small Business:** Guidance with SBA loans, government contract opportunities, seminars and information.
- **Veterans:** Information about VA hospitals, pensions, benefits, education, home loans and military records.
- **Capitol Tours:** Help plan your trip to Washington, D.C. **Call at least 6 months in advance for a White House tour.**
- **Workers' Comp:** Assistance with Office of Workers' Comp. claims

Visit www.napolitano.house.gov or call (562) 801-2134

Mark Ballas of *Dancing with the Stars* Helps with Mental Health in Schools Act



Mark Ballas

Napolitano is pleased to welcome dancer and singer Mark Ballas as the newest member of her Mental Health in Schools Act Task Force. Mark lost his Uncle David to suicide and advocates for mental health through his Ballas Foundation. Ballas will lend his star power to Napolitano's efforts to pass H.R. 751, the Mental Health in Schools Act, which provides grant funding for hundreds of schools across the country to establish mental health services for their students. www.napolitano.house.gov

Rep. Napolitano's Constituent Survey

- What do you think is...
 - the most critical issue facing America? _____
 - an issue that deserves more attention? _____
 - the more important priority, cutting deficits or creating jobs? DEFICITS JOBS OTHER: _____
 - the best way to create jobs?
 - A) Transportation & Infrastructure B) Cut taxes C) Improve education D) Remove regulations E) Other _____
 - the best way to cut the deficit?
 - A) Taxes on wealthy B) Reductions Medicare & Social Security C) Cut waste D) Create Jobs E) Other _____
 - the most important thing we can do to help small businesses create jobs?
 - A) Tax credits B) Lower healthcare costs C) Access to credit D) Improve economy to boost demand E) Other _____

Please mail survey to: Rep. Grace Napolitano, 1610 Longworth Office Building, Washington, DC, 20515
OR fill out online survey at www.napolitano.house.gov
EMAIL ADDRESS - write below to receive poll results, e-news, and other updates:

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