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13th DISTRICT UPDATE

TOP NEWS:

Congressman Scott Shares the Details of the Economic Stimulus Plan *February 7*

Last week the Senate joined the House in support of the bipartisan economic stimulus plan to help hardworking Americans struggling to afford the high costs of energy, health care, gas, mortgage payments and other necessities. The bipartisan stimulus plan will put hundreds of dollars back into the hands of more than 130 million American families to promote economic growth in our slowing economy and create jobs.

The measure sent to President Bush includes:

- **Tax cuts for More than 130 Million Families.**
- **Unprecedented Tax Relief for Low-Income Working Families.**
- **Rebates for 20 Million Additional Seniors and 250,000 Disabled Veterans.**
- **Tax Fairness and Targeted Rebates.**
- **Safeguards that ensure that Undocumented Workers Cannot Receive Rebates.**
- **Helping Families Avoid Foreclosure.**
- **Encouraging Business Investment.**

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Scott Praises Passage of Higher Education Bill *Scott's Legislation included as Amendment February 7*

Today the U.S. House of Representatives passed the H.R. 4137, the College Opportunity and Affordability Act by a vote of 354-58. Included in H.R. 4137 is legislation introduced by Congressman Scott - the **John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Act of 2007** (H.R. 916) - which passed the House on May 15, 2007 by a 341-73 vote.

Congressman Scott praised the inclusion of his legislative language, which will encourage current and future law students to pursue a public service career following graduation from law school.

"A serious situation is emerging impacting public safety, justice, fairness and the integrity of the criminal justice system, as a severe shortage of qualified prosecutors and public defenders looms large over our entire nation," Congressman Scott said. **"In Georgia and throughout the country, the recruitment and retention of public prosecutors and defenders has been a daunting task in recent years. This is largely because crushing student debt burdens have deterred many talented law graduates from pursuing public service careers."**

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Congressman Scott Supports Clayton Youth *February 7*



Congressman David Scott and the mentors and mentees of RCR Entrepreneurship Mentoring

Congressman David Scott recently met with local leaders of the City of Morrow to discuss funding for the establishment of the first permanent Boys & Girls Club of Clayton County. Currently there are 21 full-time clubs servicing 11 counties throughout the metro Atlanta area. Bringing the Boys & Girls Club of America into Clayton County would provide access to programs and services that will empower the area youth

and provide a positive and safe environment. Mayor Milliron, City of Morrow Manager John Lampl and former State Rep. Gayle Buckner expressed their commitment to bringing this facility to Clayton County to help fill the current void for mentoring programs, leadership development, health awareness, drug prevention, job readiness skills and summer jobs and activities.

“The Boys & Girls Club of America has done a tremendous job in creating a safe environment where our children can gain access to opportunities that will help shape their future,” said Congressman Scott. **“The mentors and staff members at the Boys & Girls Clubs across metro Atlanta have been vital in helping to develop and empower our youth. I think that a Boys & Girls Club would be a wonderful addition to Clayton County and I believe that this is just what we need.”**

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Congressman Scott Recognizes One of America’s Great Leaders *February 25*

Today, Congressman David Scott honored the extraordinary service and accomplishments of Lieutenant General Russel L. Honoré, United State Army, with House Resolution 944. Lt. General Honoré retires after 37 years of dedicated service to the United States Army. This three-star general assisted in directing the deployment of 1,000 National Guard troops in New Orleans and was one of the most influential leaders in the rebuilding effort. He was successful in providing food and clothing to victims, as well as rebuilding housing in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina. He was most recently stationed in the 13th Congressional district at Fort Gillem in Forest Park, Georgia.

“Lieutenant General Honoré is one of America’s most dedicated and hardworking Generals and he has served my district in Georgia and this nation faithfully for years”, said Congressman Scott. “I commend his great service to American and honor him with this resolution for his service, loyalty, bravery and leadership.”

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In Other News:

Sunday, March 9th: "Spring Ahead" - Daylight Savings Time Begins at 2:00 a.m. *Check your smoke alarm batteries*



Mortgage Crisis Update: Congressman Scott Shares Recent Resources with Distressed Homeowners

During the peak period for interest rate resets on adjustable-rate loans many borrowers are finding it difficult to meet their new monthly payments and are in danger of foreclosure.

The Financial Services Committee continues to encourage borrowers to seek assistance before they get into serious trouble, and avert as many foreclosures as possible. The Hope Now Alliance, a joint effort involving the Homeownership Preservation Foundation, NeighborWorks America, and a consortium of mortgage lenders and servicers, has released a nationwide toll-free hotline – 1-888-995-HOPE – to help connect borrowers with assistance from independent, non-profit counselors certified by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Free counseling is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also visit www.995hope.com for assistance.

The Alliance has also released phone numbers for the individual servicing companies, and encourages borrowers with questions about their loans to contact their servicer directly.

Servicer	Hotline
Aurora Loan Services	800-550-0509
Avelo Mortgage, LLC.	866-992-8356
Bank of America	800-846-2222
Carrington Mortgage Services	800-790-9502
CitiFinancial/Citi Trust Bank	800-422-1498
CitiMortgage/Loss Mitigation	866-272-4749
CitiResidential Customer Care	800-430-5262
Countrywide Home Loans	800-669-6650
EMC Mortgage, Inc.	877-362-6631
First Horizon Home Loans	800-364-7662
GMAC/Homecomings/ResCap	800-799-9250
Home Loan Services, Inc	800-500-5022
HomeEq Servicing	888-270-6663
HSBC Consumer Lending	800-333-5848
HSBC Mortgage Services	800-365-6730
Indymac Bank	800-880-6848
JPMorgan Chase Prime Loans	800-446-8939
JPMorgan Chase Non-Prime	877-838-1882
JPMorgan Chase Default HPO Help Line	866-345-4676
Litton Loan Servicing	800-9998501
National City Mortgage Corporation	800-523-8654
National Mortgage, LLC.	888-480-2432
Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC.	877-596-8580
Option One Mortgage Corporation	888-275-2648
Saxon Mortgage Services	888-325-3502
Select Portfolio Servicing	888-818-6032
Sun Trust Mortgage, Inc.	800-443-1032
Washington Mutual, Inc.	866-926-8937
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage	877-216-8448
Wells Fargo Financial	800-275-9254
Wilshire Credit Corporation	888-917-1050

Congressman Scott Salutes the Tuskegee Airmen

Today, I honor one of America's most courageous groups of men who fought during World War II, the Tuskegee Airmen. These brave African American men refused to let discrimination topple their dreams as they fought to defend America during World War II and protect our freedom. They are nationally known for being the first group of black military airmen at a time when people believed all blacks lacked intelligence, skill, courage and patriotism.

Coming out of the Tuskegee Institute as some of the best and brightest of their programs, they went on to fight against all odds. These men were a vital part of the battles against the Luftwaffe in Austria, Hungary, Poland and Germany. They flew more than 15,000 sorties, escorted bombers in raids against enemies over Europe and North Africa, and destroyed enemy targets and supply lines in Germany. Their efforts and successes in the Air Force directly influenced President Truman's decision to desegregate the U.S. military. Due to their patriotism and valor in World War II on March 27, 2007 they received the one of the highest honors in the United States, the Congressional Gold Medal.

When people talk about the Tuskegee Airmen, it is more than just their flying. It is their extraordinary stand for courage in the face of difficulty. This month I salute the Tuskegee Airmen.

Scott Participates in Financial Services Subcommittee Hearing on Diversity in the Financial Service Industry

Today, Congressman David Scott joined Congressman Mel Watt (D-NC), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, in a subcommittee hearing on diversity in the financial services industry. This hearing focused on the employment, retention and promotion of minorities and women at all levels in the financial services sector.

Congressman Scott said, "The hearing's topic of diversity in the financial services industry is of particular interest to me for several reasons. The most important being the need to open access to capital in minority communities. America's strength is that it has always been a place of diversity, and we are proud of this fact, and this should be reflected in the workforce, in particular the financial services sector. As an entrepreneur who attended the Wharton School of Finance, I understand the unique challenges facing minorities, especially in the financial service industry."

In 2005, Members of the House Financial Services Committee, including Congressman Scott, requested that the Government Accountability Office (GAO) study diversity in the financial services industry over the last 10 years. According to the GAO report, which was released in 1996: "Between 1993 and 2004, overall diversity at the management level in the financial services industry did not change substantially, but some racial/ethnic minority groups experienced more change in representation than others."

An electronic version of the GAO report is also available at:
http://www.house.gov/banking_democrats/GAODiversityReport.pdf.

Scott Supports Career and Technical Education

Today, Congressman Scott recognized the goals and ideals of Career and Technical Education Month with the support of H.R. 930. Career and technical education remains an important area of education for individuals who may not pursue a traditional liberal arts education. This resolution (1) supports the goals and ideals of Career and Technical Education month, (2) recognizes the importance of career and

technical education in preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce in America, and (3) encourages educators, counselors, and administrators to promote career and technical education as an option to students.

Congressman Scott has previously supported funding for the Perkins Act, which provides federal funding to states for skills-based educational programs and prepares students for post-secondary education or careers in specific trades.

Congressman Scott Invites you to Show your Support for Local Students by Attending the 13th Congressional District's Annual High School Art Competition



On Saturday, March 15, Congressman Scott will host a reception at Arts Clayton Gallery, located at 136 South Main Street in Jonesboro, to recognize all participating students of the 13th Congressional District competition. Residents of the District are invited to come out to support area students and view an exhibit of the artwork submitted for the competition. Art Competition winners will be offered the following scholarships and honors:

First Place- the Art Institute of Atlanta will award a \$10,000 scholarship and Savannah College of Art and Design will offer a \$5,000 scholarship. The first-place winner will also be invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol on June 25, 2008.

Second Place- the Art Institute of Atlanta will award a \$5,000 scholarship and artwork will be displayed in Congressman Scott's Washington, DC office.

Third Place- the Art Institute of Atlanta will award a \$2,000 scholarship and artwork will be displayed in Congressman Scott's Jonesboro District office.

Honorable Mention- will receive recognition and the opportunity to have artwork displayed in Congressman Scott's Smyrna District office.

Congressman Scott's Remaining 2008 Town Hall Meetings

For more information contact the Jonesboro District Office at 770-210-5073



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

Small Business Administration Offers Free “Dollars & Sense” Workshop on Doing Business with the Federal Government

A free workshop on doing business with the Federal Government is being offered to women business owners from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on March 27th at the SBA Georgia District Office. The workshop is designed for established businesses that have been operationally for at least two years.

The workshop will cover Doing Business with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Small Business Administration loan programs, SBA's Certificate of Competency, and the Small Disadvantaged Business Certification (SDB). Small business owners will also receive instruction on CCR Marketing Tools and the agency's 8(a) Certification Program.

Pre-registration is required for the workshop. To register online, go to www.sba.gov/ga and cursor down to “Spotlight.” Click on Public Training and Seminars-Register Now! You may also email registration information to charlotte.johnson2@sba.gov. [\[click here to register\]](#)

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](#)

Legislative News:

Recent Votes by Congressman Scott:

⌘ **H.R. 4137 – College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007**

To address the rising cost of post-secondary education, H.R. 4137, the College Opportunity and Affordability Act, increases transparency to encourage more disclosure concerning the cost of tuition and related expenses, so that students can make a better-informed decision when financing their post-secondary education. Such disclosures will encourage states and universities to make an effort to reduce the cost of tuition or at least explain why costs must go up. Additionally, this measure will simplify the Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) by not only reducing the number of questions on the questionnaire but also eliminating the requirement that students must submit a FAFSA each year aid is sought, unless information has changed. The College Opportunity and Affordability Act also increases support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

⌘ **DS voted FOR H.R. 4137; H.R. 4137 passed 354-58 (2-07-2008)**

⌘ **H.R. 5140 – Recovery Rebates and Economic Stimulus for the American People Act of 2008**

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to grant tax rebates of the lesser of net income tax liability or \$600 to individual taxpayers (\$1,200 for married taxpayers filing joint returns). Allows additional rebates of \$300 for each child of an eligible taxpayer. Provides for a minimum tax rebate of \$300 (\$600 for married taxpayers filing joint returns) for taxpayers with earned income of at least \$3,000. Includes social security retirement benefits and compensation and pension benefits paid to disabled veterans

for purposes of determining income eligibility for rebates.

⌘ **DS voted FOR H.R. 5140; H.R.5140 passed 380-34 (2-07-2008)**

⌘ **H.R. 5351 – Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008**

Amends Internal Revenue Code provisions relating to renewable energy sources and energy conservation. Extends: (1) the tax credit for production of electricity from renewable resources through 2011; (2) the energy tax credit for solar energy and fuel cell property through 2016; (3) the special rule for treatment of gain from electronic transmission transactions by certain electric utilities through 2009; (4) the tax credit for residential energy efficient property expenditures through 2014; (5) the tax credit for alternative fuel vehicle refueling property expenditures through 2010; (6) the tax credit for biodiesel and renewable diesel used as fuel through 2010; (7) the tax credit for non-business energy property expenditures through 2009; and (8) the tax deduction for energy efficient commercial buildings through 2013.

⌘ **DS voted FOR H.R. 5351; H.R. 5351 passed the House 236-182 (2-27-2008)**



