

CARTER COURIER

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LETTER FROM THE CONGRESSMAN

Dear Friends,

Last week the House passed the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, The Judiciary, and District of Columbia Appropriations bill by a vote of 406-22. Included in this bill are a number of important transportation projects that are critical to the economic development of communities throughout Central Texas. Improved transportation systems help ease congestion, providing more direct and easier access to retail businesses and residential neighborhoods. It also allows for additional job growth in the region.

We also passed a Resolution expressing support for our troops and confidence that we will win the Global War on Terror and the war in Iraq.

This week we will consider a line-item veto bill that will help efforts to rein in wasteful spending, exercise fiscal restraint, and ensure that Congress spends taxpayer dollars wisely.

The House will also continue to demonstrate support for our troops with the Fiscal Year 2007 Department of Defense appropriations bill. Additionally, we will commend the Patriot Guard Riders for their efforts to protect mourning military families from funeral protesters.

Until next week,

HOUSE REAFFIRMS: THE U.S. WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

This week the House approved H.Res. 861, a resolution declaring that “the United States will prevail in the Global War on Terror.” The resolution gave House members an opportunity to highlight the recent successes in the war on terror—the formation of a full Iraqi government and the death of al-Qaeda’s most-wanted leader in Iraq, Abu-Musab al-Zarqawi.

Our service men and women are answering the call to defend our freedom and to bring freedom to others. I am proud to support this resolution which makes clear the determination of the American people in protecting our freedom from our terrorist enemies.

The continued progress in Iraq is evident in the recent successes such as the death of terrorist leader Al-Zarqawi and the completion of the new Iraqi government. The dedication of our American troops in providing the tools for the Iraqi people to establish a united, free, and sovereign Iraq must be recognized and applauded. I continue to support our troops and their unwavering commitment to eliminating terrorists and advancing freedom and democracy.

H.Res. 861 states, among other things, that: “It is essential to the security of the American people and to world security that the United States, together with its allies, take the battle to the terrorists and to those who provide them assis-

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tance.”

“The steadfast resolve of the United States and its partners since September 11, 2001, helped persuade the government of Libya to surrender its weapons of mass destruction.”

“It is not in the national security interest of the United States to set an arbitrary date for the withdrawal or redeployment of United States Armed Forces from Iraq.”

Further, the resolution “calls upon the nations of the world to promote global peace and security by standing with the United States and other Coalition partners to support the efforts of the Iraqi and Afghan people to live in freedom.”

While I was unable to cast a recorded vote due to an unexpected family emergency in Texas, I had intended to vote in favor of this important Resolution.

CONG. CARTER HONORED WITH SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE AWARD



I was honored to be recognized by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce with the “Spirit of Enterprise” award for my support of pro-economic growth initiatives in the first session of the 109th Congress. I was pleased to receive the award during a recent luncheon ceremony hosted by the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce.

It is my hope that, with the help of important legislation, American businesses and workers will continue to work together to promote economic growth and opportunity.

Pictured left to right: John Gonzales (U.S. Chamber of Commerce regional representative), Congressman John Carter, and Eric Fox (Lockheed-Martin).

EXPANDING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Expanding access to quality education and healthcare is important to our nation’s future. In the next several days, the House will be considering legislation that will fund education and healthcare initiatives in the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.

The U.S. health care system is experiencing problems that are making it harder for Americans to afford health insurance. It is important that we strengthen our country’s health care infrastructure, so quality healthcare can be provided in rural communities and underserved areas, such as those found in Central Texas.

Community Health Centers play an important part in expanding health care opportunities for our nation’s rural and medically underserved communities. This bill provides significant funding for these non-profit health care facilities that offer a wide range of primary care services, regardless of a patients’ ability to pay. They are also required to meet a number of performance and accountability requirements, ensuring that quality health services are provided. By expanding access to community health centers, we can ensure that more individuals are receiving the medical care that they need.

There are more than 1,000 health care centers in the U.S. that serve more than 15 million people in over 3,600 communities. These centers truly contribute to the overall well-being of their communities by keeping children healthy and in school and helping adults remain productive and on the job.

We are facing a shortage of health care professionals throughout rural areas of the country. This bill restores devastating cuts to critical programs that improve the availability of well-trained health care professionals to underserved areas. This bill funds programs that provide Scholarships to disadvantaged students, and provides support for graduate level medical programs. Further, we have provided increased funding for medical research at the National Institutes of Health.

Expanding access to quality education is another priority that we have funded through this important legislation. By giving our children access to education, we are providing an opportunity for them to fully participate in the American Dream.

The Pell Grant Program has been successful in allowing more families to afford higher education. The bill increases the maximum Pell Grant award to \$4150, the highest level in the history of the program. This will allow more high-achieving students to afford a post-secondary education.

We have also ensured that the same tuition standard applies to citizens and illegal im-



migrants. This bill upholds the current law that prohibits schools from using federal funds to provide in-state tuition breaks to illegal immigrants when they won't provide that same rate to citizens who reside in another state.

We have also provided support for American Competitiveness programs, which increase the number of teachers and students who excel in the math and sciences. Vocational education grants have also been funded so our students are equipped with the high tech skills needed to succeed. All of these programs have proven to help our country to remain competitive in the global market in the 21st Century.

This competitiveness begins in the classroom. Our teachers should be commended for their dedication to the wellbeing of our nation's children. This bill supports programs that provide incentives to teachers and principals who raise student achievement in some of our Nation's highest-need schools.

School districts in Central Texas that have experienced increased enrollment and costs associated with children who live on Fort Hood have received critical federal assistance through the Impact Aid program. We have ensured that this important program will once again receive the funding that it needs to operate successfully in our District and throughout the country.

As your Representative, and a member of the Appropriations Committee, I will remain committed to funding important programs that support the well-being of Americans.

CARTER SECURES DISASTER FUNDING FOR TEXAS IN EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL

Last week, the House passed the Emergency Supplemental bill. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I was pleased to play a role in ensuring that language was included in the Emergency Supplemental that will benefit Texas. This language directs FEMA to equally reimburse all counties or parishes that are receiving reimbursement from the Disaster Relief Fund for recovery expenses as a result of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

The Southeast Texas coast suffered billions in damages at the hand of Hurricane Rita, and many communities throughout Texas are still struggling to recover. By securing equal rates of compensation for disaster recovery efforts, communities throughout Texas have been helped. During difficult times of rebuilding, all areas that suffer devastating damage should be equally supported.

In the recovery efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Louisiana was required to pay only 10 percent of the cost, while Texas was responsible for 25 percent of expenses incurred. This language clarifies that all counties and parishes declared a major disaster as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita will receive the same percentage of federal assistance.

JUNE IS HOME SAFETY MONTH

June is Home Safety Month, and this year's theme is Hands On Home Safety. According to the Home Safety Council, nearly 20 percent of deaths and 21 million medical visits are caused by unintentional injuries occurring inside the home.

Below are some simple steps suggested by the Council to help minimize the risk from potential injuries, or even death.

Fires/Burns:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home and in or near all bedrooms, and test the batteries at least once a month so you'll know they are working.
- Plan a home fire drill and practice it at least twice a year. Memorize the fire department's emergency telephone number.
- Use safety covers in electrical outlets and anti-scald devices in faucets in homes with young children.

Falls:

- Make sure all porches, hallways and stairwells are well lit. Use the maximum safe wattage in light fixtures. (Maximum wattage is typically posted inside light fixtures.)
- Use a non-slip mat, or install strips or decals in bathtubs and showers.
- Install grab bars in bath and shower stalls.

Poisonings:

- Keep medicines and household chemicals and cleaners up high, out of the reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Install a carbon monoxide detector near sleeping areas in the home.
- Put your poison control center number (1.800.222.1222) near every phone.

For additional information on how you can protect yourself and your family, you may click on the Home Safety Council button on my website, at <http://carter.house.gov>.



Kids' Page

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

History of the Pledge:

On June 22, 1942, Congress officially recognized the Pledge of Allegiance. The U.S. Code states that when delivering the Pledge of Allegiance, all must be standing at attention, facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. It also states that men not in uniform should remove any nonreligious head-dress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

The Pledge:

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and Justice for all.”

The U.S. Flag:

The flag has 13 horizontal stripes-7 red and 6 white. The 13 stripes signify the original Thirteen Colonies.

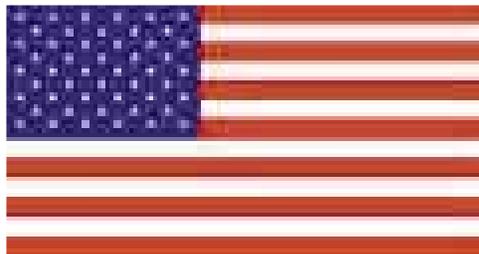
The number of stars equals the number of States in the Union, with stars being added to the blue field on the 4th of July following each state's date of admission to the Union. Today there are 50 stars on the U.S. Flag.

While the flag's colors did not have a specific meaning at the time, the colors were significant for the Great Seal of 1782.

White: Signifies purity and innocence

Red: Signifies valor and bravery

Blue: Signifies Vigilance, perseverance, and justice



If you would like to order a U.S. Flag that has flown over the U.S. Capitol building, visit: <http://carter.house.gov/Forms/FlagRequest/> or call 202-225-3864.

Color the President



Franklin D. Roosevelt

Presidential Number: 32nd

Years he was President: 1933-1945

State Represented: New York

Party Affiliation: Democrat

Fact(s): Led during Depression and World War II. First president to ride in an airplane while president.

Personal

Birthday: January 30, 1882

How old would he be this year? 124

School(s) attended: Harvard University, Columbia Law School

Wife: Eleanor Roosevelt

Occupation(s) before he was President:

Lawyer

Other way(s) he served: Governor of New York, Assistant Secretary of the Navy

Height: 6 feet, 2 inches

Favorite Foods: Pancakes, fish, cabbage, sweet potatoes with toasted marshmallows

Hobbies or Sports: Sailing, stamp collecting, swimming

Pets: Dog, a Scottish Terrier named Fala

Life in America

How would he have traveled? Airplane, Car

How would he have communicated with his friends?

Telephone, letters

U.S. Population when term began: 122,775,046

Number of stars on flag when he left office: 48