

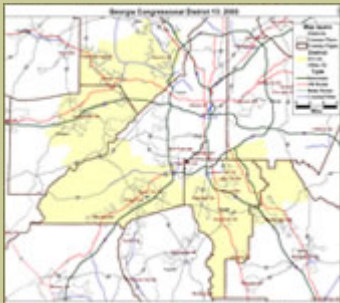


## NewsLETTER

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## 13<sup>th</sup>DISTRICT



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# 13<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT UPDATE

## TOP NEWS:

### **Congressman Scott remembering Pearl Harbor** *December 7*

Congressman David Scott released the following statement regarding the 66th Anniversary of the Japanese attack on the U.S. military installation at Pearl Harbor.

"On this 66th year after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, we pause as a nation to remember our heroes who fought, suffered and died in battle during this and every other battle of World War II. On this day in 1941, our nation suffered staggering losses; with over 2,400 servicemen and women killed, another 1,200 wounded, over 320 aircrafts destroyed or damaged and all eight U.S. battleships in Pearl Harbor sunk or seriously damaged. For the many losses suffered on this day, December 7, 1941, will forever remain a date which will live in infamy.

"The brave and courageous members of our Armed Forces who died and fought at Pearl Harbor deserve to be honored for their sacrifices. This important day in American history is an opportunity for Americans to reflect on the sacrifices that our servicemen and women have made in defense of American freedom and a reminder that our veteran's deserve the best care and treatment possible.

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### **Congressman David Scott supports the 'Do-not-call' Improvement Act of 2007** *December 12*

Today Congressman David Scott issued the following statement regarding the 'Do-not-call' Improvement Act of 2007. With the support of Congressman Scott, H.R.3541 passed the House of Representatives.

**"This bill will eliminate the current expiration date for telephone numbers currently on the 'do-not-call' list and work to protect the rights of families. When a family makes the decision to be placed on the 'do-not-call' list, it is not a decision that should have to be reviewed every 5 years, but a decision made to protect quality time in each household. It is a conscious choice to eat dinner with family and friends in peace and a conscious choice to help their children with homework without the constant interruption of the telephone ringing. This is a decision made to keep the peacefulness of their home intact and this bill ensures that once this decision is made, it is permanent.**

**I strongly support and understand the importance of uninterrupted family time, which is why I chose to vote in favor of the passage of this legislation."**

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## **Scott vows to continue fight for PeachCare** *December 13*

Just as the President vetoed the first Children's Health bill; he again vetoed the second bill, which would have provided 10 million American children health coverage. This veto was the President's 7th veto in 7 years and is one of two vetoes denying millions of our nation's children access to healthcare. The President's decision to veto the second bill came after painstaking negotiations and revisions to meet several concerns raised, including enrolling lower-income children first and ensuring benefits are denied to illegal immigrants. The second bill passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 265 to 142, passed the Senate by a veto-proof margin of 64 to 30 and is supported by 270 organizations representing millions of Americans.

**"The President's decision to veto the second SCHIP bill is simply unconscionable. Georgia's children deserve healthcare and are suffering at the hands of an administration that continues to work against negotiation for a strong bill,"** Congressman Scott said.

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## **Bill by Congressman David Scott on the President's desk** *December 18*

Today, the Senate passed H.R. 3703 without amendment by unanimous consent. This measure was introduced by Congressman Scott to address some discrepancies in the current law regarding the new presidential dollar coins.

**"Even as the new dollar coin is an exciting new form of currency for America, I want to ensure that the beverage and food vending services industry is not faced with dispensing issues,"** Congressman Scott said. **"Changing all vending machines to comply with the new coin would cost millions of dollars. To address this issue, I introduced legislation, H.R. 3703, which would address the federal property dollar coin dispensing issue and would provide an exemption for machines that only accept currency up to \$1.00 bills."**

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## **Congressman Scott praises passage of Court Security Improvement Act** *December 19*

Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 660, the Court Security Improvement Act, which will further strengthen security measures for our nation's courts.

**"In light of the 2005 deaths of three court officials at the Fulton County Courthouse, we must become more vigilant to the security of the men and women who facilitate court proceedings and ensure the rule of law in our country,"** Congressman Scott said.

**"With the passage of this bill, we are taking the necessary steps to protect our judicial system's public servants from threats, intimidation and harm. I am particularly pleased this legislation bans not only firearms, but any dangerous weapon from courthouses. The bill also increases penalties against individuals who threaten officials and witnesses or file false liens against court officials as a means of harassment."**

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## **Representative Scott applauds increased funding for domestic priorities** *December 20*

Wednesday, December 19, 2007, the U.S. House of Representatives approved the final version of the FY2008 federal budget by a vote of 272 to 142. This appropriations bill would fund all agencies of the federal government at a level of \$933 billion, with the exception of the Department of Defense, and thus avoid the possibility of a government shutdown caused by President Bush's threat to veto a larger bill. The President is expected to sign the bill into law sometime in the next several days.

**Congressman Scott stated, "It is unfortunate that the President once again decided to ignore the needs of his own people, and instead use the power of his position to strong-arm the U.S. Congress into doing his will. However, even with his constant political posturing and the lower than desired overall funding level for this bill, Democrats were able to restore some of the President's harmful cuts to domestic programs. We even managed to increase spending on many programs that have been ignored in the past. For example we were able to enact the largest increase in funding for veteran's healthcare in the nation's history; a valuable investment in improving the lives of those who fought for our country. So while this bill is not ideal by any means, it does represent a return to focusing on the needs of the American people."**

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### **In Other News:**

#### **Scott opposes Bush's mortgage relief plan** *December 27*

U.S. Rep. David Scott (D-Georgia) said that Bush's proposal offered a lot of things, but is ultimately, "inadequate."

"In this mortgage crisis, we have to make sure that people stay in their homes," said Scott. "In order to do that, we have to require that, before any of these folks can foreclose on these people ... that they are required to restructure that loan."

Scott said that, last month, Congress passed a predatory lending bill which introduced a toll-free phone number (1-888-995-HOPE) that homeowners at risk of foreclosure can call for advice

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#### **Scott announces district-wide High School Congressional Art Competition** *For more information contact the Jonesboro District Office at 770-210-5073.*

Congressman David Scott will participate in the 27th annual High School Congressional Art Competition. High school student constituents of the 13th Congressional District are invited to submit art work for the competition.

The Congressional Art Competition was created in 1982 as a way to showcase the artistic talents of young people throughout the country. To date hundreds of thousands of high school students from around the nation have been able to participate at the local level. The winning entries from last year's successful competition currently hang in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol.

Students may obtain entry packets from their high school Art Teachers. All entries must be delivered to the 13th Congressional District Office, located at 173 N. Main Street in Jonesboro, no later than Friday, February 22, 2008.

## **Scott informs constituents of mandatory analog to digital television transition taking place February 19, 2009**

On February 19, 2009 all consumers who currently use antennas to receive analog television signals will be required to buy a digital-to-analog converter box in order to continue using their analog television sets. Other options include acquiring a digital television or an analog television equipped with a digital tuner or subscribing to cable, satellite or your local telephone company's television service.

Currently the National Telecommunications and Information Administration of the Department of Commerce and the Federal Communications Commission are working to make this transition as smooth as possible. Congress has set aside \$1.5 billion for a coupon program to help analog television owners in purchasing a conversion box for older televisions that may not work after the switch from analog to digital.

To request a coupon, consumers can apply online at [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov) or call the 24 hour hotline at 1-888-DTV-2009.

## **Congressman Scott announces 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2008 Town Hall Meetings** *For more information contact the Smyrna District Office at 770-432-5405*

### **Cobb County:**

*Saturday, February 2, 2008 – Ford Center  
4481 Atlanta St., Powder Springs, GA 30127  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, February 2, 2008 – Smyrna City Hall  
2800 King Street, Smyrna, GA 30081  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, February 9, 2008 – Collar Community Center  
2625 Joe Jerkins Boulevard, Austell, GA 30106  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

### **Douglas County:**

*Saturday, February 9, 2008 – Douglas County Courthouse  
8700 Hospital Drive, Douglasville, GA 30134  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

### **Henry County:**

*Saturday, March 8, 2008 – Stockbridge City Hall  
4545 North Henry Blvd., Stockbridge, GA 30281  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

### **South Fulton:**

*Saturday, March 1, 2008 – Cliftdale Community Center  
4645 Butner Rd., College Park, Georgia 30349  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, March 1, 2008 – McNair Middle School  
2800 Burdett Rd., Atlanta, GA 30349  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, March 8, 2008 – Union City, City Hall  
5047 Union Street, Union City, GA 30291  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

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## What's Happening in Congress?

### Currently on the House Floor

Keep track of the latest developments and votes on legislation being considered in the House.

⇒ [Current Proceedings](#)

### Weekly Senate Schedule

See what bills and what amendments will be discussed in the Senate this week, courtesy of the Senate's official website.

⇒ [Senate Calendar](#)

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## Legislative News:

### Recent Votes by Congressman Scott:

⇒ **H.R. 4040 – Consumer Product Safety Modernization Act**

Makes any children's consumer product containing more than specified amounts of lead a banned hazardous substance under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act. Lowers the lead level at which paint is a banned hazardous product under the Consumer Product Safety Act. Requires independent third party testing of children's products. Provides for a variety of measures to facilitate identifying a product's source, intermediate parties, and end user.

⇒ **DS voted FOR H.R. 4040; H.R. 4040 passed 407-0 (12-19-07)**

⇒ **H.R. 3996 – Tax Increase Prevention Act**

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to extend through 2007 for individual taxpayers: (1) the increased alternative minimum tax (AMT) exemption amounts; and (2) the offset of nonrefundable personal tax credits against regular and AMT liability.

⇒ **DS voted FOR H.R. 3996; H.R. 3996 passed 352-64 (12-19-07)**

⇒ **H.R. 6 – Energy Independence and Security Act**

Reduces our dependence on foreign oil, reduces global warming, and lowers energy costs for consumers by taking such steps as raising the CAFÉ standards for the first time in 32 years, providing new energy efficiency standards, and making an historic commitment to American-grown biofuels.

⇒ **DS voted FOR H.R. 6; H.R. 6 passed the House 314-100(12-18-07)**

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