



# Congresswoman LYNN WOOLSEY Reports to the 6th District

Summer 2002



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Friend,

The national trauma of the terrorist attacks of September 11 has brought tremendous change in the way we live and the way our country is governed. Attention and resources have been directed to a new set of national security priorities. Important as it is to bolster intelligence and defense, real national security cannot be achieved unless we also attend to the needs of our children and families, protect the environment, and deal with root causes of terrorism on the world stage. And while we fight against terrorism, we must not let our freedoms slip away by accepting encroachments on civil liberties.

Fighting for the issues you care about most is my #1 priority - providing for the well being of working families, protecting the environment, developing the technology to make us an energy independent country and ensuring that all of you can look forward to a secure retirement.

It is an honor to serve as your Representative in the U.S. Congress. As we work together to advance the interests of the North Bay community it is important that you share your concerns. Since mail security has increased, I have launched a new website <http://woolsey.house.gov> to make it easier for us to keep in touch. Please visit the new site to send your thoughts and to learn more about what is happening in Congress.

Sincerely,

## Striking a Balance Between Home and Work

The daily demands of modern life have made being a parent increasingly difficult. Most parents engage in a never ending struggle to balance their work lives and their home lives. That's not fair to parents, and it's not fair to children. Working families need help.

This year, I will introduce legislation to help families manage the competing demands of work and home. First, we need to help new parents by providing paid leave after the birth or adoption of a child. These early months are crucial for the development of healthy families, so we must do all we can to enable parents to invest that time in their families.

Second, we need to make the workplace more family friendly by encouraging more flexible work hours, and banning mandatory overtime. Helping parents adjust their work schedules so they can see a child off to school in the morning, or attend Parent/Teacher conferences in the afternoon can mean a world of difference in the life of the child.

Families face many challenges in the best of times. We have a moral obligation to help them meet those challenges. The future of our country depends on it.

## Staying in touch...

### Meet & Speak

Come meet with Rep. Woolsey about issues that are important to you at the Novato Unified School District Office at 1015 7th St., Room 103 in Novato from 9:00AM to noon on August 24 and at the Finley Community Center at 2060 West College Ave. in Santa Rosa on October 26 from 9:00AM to noon.

### Office Locations

#### Marin County Office

1050 Northgate Drive Suite 140  
San Rafael, Ca. 94903  
(415) 507-9554

#### Sonoma County Office

1101 College Avenue Suite 200  
Santa Rosa, Ca 95404  
(707) 542-7182

#### Washington Office

2263 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5161

### Coffee Talk

Join your Congresswoman for coffee on September 14 at the Del Mar Center House at 406000 Leeward Rd. in Sea Ranch from 9:30 AM to noon and at the Bodega Bay Grange Hall at 1370 Bodega Ave. in Bodega Bay from 2:00PM to 4:00PM.

<http://woolsey.house.gov>



# issues important to you

## Ensuring Energy Independence For a Secure Future

Ensuring an independent, secure energy future demands that we make changes now. Renewable energy and energy efficient technology must be given the attention that they deserve.

As the Ranking Member on the Science Subcommittee on Energy, I successfully fought for an increase of \$177 million in the House Energy Bill for programs to support research and development of hydrogen, geothermal,

wind, solar and biomass.

Representing the House Science Committee, I am part of a select group of congressional Members who will negotiate the differences between the House and Senate versions of the Energy Bill. I will fight to ensure that the bill retains the strong provisions I authored regarding renewable energy, energy conservation and expansion of alternative energy to meet the needs of Americans now and far

into the future.

Our security as a nation depends on our ability to break free of overseas oil resources. We must develop new sources of energy — such as hydrogen, geothermal, wind, solar and biomass — to stop our dependence on dirty, exhaustible fossil fuels, and in that way we will provide a healthy, secure future for our children.

## Lifelong Social Security for Women

The future of Social Security is on everyone's mind, but it is of particular concern to women. Women depend disproportionately on Social Security because we have traditionally been the caretakers in our society. We live longer and we make less money.

Social Security needs improvement, but the system is far from broken. Unfortunately, the Presidential Commission on Social Security suggests several changes that all include privatization.

Privatization of Social Security would be devastating to women and would risk the financial security of all retirees. That is why I am a co-sponsor of H.R. 4780, the "Rejection of Social Security Privatization Act of 2002." Private Social Security accounts cannot be relied on for lifelong security since they depend on the fluctuations of the stock market and we know for sure that Wall Street is no safe haven for future retirement income.

To provide security for senior citizens, we need a financially and structurally secure Social Security system that takes into account the reality of women's lives and provides a secure safety net for all retirees and the disabled.

## Continuing the Fight for CEDAW

On May 13, I testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). CEDAW is a United Nations treaty that serves as a powerful tool to provide a basic standard of human rights for women, so women can care for their families and provide for their children. It establishes a universal definition of discrimination against women and provides international standards to discourage such discrimination.

Since taking office in 1993, I have introduced a resolution in every Congress calling on the Senate to ratify CEDAW; the current resolution, H. Res. 18, has 119 bipartisan sponsors.

CEDAW has been ratified by 169 nations and over the past 20 years has become an important tool for nations to end human rights abuses of women and



*Rep. Woolsey urges Senate Foreign Relations Comm. to pass CEDAW.*

girls—such as those committed by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Women around the world suffer from violence, poverty and malnutrition. The root cause of this suffering is the discrimination that women face with regard to property rights, access to education, work opportunities and civil rights. The United States can help women all over the world by ratifying CEDAW.



*Rep. Woolsey discusses "The Life of A Congresswoman" with Rohnert Park middle school students visiting the Capitol.*

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2263 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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*Lynn Woolsey*  
M.C.

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**inside...** Congressional news on the Environment, Social Security, and Balancing Work and Families.

This mailing was prepared, published, and mailed at taxpayer expense.