

# Blunt facts

Your Vote In  
Washington!

December 2006

7th District Congressional Voting Record

109th Congress • 2nd Session

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## Blunt Heralds Homeland and Border Security Funding



House Majority Whip Roy Blunt voted to build a 700-mile-long fence (like the new security fence pictured left) along the border with Mexico and put new security measures in place to stem the tide of illegal immigration into the United States. President Bush signed H.R. 5441, the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act for FY07, into law in mid-October.

"The Department of Homeland Security is entrusted with the vital task of protecting Americans. Our security personnel have to be right 100 percent of the time, and the terrorists only have to be right once. The Department of Homeland Security needs to have every tool and resource available to protect us against terrorists who are determined to kill innocent Americans," he said.



The Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act also provides \$5.2 billion for the Secure Border Initiative. The Secure Border Initiative will add 1,500 new border agents and includes funding for border fencing, vehicle barriers, technology and infrastructure.

"We are at war against an enemy that has vowed to exploit our every weakness, and we must have secure borders to keep our

country safe," Blunt said.

Blunt's views on illegal immigration have remained steadfast. "When you find two feet of water in the basement, what do you do first? First, you find the source of the water and cut it off. That is why border security and stopping the flow of illegal immigrants into the United States has to be a first priority in the debate on illegal immigration," he said.

A second priority is to put in place the tools and technology employers need to ensure the people they hire are here legally to work. Employers would face severe fines for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants.

Blunt also supports detention and deportation of dangerous illegal aliens, like gang members and giving state and local law enforcement officials powers to enforcement immigration law. "Instead of 'catch and release' we need to move to 'catch and return' as our standard practice." Blunt said. The Homeland Security measure Blunt supported makes it a federal crime to construct or finance a tunnel under the U.S. border for moving illegal aliens and contraband.



"I oppose an amnesty program for the millions of immigrants who have chosen to enter the United States illegally," Blunt said. "The immigration policies we have in place have brought millions of legal immigrants to the United States who have gone through the legal naturalization process. They apply from their home country and wait their turn to complete the necessary forms and background checks to enter the US. Their path to citizenship includes learning our language, history, our constitutional form of government and economics. I believe those who seek to become citizens of the United States, but are here illegally, should return home and apply for that privilege like millions of people before them."



## Congressman Blunt's Action Plan on Gas Prices

Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt has long been active in helping craft the nation's energy policies to reduce gasoline prices and make fuels more affordable. He is a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, which reviews policies on oil, gasoline, renewable fuels, coal, nuclear and electric transmission facilities. He has been a strong advocate of research and development into new forms of technologies that provide clean, affordable and efficient energy.

Below is a recent chronology of Blunt's role in development of national energy policies:

- April 2003: Blunt votes for the Energy Policy Act of 2003 which provided a balanced approach to protecting our national security, preserving our natural resources and promoting job creation. The measure promotes the use of renewable energy and alternative fuels, modernizes electricity infrastructure and promotes clean coal technology.

- September 2004: Blunt introduces the Boutique Fuels Reduction Act of 2004. The bill caps the number of specialty blends and allows communities faced with a fuel supply shortage the ability to receive a waiver to use conventional gasoline when the shortage is due to an unforeseen circumstances.

- August 2005: Blunt votes for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which is designed to be a comprehensive framework to promote secure, affordable, and reliable energy. The Boutique Fuels Reduction Act of 2004 was incorporated in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and signed into law. This legislation became the blueprint for the EPA to grant fuel waivers due to unforeseen fuel supply problems.

- September 2005: Blunt forms the Gas Price Task Force organized in aftermath of the Gulf Coast hurricanes. The aim of the Gas Price Task Force is to find legislative solutions to the soaring price of gasoline.

- September 2005: The Gas Price Task Force presses the Federal Trade Commission and the New York Mercantile Exchange to investigate price gouging after gas prices jump 44¢ between August 29 and September

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## Blunt's Charitable Giving Plan is Law

Legislation long championed by House Majority Whip and Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt to reform the way the tax code treats charitable gifts has been signed into law by President Bush. Included in the Pension Protection Act, Blunt's Charitable Giving provisions are a comprehensive step towards empowering charities and faith-based organizations to help those in need.

"Last year, Americans opened their hearts and wallets following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to help their fellow citizens on the Gulf Coast," Blunt said. "One of the oldest traditions in this country is that of helping our neighbors. With portions of the Charitable Giving Act signed into law, our tax code will help expand charities' base of resources, so they can continue to do the good work of helping the hungry, the sick, the addicted, and the elderly."

The charitable giving provisions allow individuals to make tax-free contributions in 2006 and 2007 of up to \$100,000 per year to charity from their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) for donors older than 70.5 years old. It also provides for tax deductions for restaurants and other businesses that make donations of food inventory to food banks and pantries.



One of those donors is retired businessman and philanthropist James Leon Combs and his wife Dot, who made a maximum gift of \$100,000 to Skaggs Community Health Center in Branson. Combs said, "It's a tremendous opportunity. This chari-

table tax initiative should be made permanent. It has the potential to help many charities and give donors a new incentive to give to a charity that provides services to help those in most need." Combs continued, "Skaggs Community Health Center will get full use of the gift. I would prefer the charity received the entire amount rather than having \$40,000 of it diverted to Washington."

According to the Investment Company Institute, Americans have saved more than \$3.7 trillion in their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), which will be available, through the Blunt legislation, for tax-free contributions to charity. "These charitable giving provisions will encourage more Americans to look for ways to help, and I'm proud that our tax code will now reflect our values as Americans," Blunt said.

Another provision of the measure exempts



independent blood centers from federal excise taxes on some of their eligible costs. Community Blood Center of the Ozarks (CBCO) expects to save about \$30,000 annually due to the change in federal law sponsored by Congressman Blunt.

Two of the most crucial activities conducted by "Community Blood Centers of the Ozarks (CBCO) – mobile blood collections and tele-recruiting of donors – are subject to federal excise taxes that are not applied to the American Red Cross," according to CBCO Executive Director Don Thompson. "Congressman Blunt's accomplishment will free up critical funding to allow the organization to continue to provide blood for area patients at service fees that remain among the lowest in the nation."

# 2006 ROY'S RECORD

7th District Missouri  
Congressman Roy Blunt's  
Voting Record

109th Congress, Second Session - 2006

## Glossary Of Terms

### KEY:

Yes=Votes in Favor No=Votes Against

\*= Super majority required on suspension bills and constitutional amendments

**Amendment** - A proposal from a member of Congress to alter the language, provisions, or stipulations in a bill or in another amendment. It is usually printed, debated, and voted upon in the same way as a bill.

**Appropriations** - Legislation which provides the spending authority approved by authorization bills but not necessarily the full amount authorized. There are 13 annual appropriation bills for each fiscal year which begin on October 1.

**Authorization** - Basic legislation that establishes or continues (reauthorization) the legal operation of federal program or agency, either indefinitely or for a specific time period, or which sanctions a particular type of obligation or expenditure.

**Bill** - A legislative proposal, designated as "HR" in the House of Representative or "S" in the Senate, followed by a number assigned to the order in which it was introduced during the two-year session of a Congress. A bill becomes a law if it is approved by both House and Senate in identical form and language and signed by the president or a president's veto is overridden by a two-thirds vote in both the House and Senate.

**Concurrent Resolution** - A resolution, designated as House Concurrent Resolution ("H Con Res") often used to express the "sense of Congress" on various domestic or foreign policy issues. Concurrent resolutions differ from bills as they neither require nor are intended for approval by the president and, therefore, do not have the full force of law.

**Conference Report** - The product of a meeting ("conference") between designated representatives of the House and Senate to reconcile differences between the two chambers over provisions of a bill or joint resolution passed by both chambers in different forms or language. No bill or joint resolution can be sent to the president unless both chambers of Congress have approved common language ("conference report") on the measure.

**Continuing Resolution** - A bill which provides appropriations for specific ongoing activities of federal agencies when a fiscal year begins and Congress has not yet enacted the regular appropriations bill for the full fiscal year.

**Joint Resolution** - A resolution designated House Joint Resolution ("HJRes") or Senate Joint Resolution ("SJRes") followed by a number assigned in the order in which it was introduced during the two year session in which a particular congress is convened. If approved by both chambers in identical form and signed by the president, it becomes a law (just as a bill). A joint resolution is generally limited to special circumstances and is also used to propose amendments to the Constitution. Under that purpose, it does not require presidential signature and becomes part of the Constitution if three-fourths of the states ratify or approve it.

This is the 10th Edition of all recorded votes cast by Roy Blunt and covers the periods in late October 2005 at the end of the First Session (page 12) of the 109th Congress and January through early December 2006 in the Second Session of the 109th Congress (starting on page 2).

Each recorded vote includes the roll call number, date of the vote, title of the bill, a brief explanation of the measure, Roy's vote, and whether the bill passed or failed, along with the total House vote. Votes on 361 substantive bills, amendments, and resolutions are presented here in chronological order, but procedural votes such as rules, quorum calls, journal approvals and motions to adjourn are excluded for the sake of brevity.

### Roy's Record

#### 109th Congress, Second Session, 2006

- ★ **3** 2/1/06 **H. Res. 648** Amending House rules and barring former House members and officers who are registered lobbyists or registered agents of a foreign power from the House floor, the rooms leading to the House chamber and the members' gym. **YES Passed\* 379-50**
- ★ **4** 2/1/06 **S. 1932** Self-executing rule (H Res 653) under which the House would automatically concur in the Senate amendment to the House amendment on the bill that would make changes to programs for a net savings of \$38.8 billion over five years. The Senate amendment strikes two reporting provisions and language that would allow for a Medicaid liability treatment provision regarding hospitals who deny treatment to low-income individuals unable to pay. **YES Passed 216-214**
- ★ **5** 2/8/06 **H. Res. 670** Congratulating the Pittsburgh Steelers of the National Football League on winning Super Bowl XL. **YES Passed\* 384-0**
- ★ **6** 2/8/06 **H. Res. 657** Expressing the support of the House for the goals of Catholic Schools Week and congratulating Catholic schools, students and parents for their on-going contributions to education. **YES Passed\* 392-0**
- ★ **8** 2/14/06 **H. Con. Res. 322** Expressing the gratitude of Congress to the United Service Organizations (USO) on its 65th anniversary. **YES Passed\* 407-0**
- ★ **9** 2/14/06 **S. 1989** Designating a post office in Cranston, R.I., for Holly A. Charette, a member of the Marine Corps killed in Iraq. **YES Passed\* 408-0**
- ★ **10** 2/15/06 **S. Con. Res. 79** Expressing the sense of Congress that financial assistance to the Palestinian Authority should be withheld if the political party holding the majority of seats in parliament supports the destruction of Israel. **YES Passed\* 418-1**
- ★ **11** 2/15/06 **H.R. 4745** Redirecting \$712 million in previously appropriated Federal Emergency Management Agency funds to the Small Business Administration's disaster loan program. **YES Passed\* 410-5**
- ★ **12** 2/16/06 **H. Con. Res. 341** Condemning the many breaches and failures of the Iranian government to comply with its nuclear non-proliferation obligations, including its obligations under the 1973 "Safeguards Agreement." **YES Passed 404-4**
- ★ **14** 2/28/06 **H.R. 1096** Redesignating the Edison National Historic Site as the Thomas Edison National Historical Park. **YES Passed\* 399-1**
- ★ **15** 2/28/06 **H. Res. 668** Celebrating the 40th anniversary of Texas Western's 1966 NCAA Men's Basketball Championship and recognizing the strides made by the team toward diversity in college athletics and civil rights in the United States. **YES Passed\* 397-0**
- ★ **16** 2/28/06 **H.R. 1259** Authorizing presentation of the congressional gold medal to the Tuskegee Airmen in recognition of their military record. **YES Passed\* 400-0**
- ★ **17** 3/1/06 **H. Res. 357** Honoring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor upon her retirement from the

- U.S. Supreme Court and commending her for her work in the practice of law. **YES Passed\* 410-0**
- ★ **19** 3/7/06 **H.R. 4054** Designating a post office in Tulsa, Okla., for Dewey F. Bartlett, who served as governor (1967-71) and U.S. senator (1973-79) from the state. **YES Passed\* 413-1**
- ★ **20** 3/7/06 **S. 2271** Amending legislation reauthorizing expiring provisions of the 2001 anti-terrorism law known as the Patriot Act to clarify that, under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, individuals who receive orders to hand over business records could challenge nondisclosure requirements after one year; those who receive national security letters would not be required to disclose the name of their attorney, and that libraries would not be considered wire or electronic communication service providers when functioning in their traditional roles, including providing Internet access. **YES Passed\* 280-138**
- ★ **23** 3/8/06 **H.R. 4192** Designating the birthplace home of former President Bill Clinton in Hope, Ark., as a national historic site and part of the national park system. **YES Passed\* 409-12**
- ★ **24** 3/8/06 **H.R. 1053** Giving the president the authority to establish permanent normal trade relations with Ukraine. **YES Passed\* 417-2**
- ★ **25** 3/8/06 **H. Res. 673** Asking the Republic of Belarus to establish a democratic political system, including the freedom of association and assembly, as well as ensuring the full transparency of procedures in the 2006 presidential election. **YES Passed\* 419-1**
- ★ **26** 3/8/06 **H.R. 3505** Making it easier for banks to open new branches across state lines and allowing banking regulators to conduct examinations of healthy banking institutions less frequently than under current law. It also allows healthy credit unions to more easily merge and permits certain types of credit unions to join the Federal Home Loan Bank system. **YES Passed\* 415-2**
- ★ **27** 3/8/06 **H.R. 4167** An amendment requiring state petitions to be expedited by the Food and Drug Administration if they involve a request for a food notification requirement for health effects dealing with cancer, reproductive issues, birth defects, or other information for parents or guardians on risk posed to children by a certain food. **YES Passed 417-0**
- ★ **28** 3/8/06 **H.R. 4167** An amendment to preserve state authority in establishing or maintaining a food supply that is adequately protected from bioterrorism attacks. **NO Failed 164-255**
- ★ **29** 3/8/06 **H.R. 4167** An amendment to permit states to maintain or enact food warning laws that require notifications regarding the risks of cancer, birth defects, reproductive health issues and allergic reactions associated with sulfiting agents in bulk foods. It also would have allowed states to maintain or enact food warning laws notifying parents or guardians of the risks of cancer, reproductive or developmental toxins and food-borne pathogens associated with certain foods. **NO Failed 161-259**
- ★ **30** 3/8/06 **H.R. 4167** An amendment prohibiting federal law from affecting any state law,

- regulation, proposition or other action that establishes a notification requirement regarding the presence or potential effects of mercury in fish and shellfish. **NO Passed 253-168**
- ★ **32** 3/8/06 **H.R. 4167** Establishing uniform standards in food labeling. It also prohibits states from continuing any unique food safety notification label warning requirements after a grace period of 180 days from the bill's enactment. It allows states to petition the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) within the grace period for a waiver to allow any labeling requirements already in place to remain. **YES Passed 283-139**
- ★ **34** 3/9/06 **H.R. 2829** An amendment directing the Office of National Drug Control Policy to establish a National Methamphetamine Information Clearinghouse to promote information-sharing regarding law enforcement, treatment, environmental concerns and social services relating to methamphetamine abuse. It authorizes \$1 million in FY2007 and such sums as necessary from FY2008 through FY2011 for the clearinghouse. **YES Passed 403-2**
- ★ **35** 3/9/06 **H.R. 2829** An amendment requiring the Office of National Drug Control Policy to submit to Congress a comprehensive strategy to address the increased threat of methamphetamine, including precursor chemical controls, demand reduction and treatment efforts. **YES Passed 403-3**
- ★ **36** 3/9/06 **H.R. 2829** An amendment to clarify that the bill would no longer be in effect after Sept. 30, 2011. **NO Failed 85-322**
- ★ **37** 3/9/06 **H.R. 2829** An amendment requiring the Office of National Drug Control Policy to use at least 10 percent of the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign funds each year for campaigns targeting methamphetamine abuse, or for grants to private entities running anti-meth ad campaigns. In FY2008, the office may redirect those funds if domestic meth lab seizures have decreased by at least 75 percent from FY2006. **YES Passed 399-9**
- ★ **38** 3/9/06 **H.R. 2829** Reauthorizing for five years, through FY2011, the Office of National Drug Control Policy and associated programs. It authorizes nearly \$1.5 billion between FY2007 and FY2011 for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program. Up to 10 percent of the program funding may be spent to combat an emerging drug trafficking threat in an existing high-intensity area, or to create a new high-intensity area in response to emerging problems. The bill earmarks \$15 million annually to combat methamphetamine trafficking in high-intensity drug trafficking areas. It also authorizes more than \$1 million between FY2007 and FY2011 for the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign. **YES Passed 399-5**
- ★ **39** 3/14/06 **H. Con. Res. 354** Expressing the support of Congress for the requirement that institutions of higher learning provide military recruiters with the same kind of access that is provided to any other employer as a condition for receiving certain federal funds. **YES Passed\* 347-65**
- ★ **42** 3/15/06 **H. Con. Res. 190** Urging Russia to ensure full protection of freedoms for all religious communities and to end the harassment of unregistered religious groups by the security apparatus and other government agencies. **YES Passed\* 411-1**
- ★ **43** 3/15/06 **H.R. 4939** An amendment to remove a section in the bill prohibiting the sale of several American ports to Dubai Ports World, a state-controlled maritime company based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. **NO Failed 38-377**
- ★ **44** 3/15/06 **H.R. 4944** Temporarily suspending or reducing duties on hundreds of specific imported goods and making several technical corrections to trade laws. **YES Passed\* 412-2**
- ★ **45** 3/16/06 **H.R. 4939** An amendment transferring \$26 million for marine patrol aircraft for the Colombian Navy to be used on drug interdiction operations. **YES Passed 250-172**
- ★ **46** 3/16/06 **H.R. 4939** An amendment increasing by \$50 million the amount appropri-

ated in the bill for peacekeeping operations in Darfur. **NO Passed 213-208**

★ **47 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to add \$7.8 million to the State Department's Diplomatic and Consular Program to upgrade levees along the Rio Grande River that are under the exclusive control of the International Boundary and Water Commission, an agency within the department. **NO Failed 198-221**

★ **48 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to reduce by \$5 million the amount provided in the bill for State Department diplomatic and consular programs. **NO Failed 75-344**

★ **49 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to reduce by \$5 million the amount provided by the bill for educational and cultural exchange programs with Iran. **NO Failed 78-343**

★ **50 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to eliminate funding to the State Department's Broadcasting Board of Governors designated for Radio Free Europe. **NO Failed 88-333**

★ **51 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to increase by \$465 million the amount in the bill provided for Army Corps of Engineers, with \$430 million added for levees and \$35 million for general coastal restoration and hurricane protection. **NO Failed 199-215**

★ **52 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to increase by \$2 billion the amount appropriated by the bill for the Community Development Block Grant program. It would have been offset by reducing the same amount provided by the bill for the Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Relief Fund. **NO Failed 174-248**

★ **53 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to increase by \$1.9 billion the amount appropriated in the bill for the Community Development Block Grant program. **NO Failed 210-212**

★ **54 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment adding \$56 million to the bill for the repair of military exchanges at Keesler Air Force Base and the Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport in Mississippi, which were each damaged by Hurricane Katrina. **NO Passed 250-171**

★ **56 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to increase funding for the relocation of personnel and equipment of the Customs and Border Protection by \$700 million, Coast Guard operating expenses by \$125 million and Federal Emergency Management Agency administrative and regional operations by \$300 million. **NO Failed 208-210**

★ **57 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to eliminate the \$19.1 billion appropriated by the bill for hurricane recovery. **NO Failed 89-332**

★ **58 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to provide an additional \$50 million to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to repair and replace election infrastructure in states affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. **NO Failed 194-227**

★ **59 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to remove the section of the bill that makes the \$750 million in FY2007 emergency funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in current law available in FY2006 as well as FY2007. **NO Failed 76-342**

★ **60 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to prohibit the awarding of a contract by the Secretary of the Army to any contractor if the Defense Contract Audit Agency has determined that more than \$100 million of a contractor's costs involving work in Iraq were unreasonable. **NO Failed 193-225**

★ **61 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to prohibit the use of funds to enforce deadlines regarding economic injury disaster loan applications and physical loan applications. **NO Failed 201-213**

★ **62 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to prohibit the use of funds to make or guarantee a loan under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act other than a loan for which the borrower is charged an interest rate in accordance with the act. **NO Failed 200-219**

★ **63 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** An amendment to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or

enforce the termination of the hotel and motel emergency sheltering program established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for families displaced by hurricanes in 2005. **NO Failed 189-230**

★ **65 3/16/06 H.R. 4939** Appropriating \$91.9 billion in emergency supplemental funding for FY2006. It provides \$67.6 billion for defense, \$4.3 billion for foreign aid and \$19.2 billion for hurricane relief. The bill allows for \$750 million to be shifted to FY2006 for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. It bars DP World, owned by the government of the United Arab Emirates, from taking over operations at various U.S. ports. As amended, it bars funds from being used to enter into a basing rights agreement between the United States and Iraq that would lead to a permanent U.S. military presence in Iraq. **YES Passed 348-71**

★ **66 3/16/06 S. 2320** Shifting \$1 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) included in the budget reconciliation law, from FY2007 to FY2006. It provides that \$500 million be distributed according to formula and \$500 million be distributed through emergency contingency funds. **NO Passed\* 287-128**

★ **68 3/28/06 H.R. 4882** Setting a 30-day deadline after the bill's enactment for the final approval of the design of a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitors center on the National Mall. **YES Passed\* 404-4**

★ **69 3/28/06 S. 2120** Requiring processors shipping milk from states under federal pricing rules into those states with their own regulations to pay the minimum federal price. It exempts milk handlers who produce less than 3 million pounds of milk per month. **NO Passed\* 285-128**

★ **71 3/29/06 H.R. 609** An amendment permitting funds authorized by Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants to be used to increase the number of teachers qualified to teach Advanced Placement courses. Additionally, this amendment permits funds authorized under the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program to be used for adjunct teacher opportunities and foreign language activities. **YES Passed 293-134**

★ **72 3/29/06 H.R. 609** An amendment to require colleges and universities receiving funds under international education programs to disclose contributions and gifts using a publicly available and searchable database. **YES Failed 120-306**

★ **73 3/29/06 H. Res. 736** Expressing the sense of the House that legal action in Afghanistan against citizens who have already converted or plan to convert to other religions is deplorable and unjust. **YES Passed\* 427-0**

★ **77 3/30/06 H.R. 609** An amendment striking from the bill certain reporting requirements for colleges and universities. It also removes a provision allowing states to apply to the Education Department to become recognized accreditors. **YES Passed 418-2**

★ **78 3/30/06 H.R. 609** An amendment making child and adolescent mental health professionals eligible for loan forgiveness under the high-need professions program. **YES Passed 380-38**

★ **79 3/30/06 H.R. 609** An amendment to require institutions that receive federal funding to report each year to the Education Department on whether race, color or national origin is considered in the process of admitting students. The report would have to analyze how these factors are considered in the admissions process. **NO Failed 83-337**

★ **80 3/30/06 H.R. 609** An amendment to reauthorize for another five years provisions of the 1998 Higher Education Act that were not included in the recently enacted budget reconciliation law. **NO Failed 200-220**

★ **81 3/30/06 H.R. 609** Extending for another five years higher education aid programs that were not extended and changed by the recently enacted budget reconciliation law. It authorizes an increase in the maximum Pell grant by \$200 to \$6,000 and allows for year-round Pell Grants. It

also repeals the single-holder rule, and allows parents and students who borrow money for college to shop around for better deals when they decide to consolidate their loans. **YES Passed 221-199**

★ **82 4/4/06 H.J. Res. 81** Appointing Phillip Frost to the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents for a term of six years, effective May 5. **YES Passed\* 406-0**

★ **83 4/4/06 H. Res. 703** Recognizing the 20th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, and expressing sympathy for the ongoing effects of the explosion. **YES Passed\* 402-1**

★ **84 4/4/06 H. Res. 744** Reiterating the support of the House of Representatives for the 1998 Good Friday Agreement as the blueprint for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland. **YES Passed\* 399-1**

★ **88 4/5/06 H.R. 513** Requiring 527 groups to comply with the same disclosure requirements and campaign finance laws that apply to political parties and political action committees. It requires such organizations to report to the Federal Election Commission and allows the FEC to set rules for how they can allocate their funding. It removes limits on the amounts parties can spend in coordination with their own candidates. Groups with annual gross receipts of less than \$25,000, or which are organized solely for state or local elections and have not raised money in the previous year, would be exempt. **YES Passed 218-209**

★ **89 4/5/06 H. Res. 692** Commending the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands for their contributions and sacrifices to the U.S. nuclear testing program in the Marshall Islands that began 60 years ago. **YES Passed\* 424-0**

★ **90 4/5/06 H.R. 3127** Allowing for additional sanctions on individuals and governments seen as responsible for the atrocities in the Darfur region of Sudan and authorizing additional funds for peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts in the region. **YES Passed\* 416-3**

★ **95 4/6/06 H. Res. 578** Urging the government to complete the processing of the inter-country adoption cases pending when Romania's new laws against such adoptions were enacted. **YES Passed\* 428-0**

★ **96 4/6/06 H. Con. Res. 320** Expressing that Congress condemns and deplors the arbitrary detention of activist Dr. Pham Hong Son by the government of Vietnam and calling for his immediate and unconditional release, and for the immediate and unconditional release of all other political prisoners. **YES Passed\* 425-1**

★ **97 4/6/06 H. Res. 737** Expressing support for the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month. **YES Passed\* 423-1**

★ **98 4/6/06 H. Res. 556** Expressing the sense of the House that National Methamphetamine Prevention Week should be established to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse and to encourage advocacy groups and the public to observe the week. **YES Passed\* 421-2**

★ **99 4/6/06 H. Con. Res. 366** Congratulating NASA for the 25th anniversary of the first flight of the space shuttle program and honoring Commander John Young and pilot Robert Crippen, who flew the space shuttle Columbia on its first orbital test flight. **YES Passed\* 422-0**

★ **100 4/25/06 S.J. Res. 28** Approving the location of the memorial in Washington, D.C., honoring former President Dwight D. Eisenhower. **YES Passed\* 411-0**

★ **101 4/25/06 H.R. 4709** Making it a federal crime to fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain, buy, or sell confidential telephone records, and increasing penalties for the use of fraudulently obtained phone records to commit a crime. **YES Passed\* 409-0**

★ **104 4/26/06 H. Con. Res. 365** Urging the Chinese government to overturn the suspension of the law license of Gao Zhisheng, a prominent defense attorney in China. It also expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should support democracy and human rights programs

in China. **YES Passed\* 421-0**

★ **105 4/26/06 H.R. 282** Imposing sanctions against foreign companies that invest more than \$20 million in Iran's energy sector. Countries that assist Iran's weapons industry also will lose U.S. foreign aid. Sanctions are in effect until the president certifies to Congress that Iran had dismantled its weapons of mass destruction. **YES Passed\* 397-21**

★ **106 4/26/06 H.R. 5020** An amendment expressing the sense of Congress that the President should utilize his constitutional authority to the fullest extent practicable, where warranted, to classify and protect national security information and take action against anyone who commits unauthorized disclosures. **YES Passed 366-56**

★ **108 4/26/06 H.R. 5020** Authorizing classified amounts in FY2007 for U.S. intelligence activities and agencies including the CIA, the National Security Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency. It also requires the director of National Intelligence to provide Congress with quarterly classified intelligence reports on insurgent forces in Iraq. **YES Passed 327-96**

★ **111 5/2/06 H. Res. 697** Commending the people and government of Italy, and specifically the people of Turin and the surrounding Alpine areas, on the successful hosting of the 2006 Winter Olympic Games. **YES Passed\* 409-0**

★ **112 5/2/06 H. Con. Res. 392** Recognizing that Israel's independence served to provide a refuge and homeland for Jewish people and congratulating Israel on the 58th anniversary of its independence. **YES Passed\* 413-0**

★ **113 5/2/06 H. Res. 658** Supporting the goals and ideals of World Water Day and recognizing the importance of conserving and managing water resources. **YES Passed\* 397-14**

★ **114 5/3/06 H. Con. Res. 359** Authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the D.C. Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. **YES Passed\* 417-0**

★ **115 5/3/06 H.R. 5253** Requiring the Federal Trade Commission to define price gouging and make gasoline price gouging a federal crime punishable by up to two years in prison and fines up to \$150 million. **YES Passed\* 389-34**

★ **116 5/3/06 H.R. 5254** Streamlining the application process for companies to build refineries in the United States. The president would designate new sites suitable for oil refineries and required the EPA to provide financial assistance to states to facilitate applications for refineries. **YES Failed\* 237-188**

★ **117 5/3/06 H.R. 4975** An amendment to remove a section in the bill regarding penalties for failure to comply with lobbying disclosure requirements and replace it with language that would provide ascending civil penalties for subsequent offenses. The maximum fine for the first offense \$100,000; for the second offense \$250,000; for the third offense \$500,000; and for the fourth and any subsequent offense \$1 million. **YES Failed 108-320**

★ **119 5/3/06 H.R. 4975** Increasing transparency and rewriting disclosure rules in the relationships between lobbyists and lawmakers. The bill imposes a temporary ban on privately funded travel. It also denies pension benefits to House members convicted after the bill's enactment of crimes related to their official positions. The House is barred from considering appropriations legislation unless the report on the bill includes a list of earmarks in the bill. The bill requires lobbyists to file reports on a quarterly basis and increases the civil penalty as well as permits a jail sentence of up to five years for lobbyists and members of Congress who fail to comply with lobbying disclosure requirements. **YES Passed 217-213**

★ **120 5/3/06 H. Res. 781** Expressing the commendation of the House of Representatives for charter schools and their students, parents, teachers and administrators for their ongoing contri-

## Blunt's Combat Meth Plan Included in Patriot Act Renewal

House Majority Whip Roy Blunt's approach to fighting the war on methamphetamines in our nation's communities was included in updated Patriot Act that was signed into law earlier this year. The plan, a major priority of Blunt in the House and Senator Jim Talent (Mo.) in the Senate, will strengthen criminal penalties, enhance the regulation of meth by-products, and regulate the sale of the legal ingredients of meth.

"Easy access to common cold medicine is a meth cook's dream come true," said Blunt. "The most effective way to fight the meth epidemic is to make it harder for criminals to get the key ingredient in the production of this deadly drug. At the same time, this legislation ensures that honest people can easily get the medicine they need."

The legislation provides an additional \$99,000,000 per year for the next five years under the Meth Hot Spots program to train state and local law enforcement to investigate and lock-up meth offenders. The funds can also be used for personnel and equipment for enforcement, prosecution and environmental clean-up. The measure calls for stepped up reporting requirements on the export and import of pseudoephedrine, ephedrine, and PPA in foreign countries. It establishes \$20,000,000 in grant funding in 2006 and 2007 for Drug Endangered Children rapid response teams to help local agencies to assist and educate children that have been affected by the production of methamphetamine.

contributions to education and improving the public school system. **YES Passed\* 417-1**

★ **125 5/4/06 H.R. 4954** An amendment to bar the Homeland Security Department from reducing risk scores in the Automated Targeting System for certain participants in the Customs-

Trade Partnership Against Terrorism, which is made of shipping companies who have submitted written security plans certified by the department. **NO Failed 195-230**

★ **127 5/4/06 H.R. 4954** Authorizing more than \$5 billion from FY2007 through FY2012 for port and cargo security programs and measures. It establishes a risk-based port security grant program within the Homeland Security Department to be funded at \$400 million annually. The bill also authorizes \$536 million in FY2007 for the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office. It authorizes \$420 million from FY2007 through FY2012 for at least 200 additional port-of-entry inspectors. The federal government is required to develop plans for restoring commerce in the aftermath of a disaster and implement rules on container lock standards. The bill sets deadlines for issuing regulations and distributing biometric transportation security cards. **YES Passed 421-2**

★ **128 5/9/06 H.R. 1499** Agreeing to the Senate amendment to HR 1499. The bill, as modified, applies to combat pay earned by military personnel after Dec. 31, 2003. It allows income earned by

military personnel while serving in combat to be eligible for contributions to an individual retirement account. **YES Passed\* 412-0**

★ **129 5/9/06 H.R. 5037** Prohibiting demonstrations at cemeteries controlled by the National Cemetery Administration and at Arlington National Cemetery that are not approved by the cemetery and are held within 500 feet of a memorial service. The bill applies to one hour before the service and one hour after. **YES Passed\* 408-3**

★ **130 5/9/06 H.R. 3829** Designating a Veterans Affairs Department medical center in Muskogee, Okla., for Jack C. Montgomery, who worked for the Veterans' Administration for nearly 60 years. **YES Passed\* 407-0**

★ **131 5/10/06 H.R. 5143** Authorizing a total of \$70 million over 10 years for the Energy Department to create a new program of competitive cash prizes for technological advances in the commercial use of hydrogen energy. **YES Passed\* 416-6**

★ **135 5/10/06 H.R. 4297** Adoption of the conference report on the bill extending about \$70 billion in tax relief over a five-year period. Reduced tax rates on capital gains and dividends are extended through 2010. It also extends through 2009 a tax provision that allows small businesses to write off up to \$100,000 in capital investments in the year they are made. It continues for one year and sets higher alternative minimum tax exemption amounts for 2006 of \$62,550 for a joint return, \$42,500 for individuals, and \$31,275 for married individuals who file separate returns. **YES Passed 244-185**

★ **136 5/10/06 H.R. 5122** An amendment to allow overseas military facilities to provide privately-funded abortions for women who are in the military or are military dependents. **NO Failed 191-237**

★ **141 5/11/06 H.R. 5122** An amendment authorizing the Defense Secretary to assign military personnel to assist the Homeland Security Department with border security under certain circumstances such as a threat to national security. **YES Passed 252-171**

★ **142 5/11/06 H.R. 5122** An amendment to restructure missile defense programs by limiting deployment of ground-based midcourse defense systems to Fort Greeley, Alaska, and Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., and halt deployment of spaced-based interceptors. It would have prohibited the use of Defense Department funds for any boost-phase defense system. It also would have reduced research, development, test and evaluation authorization for defense agencies by \$4.7 billion. **NO Failed 124-301**

★ **143 5/11/06 H.R. 5122** An amendment to alter the list of factors in the bill that must be taken into consideration when recalling reservists to clarify that the frequency of assignments over the duration of a reservist's career should be taken into consideration, in addition to the length and nature of previous service. **YES Passed 415-9**

★ **145 5/11/06 H.R. 5122** Authorizing \$512.9 billion for defense programs, including \$50 billion in emergency spending for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for FY2007. The bill authorizes \$85.9 billion for weapons procurement, \$125.7 billion for operations and maintenance, \$109.8 billion for personnel, \$16.8 billion for military construction and family housing and \$16.5 billion for weapons-related and environmental-cleanup activities of the Energy Department. It also authorizes \$9.1 billion for ballistic-missile defense programs. The bill, as amended, allows the Defense Secretary to assign military personnel to assist the Homeland Security Department with border security under certain circumstances such as a threat to national security. **YES Passed 396-31**

★ **146 5/11/06 H. Res. 802** Encouraging all Medicare beneficiaries who are not yet enrolled in the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit to review carefully all options available and determine whether enrollment in the benefit meets their current and future needs for prescription

drug coverage. **YES Passed\* 406-0**

★ **147 5/17/06 H.R. 4200** An amendment to remove all exemptions from existing environmental laws from the bill, and specifically requires the Interior or Agriculture department, as applicable, to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act when conducting forest rehabilitation activities authorized in the bill. **NO Failed 189-236**

★ **148 5/17/06 H.R. 4200** An amendment to allow emergency procedures authorized in the bill to be used only on lands managed primarily for timber production. For other lands, it would have required the Interior or Agriculture department, as applicable, to amend land management plans to incorporate salvage and restoration activities. **NO Failed 184-240**

★ **149 5/17/06 H.R. 4200** An amendment to stipulate that the bill would not apply to any areas in the National Forest System designated as roadless areas under the Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation Environmental Impact Statement of November 2000. **NO Failed 191-231**

★ **150 5/17/06 H.R. 4200** An amendment to direct the Interior or Agriculture department, as applicable, to consider the impact of any pre-approved management practice or forest recovery or research project on fire risk and forest regeneration. The department would have had to certify that a plan would not increase the fire risk or decrease forest regeneration before implementing it. **NO Failed 197-228**

★ **151 5/17/06 H.R. 4200** Establishing new procedures for federal agencies to expedite projects to rehabilitate federal land after catastrophic events, such as fires, floods, or other disasters. The bill requires the Interior and Agriculture departments to develop prompt response plans for land they manage. Timber harvesting is allowed on damaged land when trees are dead, down, or broken after a disaster; when there is a high probability that the trees will die within five years; or when trees have to be removed for public safety. The bill permits the two agencies to assist state and local governments in restoring non-federal land after a disaster. **YES Passed 243-182**

★ **155 5/17/06 H. Con. Res. 376** An amendment to call for spending and revenue levels that would result in a budget surplus of \$55.4 billion in FY2011. It would have increased federal revenue by rescinding 2001 and 2003 enacted tax cuts for some individuals, reduced an inventory-related tax provision for large oil companies and cut funding for the ballistic missile defense program by \$9.4 billion. **NO Failed 131-294**

★ **156 5/18/06 H. Con. Res. 376** An amendment to set total FY2007 spending at \$2.7 trillion, including \$829 billion in discretionary funding, and called for balancing the budget by FY2011. It would have instructed eight committees to produce \$358.3 billion in savings through reconciliation between FY2007 and FY2011. It would have extended the 2001 and 2003 enacted tax cuts, eliminated about 150 federal programs and increased defense and veterans' spending. The substitute would have restructured the departments of Commerce, Energy and Education, reduced foreign aid by \$31 billion over five years, allowed drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and eliminated highway earmarks. **YES Failed 94-331**

★ **157 5/18/06 H. Con. Res. 376** An amendment to establish a 10-year budget through FY2016 and called for spending levels that would have eliminated deficits and produce a balanced budget by FY2012. It would have instituted pay-as-you-go rules requiring tax cuts and mandatory spending increases to be offset. It would have added \$45.3 billion more for education and training, \$18 billion for health programs and \$25 billion for environmental protection and conservation programs over five years. It would have created a \$150 billion tax cut reserve fund over 10 years and changed House rules to require that the House take a separate vote

on increasing the debt limit. **NO Failed 184-241**

★ **158 5/18/06 H. Con. Res. 376** Adoption of the concurrent resolution allowing up to \$872.8 billion in discretionary spending for FY2007, plus \$50 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. It calls for mandatory spending cuts of \$6.8 billion over five years and tax cuts totaling \$228 billion over five years. Defense spending is increased by 7 percent over FY2006, to \$460.2 billion, and non-defense spending remains at \$419.4 billion. It also allows for a non-defense emergency discretionary reserve fund of \$6.5 billion and creates a deficit-neutral reserve fund of \$3.1 billion for labor, health, education and other domestic programs if offsetting savings can be achieved elsewhere. **YES Passed 218-210**

★ **159 5/18/06 H. Res. 740** Calling on the British government to immediately establish a full, independent, public judicial inquiry into the murder of Pat Finucane, a human rights defense attorney in Northern Ireland. **YES Passed\* 390-5**

★ **162 5/18/06 H. Res. 795** Condemning the terrorist attacks in Dahab and northern Sinai, Egypt, on April 24 and 26, 2006, as well as other attacks carried out in that country. **YES Passed\* 409-0**

★ **163 5/18/06 H.R. 5386** An amendment to increase funding for the National Park Service by \$1 million, to be directed for costs related to re-opening a portion of the Statue of Liberty. It is offset by a subsequent decrease in the Interior Department Management Account. **NO Passed 266-152**

★ **164 5/18/06 H.R. 5386** En bloc amendments striking sections of the bill dealing with offshore preleasing, leasing or related activities, eliminating the moratorium on offshore oil and gas drilling. **NO Failed 141-279**

★ **165 5/18/06 H.R. 5386** An amendment barring the use of funds in the bill to finalize a proposed EPA rule to the Toxic Release Inventory, a program that collects information and reports on toxic substances that chemical plants or refineries keep on-site, or release off-site into communities. **NO Passed 231-187**

★ **169 5/18/06 H.R. 5386** An amendment barring the use of funds in the bill to enforce current EPA policy that isolated, intrastate bodies of water are not necessarily subject to environmental regulations under the Clean Water Act. **NO Passed 222-198**

★ **170 5/18/06 H.R. 5386** An amendment barring the use of funds in the bill for the Interior Department to conduct activities related to any new offshore natural gas leasing along the Outer Continental Shelf. **NO Passed 217-203**

★ **171 5/18/06 H.R. 5386** An amendment to require a 1 percent across-the-board cut to discretionary spending. **NO Failed 109-312**

★ **172 5/18/06 H.R. 5386** Providing \$25.9 billion in FY2007 for the Department of Interior, the EPA and related agencies. The bill provides \$9.7 billion for the Interior Department, \$7.6 billion for the EPA, \$4.2 billion for the Forest Service, \$1.8 billion for the Bureau of Land Management and \$3.2 billion for the Indian Health Service. It maintains the moratorium on natural gas production in the Outer Continental Shelf as well as barring the use of funds in the bill for the sale or slaughter of wild horses and burros. **YES Passed 293-128**

★ **175 5/19/06 H.R. 5385** An amendment to increase funding for the clean-up of unexploded ordinances on closed military bases by adding \$27.5 million for the 1990 base closure account and \$50 million for environmental restoration of formerly used defense sites. It would have been offset by a \$440 million cut in 2005 base closure funding. **NO Failed 151-247**

★ **176 5/19/06 H.R. 5385** Providing \$136.1 billion in FY2007 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, military construction and military housing, including \$21 billion for the Defense Health Programs and \$13.5 billion for the basic military housing allowances. The bill provides \$77.9 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs, including \$32.7 bil-

lion for the Veterans Health Administration. It also provides \$6.1 billion for military construction, \$4 billion for military family housing and \$5.3 billion for the latest round of base closures. **YES Passed 395-0**

★ **177 5/22/06 S. 1235** Permanently increasing to \$400,000, the federally subsidized life insurance payment through the Service Members Group Life Insurance program that families of military personnel could receive if a service member is killed in the line of duty. It extends post-separation group life insurance coverage for disabled veterans following their separation from service to two years, until Sept. 30, 2011. **YES Passed\* 372-0**

★ **178 5/22/06 H.R. 3858** Requiring the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to ensure that the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals are taken into account in the state and local operational plans submitted to FEMA as part of a state's annual emergency preparedness plan. **YES Passed\* 349-24**

★ **181 5/23/06 H.R. 4681** Restricting aid to the Palestinian Authority as long as it is controlled by organizations that have ties to terrorism and fail to recognize Israel's right to exist. It makes exceptions for humanitarian aid, election monitoring or expenses related to the Middle East peace process. **YES Passed\* 361-37**

★ **182 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to increase the funding by 23 million for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, to be offset by a subsequent cut to the Agriculture Department common computing environment account. **NO Passed 234-184**

★ **183 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to increase the funding by \$500,000 for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, to be offset by a subsequent cut to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. **YES Passed 345-76**

★ **184 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to implement the National Animal Identification System, a cooperative state-federal-industry partnership to standardize and expand animal identification programs to all livestock and poultry. **NO Failed 34-389**

★ **185 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to carry out activities of the Market Access Program, which helps fund advertising and marketing for agricultural exports. **NO Failed 79-342**

★ **186 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to require a 1 percent across-the-board cut in discretionary spending. **NO Failed 99-322**

★ **187 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for salaries or expenses of personnel who make loans in excess of 17 cents per pound for domestically grown raw sugar cane or 21.6 cents per pound for refined beet sugar from domestically grown beets. The amendment would have effectively cut the Sugar Loan Program by 6 percent. **NO Failed 135-281**

★ **188 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to implement the wetlands reserve program limitation in the bill. **NO Failed 185-235**

★ **189 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds under the food stamp program to contravene existing immigration law requiring sponsors of legal aliens to be financially liable for their government benefits. **YES Passed 266-153**

★ **190 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to fund dairy education in Iowa. **NO Failed 92-325**

★ **191 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for hydroponic tomato production in Ohio. **NO Failed 90-328**

★ **192 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the national grape and wine initiative. **NO Failed 87-328**

★ **193 5/23/06 H.R. 5384** Providing \$93.6 billion in FY2007 for the Agriculture Department and related agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration. The bill funds the food stamp program at \$37.9 billion and child nutrition program

at \$13.3 billion. It provides \$19.7 billion for the Commodity Credit Corporation, \$1.5 billion for the FDA and \$5.2 billion for the Women, Infants and Children program. It appropriates \$1.2 billion for the Food for Peace program. **YES Passed 378-46**

★ **196 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to strike a provision that bars the use of funds for the Army Corps of Engineers to revise master control plans and master manuals for the several river basins in Alabama, Georgia and Florida. **NO Passed 216-201**

★ **197 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to cut the funding level for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership by \$40 million. **NO Failed 128-295**

★ **198 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to increase by \$25 million funds for energy supply and conservation, offset by a subsequent cut for Energy Department salaries and expenses. **NO Passed 217-204**

★ **199 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to increase by \$27.8 million funds to Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation for The Global Threat Reduction Initiative, offset by a subsequent cut in administrative expenses for the Energy Department by 10 percent. **NO Passed 227-195**

★ **200 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to bar the use of funds for the Energy Department Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management's Yucca Mountain Youth Zone Web site. **NO Failed 147-271**

★ **201 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the Ultra-Deep Water and Unconventional Research and Development program. **NO Failed 161-255**

★ **202 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to review any application for floating natural gas storage and re-gasification facilities. **NO Failed 164-258**

★ **203 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to require a 1 percent across-the-board cut in discretionary spending. **NO Failed 87-338**

★ **204 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to bar the use of funds for the Virginia Science Museum. **NO Failed 64-359**

★ **205 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** An amendment to bar the use of funds for the Juniata Ultra Low Emission Locomotive Demonstration in Pennsylvania. **NO Failed 46-372**

★ **206 5/24/06 H.R. 5427** Providing \$30.5 billion in FY2007 for energy and water development projects, including \$5 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers and \$9.2 billion for the National Nuclear Security Administration. It provides \$545 million for the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository, as well as \$30 million for the department to begin accepting waste for interim storage at one or more storage facilities by 2006. The bill also provides \$5.6 billion for defense environmental clean-up. It bars the Army Corps of Engineers from redirecting more than \$2 million, or 25 percent of a project's value, whichever is less, from one account to another. **YES Passed 404-20**

★ **209 5/24/06 H.R. 5429** Authorizing the Interior Department to grant leases for oil and gas exploration, development and production in the coastal plain of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). It allows the first lease sale of at least 200,000 acres to be held within 22 months of the bill's enactment. Lessees are required to pay the federal government royalties of at least 12.5 percent of the product value removed or sold as determined by the agency. Half of the rental and royalty revenues are to be paid to Alaska and half will go to the federal government. It bans the exportation of oil pumped in ANWR and it limits to 2,000 acres the area covered by wells, roads and other production infrastructure. **YES Passed 225-201**

★ **211 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase funding for FEMA's Administrative and Regional Operations account by \$500,000, offset by a subsequent cut to the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management account. **NO Failed 170-251**

★ **212 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase by \$500,000, then decreased by the same amount, the bill's funding for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management account. **NO Failed 167-255**

★ **213 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase by \$3 million funding for the Citizen Corps program, offset by a subsequent cut to the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management Account. **NO Failed 173-249**

★ **214 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase by \$36 million funding for the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, offset by a subsequent cut of \$3 million to the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management Account and \$33 million to the Office of the Undersecretary for Management Account. **NO Failed 205-216**

★ **215 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to redirect \$5 million from the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management Account to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Cyber Crimes Center to combat child exploitation on the Internet. **NO Passed 348-74**

★ **216 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase by \$50 million funding for discretionary grants to state and local governments for intercity passenger rail, freight rail and transit security, offset by a subsequent cut for the Office of the Undersecretary for Management Account. **NO Passed 225-197**

★ **217 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase by \$40 million funding for emergency management performance grants and \$10.3 million for the SAFECOM program, offset by a subsequent cut of \$40 million to the Office of the Undersecretary for Management Account and \$10.3 million to the Transportation Security Administration Aviation Security Account. **NO Failed 188-227**

★ **218 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase by \$14.7 million funding for grants to state and local governments for terrorism prevention activities, including training, exercises, technical assistance and other programs, offset by a subsequent cut for the Office of the Undersecretary for Management Account. **NO Failed 198-224**

★ **219 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase by \$15 million funding for the Homeland Security Department's Office of Inspector General, offset by a subsequent cut for the Office of the Undersecretary for Management Account. **NO Failed 200-220**

★ **220 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to increase funding for the Citizenship and Immigration Services by \$20 million, offset by a decrease in the Office of Undersecretary for Management account. **NO Passed 358-63**

★ **221 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to remove language in the bill barring the use of funds by the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office to create a Sodium Iodide Manufacturing Program until the office demonstrates that advanced spectroscopic portal monitors will significantly speed commerce, reduce costs associated with secondary inspection and provide greater sensitivity than current monitors. **NO Failed 172-248**

★ **222 5/24/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to bar the use of funds to extend a designation for temporary protected status made before the bill's enactment with respect to Guatemala, Honduras or Nicaragua. **NO Failed 134-284**

★ **223 6/6/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to bar the use of funds to assist state or local governments restricting information exchanges with the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement on an individual's citizenship or immigration status. **YES Passed 218-179**

★ **224 6/6/06 H.R. 5441** An amendment to bar the use of funds by the department to provide a foreign government with information relating to the operations or location of the Minutemen or other private volunteer border patrol groups along the U.S.-Mexican border in California,

Arizona, New Mexico or Texas, unless the information sharing is required by an international treaty. **YES Passed 293-107**

★ **226 6/6/06 H.R. 5441** Providing \$33.1 billion in FY2007 for the Homeland Security Department and related activities. The bill includes \$7.7 billion for customs and border protection; \$6.4 billion for the Transportation Security Administration, including fees; \$8.1 billion for the Coast Guard; \$1.3 billion for the Secret Service and \$2.6 billion for response and recovery efforts conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It appropriates \$3.5 billion for the state and local grant programs. In addition, it changes the formula-based grants distribution process to guarantee each state at least 0.75 percent of the total funding. The remaining funds would be distributed based on risk and need assessments. **YES Passed 389-9**

★ **229 6/7/06 H.R. 5521** Appropriating \$3 billion in FY2007 for legislative branch operations, excluding funds for Senate operations. It provides \$1.1 billion for operations of the House of Representatives, \$570 million for the Library of Congress, \$488 million for the Government Accountability Office (GAO), \$259 million for the Capitol Police and \$131 million for the Government Printing Office. It appropriates \$46 million for the Capitol Visitor Center and abolishes the office of Architect of the Capitol and transfers its functions to the GAO. **YES Passed 361-53**

★ **230 6/7/06 S. 193** Increasing to \$325,000 the maximum penalty per violation or per day of a continuing violation that the Federal Communications Commission can assess for the broadcasting of indecent, obscene or profane language. The bill sets the maximum penalty for continuing violations at \$3 million. **YES Passed\* 379-35**

★ **232 6/7/06 H.R. 5254** Streamlining the application process for companies to build refineries in the United States. The President can designate new sites suitable for oil refineries and require the EPA to provide financial assistance to states to facilitate applications for refineries. It directs the President, within 90 days of enactment, to designate at least three sites on closed military bases appropriate for new oil refineries. It also creates an application process overseen by a new federal coordinator, appointed by the President, who would be in charge of every federal refinery authorization. **YES Passed 238-179**

★ **233 6/7/06 H.R. 5449** Eliminating language allowing the Federal Aviation Administration to declare an impasse in negotiations and submit its last offer to Congress for review. The bill would have made the changes retroactive to April 1 and applied them to proposed changes submitted to Congress before the date of enactment. **NO Failed\* 271-148**

★ **234 6/7/06 S. 2803** Establishing new federal safety regulations for coal mines dealing with emergency response plans, availability of mine rescue teams, and penalties for failure to comply with safety standards. **YES Passed\* 381-37**

★ **236 6/8/06 H.R. 5522** An amendment to reduce economic assistance to Egypt by \$100 million, offset by increasing disaster assistance for Darfur and HIV/AIDS assistance by \$50 million each. **NO Failed 198-225**

★ **238 6/8/06 H.R. 5252** An amendment to clarify giving the Federal Communications Commission exclusive authority to enforce its 2005 broadband policy statement shall not be construed to modify, impair or supersede the applicability of antitrust laws or the jurisdiction of U.S. district courts to hear claims arising under antitrust laws. **YES Passed 353-68**

★ **239 6/8/06 H.R. 5252** An amendment to establish network neutrality requirements for broadband providers, including the duty to not block, impair, degrade, or discriminate against lawful content, applications or services; operate its network in a non-discriminatory manner; and offer equal prioritization to all data of a particular type if it offers priority to one provider.

## Discovery Center Offers Hands-on Learning



Charlie Blunt (blue shirt in the center) plays with other children at the Discovery Center in Springfield. Charlie, with his dad and mom, Congressman and Mrs. Roy Blunt, helped cut the ribbon on the new 30,000-square-foot expansion. Missouri Senator Kit Bond and Congressman Blunt secured \$2.6 million in federal funding to help leverage private donations for the \$6 million project.

The non-profit Discovery Center's mission is to provide an interactive, hands-on museum committed to inspiring people of all ages with a life-long love of learning. The new expansion is a 'green building'

that conserves and reuses water, is solar powered and designed with the latest technologies to be highly energy efficient.

### NO Failed 152-269

★ **241 6/8/06 H.R. 5252** Creating a new national franchising process for companies that want to offer pay video services, including telephone companies entering new areas and existing cable companies in areas where competition exists or develops. The Federal Communications Commission can enforce its August 2005 broadband policy statement that endorsed "network neutrality" principles but it can not issue additional rules. The bill requires voice-over-Internet-protocol (VOIP) companies to provide 911 and enhanced-911 access to their customers and specifies that the providers are eligible for certain rights, duties and obligations of traditional companies. It also pre-empts state and local laws concerning municipal broadband services. **YES Passed 321-101**

★ **257 6/13/06 H.R. 4939** Adoption of the conference report appropriating \$94.5 billion in emergency supplemental funding for FY2006. It provides \$70.4 billion for defense and foreign aid and \$19.8 billion for hurricane relief. It also provides \$2.3 billion for pandemic flu preparations, and \$1.2 billion for border security efforts. **YES Passed 351-67**

★ **259 6/13/06 H.R. 4894** Requiring the Justice Department, at the request of state officials, to conduct fingerprint-based background checks in national crime databases for any employees, candidates for employment, or volunteers at public or private elementary or secondary schools, local education agencies or other state agencies that work with children. **YES Passed\* 415-1**

★ **260 6/13/06 H. Res. 318** Urging men to understand the level of responsibility fathering a child requires and encouraging the active involvement of fathers in the rearing and development of their children. **YES Passed\* 407-0**

★ **263 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for Amtrak by \$214 million, offset by a cut from various accounts including salaries and expenses and transportation planning from the Transportation Department, railroad research from the Federal Railroad Administration, salaries and expenses from the Surface Transportation Board, salaries and expenses from the Federal Maritime Commission and the General Services Administration Federal Buildings Fund. **NO Passed 266-158**

★ **264 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Operations and Research account by \$6.7 million. It is offset by cuts of \$2.7 million for the Transportation Department's assistant secretary for administration and \$4 million from the Transportation Planning, Research and Development account.

### NO Passed 234-190

★ **265 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funds for the Federal Transit Administration Research and University Research program by \$9.5 million. It would have been offset by a cut in salaries and expenses for the Transportation and Treasury Departments. **NO Failed 197-228**

★ **266 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for the Community Development Fund by \$15 million. It is offset by a cut of the same amount for the IRS business systems modernization program. **NO Passed 286-139**

★ **267 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for Section 8 housing vouchers by \$70 million. It is offset by a cut of \$100 million to the working capital fund under the Department of Housing and Urban Development. **NO Passed 243-178**

★ **268 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for HOPE VI housing grants by \$30 million. It is offset by a cut of the same amount in the General Services Administration Federal Buildings Fund. **NO Passed 262-162**

★ **269 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to extend for three months, through Dec. 31, 2009, the availability of funding under the bill for the American Dream Down Payment Act. **NO Failed 193-230**

★ **270 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Elderly and Disabled Program by \$15 million. It is offset by cuts to HUD's salaries and expenses and the General Services Administration Federal Buildings Fund accounts. **NO Passed 335-90**

★ **271 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Program by \$35 million. It is offset by a cut for the same amount for the General Services Administration Federal Buildings Fund. **NO Passed 233-190**

★ **272 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to provide \$3 million for the HUD Community Development Loan Guarantee program. It is offset by a cut of the same amount to the HUD Management and Administration account. **NO Passed 218-207**

★ **273 6/13/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to increase funding for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program by \$8 million. It is offset by a cut of the same amount for National Archives and Records Administration operating expenses. **YES Passed 348-76**

★ **274 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to provide \$30 million to the Transportation Secretary to carry out the Capital Grants for Rail Line

Relocation and Improvement Program. It would have been offset by cuts of \$20 million to the IRS Business Systems Modernization account and \$10 million to the Treasury Department salaries and expenses account. **NO Failed 209-216**

★ **275 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to carry out contracts with a U.S. company that is incorporated or chartered in Bermuda, Barbados, the Cayman Islands, Antigua or Panama to avoid U.S. taxes. **NO Failed 195-231**

★ **276 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to require a 1 percent across-the-board cut in discretionary spending. **NO Failed 87-340**

★ **277 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the city of Banning, Calif., for renovations to the city-owned pool. **NO Failed 61-365**

★ **278 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill by the city of Weirton, W.Va., for planning and design, construction, renovation, and development of facilities. **NO Failed 73-353**

★ **279 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for a multipurpose facility in Yucaipa, Calif. **NO Failed 58-368**

★ **280 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill by the Strand Theater Arts Center in Plattsburgh, N.Y., for the conversion of the Strand Theater into a performing arts center. **NO Failed 61-366**

★ **281 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to eliminate, consolidate, or plan to consolidate a terminal radar control center in a high-threat urban area. **NO Passed 261-166**

★ **282 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the Department of Housing and Urban Development to implement a regulation providing a certain type of Section 8 housing voucher to replace demolished public housing units only if the units were leased prior to being demolished. **NO Failed 214-214**

★ **283 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to finalize or implement a proposed Transportation Department regulation concerning control of a U.S. domestic airline by foreign investors. **NO Passed 291-137**

★ **284 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to implement, administer or enforce the economic embargo on Cuba. **NO Failed 183-245**

★ **285 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to enforce regulations preventing travel to Cuba by academic institutions. **NO Failed 187-236**

★ **286 6/14/06 H.R. 5576** Appropriating \$139.6 billion in FY2007, including \$67.8 billion in discretionary spending, for the departments of Housing and Urban Development, Treasury and Transportation, and related agencies. It provides \$15.2 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration, \$11.5 billion for the Treasury Department and \$6.1 billion for the judiciary. It also provides \$19.6 billion for the Office of Personnel Management and \$575 million for the District of Columbia. The bill funds grants to Amtrak at \$1.1 billion. **YES Passed 406-22**

★ **288 6/16/06 H. Res. 861** Declaring that it is not in the national security interest of the United States to set an arbitrary date for the withdrawal or redeployment of U.S. armed forces from Iraq and affirming U.S. commitment to establishing democracy in Iraq. It also honors Americans taking an active part in the war on terror and the sacrifices of the U.S. armed forces who have died or been wounded. The resolution congratulates Prime Minister Nuri Al-Maliki and the Iraqi people for participating in the 2005 elections and the formation of their new government. **YES Passed 256-153**

★ **289 6/19/06 H.R. 5540** Designating a post office in Dimmitt, Texas, for Jacob Dan Dones, who reached the rank of sergeant in the U.S. Army and

served in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. **YES Passed\* 306-0**

★ **290 6/19/06 H.R. 5504** Designating a post office in Mission, Kan., for Larry Winn Jr., R-Kan., who served nine terms in the House. **YES Passed\* 305-0**

★ **291 6/19/06 H. Res. 826** Designating the second week of July as National Youth Sports Week to promote the importance of athletic participation in a child's development. **YES Passed\* 311-0**

★ **293 6/20/06 H. Res. 731** Expressing appreciation to the Patriot Guard Riders for attending military funerals to shield families from protesters. **YES Passed\* 418-0**

★ **294 6/20/06 H.R. 5228** Requiring any representative from a country the State Department classifies as a state sponsor of terrorism to provide a detailed statement to the Justice Department describing any lobbying contact with members of Congress or congressional employees. **YES Failed\* 263-159**

★ **295 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds from being available to engage in electronic surveillance in the United States except as authorized under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act or two chapters of Title 18 in U.S. Code. **NO Failed 207-219**

★ **296 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to remove language in the bill barring the use of funds to establish permanent military bases in Iraq. **NO Failed 50-376**

★ **297 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill from developing or implementing any Web-based travel system being developed by the Pentagon. **NO Failed 141-285**

★ **298 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds for the Institute for Exploration at Mystic Aquarium in New London, Conn. **NO Failed 77-347**

★ **299 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds for the JASON Foundation. **NO Failed 69-352**

★ **300 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill to initiate military operations against Iran except in accordance with Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. **NO Failed 158-262**

★ **301 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for any contracts with the communications and public relations firm known as the Lincoln Group. **NO Failed 153-268**

★ **302 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the Northwest Manufacturing Initiative in Washington state. **NO Failed 56-369**

★ **303 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the Lewis Center for Education Research in Apple Valley, Calif. **NO Failed 50-373**

★ **304 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** An amendment to bar the use of funds in the bill for the Leonard Wood Research Institute in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. **NO Failed 62-363**

★ **305 6/20/06 H.R. 5631** Appropriating \$427.6 billion for defense spending, including \$50 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan in FY2007. The total includes \$120.5 billion for operations and maintenance, \$81.8 billion for procurement and \$75.3 billion for research and development. It also provides \$9 billion for ballistic missile defense and \$84.9 billion for military personnel, including a 2.2 percent pay raise. **YES Passed 407-19**

★ **306 6/21/06 H.R. 5573** Authorizing \$10 billion in funding for the federal community health centers program between FY2007 and FY2011. **YES Passed\* 424-3**

★ **307 6/21/06 H.R. 5574** Authorizing \$1.5 billion in funding for the children's hospital graduate medical education program between FY2007 and FY2011. **YES Passed\* 421-4**

★ **315 6/22/06 H.R. 5638** Permanently reducing the death tax, which is set to expire after 2010.

The bill increases the amount of income exempt from the death tax to \$5 million for individuals and \$10 million for couples, effective in 2010, and indexes it for inflation. It reduces the death tax rate beginning in 2010, making it equal to the capital gains rate for assets up to \$25 million and twice the capital gains rate for assets valued at \$25 million or more. It also provides a 60 percent deduction on the capital gains from qualified timber sales. **YES Passed 269-156**

★ **317 6/22/06 H.R. 4890** Authorizing the President to recommend to Congress that certain appropriations, direct spending, and targeted tax benefits be canceled. The bill establishes a set of expedited procedures for the House and Senate to vote on presidential proposals. If a bill would be enacted, the amounts of budget authority, direct spending or targeted tax benefits canceled could be used only to reduce the deficit, or to increase a surplus and could not be used to fund other programs. The bill's provisions sunset on Oct. 1, 2012. **YES Passed 247-172**

★ **318 6/22/06 H. Res. 323** Supporting the use of public and private sector resources to promote awareness of childhood cancer, as well as pediatric cancer research to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment of various forms of the disease. **YES Passed\* 393-0**

★ **320 6/27/06 H.R. 889** Adoption of the conference report authorizing \$8.7 billion in FY2006 for the Coast Guard, including \$5.6 billion for operation and maintenance, \$1 billion in mandatory spending for retired pay and \$1.6 billion for the Deep water program to replace aging ships and aircraft. It authorizes \$500 million for expenses relating to hurricanes Katrina and Rita. It also requires the Coast Guard commandant to specify terms and conditions for navigational safety for an offshore wind energy project in Nantucket Sound. It maintains the current authorized level of 45,500 Coast Guard personnel through FY2006. **YES Passed\* 413-0**

★ **321 6/27/06 H.R. 4843** Passage of the bill increasing disability compensation paid to veterans and to their survivors by the same cost-of-living adjustment payable to Social Security recipients. The increase will take effect on Dec. 1, 2006. **YES Passed\* 408-3**

★ **322 6/27/06 H.R. 4973** An amendment that would have provided residents with flood insurance in an area where a federally funded flood-control project causes it to become at a greater risk of flooding. The insurance would have been provided using a price formula that would have been applied had the project not been built. If no flood insurance would have been required, residents would be provided with insurance at no cost. **NO Failed 98-327**

★ **323 6/27/06 H.R. 4973** An amendment that would have ended all flood insurance subsidies on non-residential, vacation and second homes upon the publication of a certification of the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. **NO Failed 76-347**

★ **324 6/27/06 H.R. 4973** An amendment that would have required the Army Corps of Engineers to wait until the Joint Commission of the Upper Great Lakes completes a new flood map for the region before it completes a new inundation map. **NO Failed 120-304**

★ **325 6/27/06 H.R. 4973** Passage of the bill temporarily increasing to \$25 billion the amount of money the Federal Emergency Management Agency may borrow from the U.S. Treasury to pay claims under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It raises NFIP coverage limits for residential properties to \$335,000, from \$250,000; for residential contents to \$135,000, from \$100,000; and for non-residential properties to \$670,000, from \$500,000. The bill authorizes \$300 million per year from FY2007 through FY2012 for FEMA to modernize all flood maps and to map the 500-year floodplain. **YES Passed 416-4**

★ **326 6/27/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment adding \$25 million to the bill for the Legal Services Corporation, offset by cuts to the Justice Department General Administration account and the State Department Diplomatic and Consular Programs account. **NO Passed 237-185**

★ **327 6/27/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment adding \$40 million for the Small Business Administration's 7(a) small business loan program, offset by \$10 million cuts to each of the following accounts: Justice Department salaries and expenses, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration salaries and expenses, State Department general administration and Small Business Administration salaries and expenses. **NO Passed 214-207**

★ **328 6/27/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have added \$40 million to the bill for background checks done by the FBI. It would have been offset by a cut of the same amount for Justice Department legal activities, salaries and expenses. **NO Failed 176-243**

★ **329 6/27/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have added \$500,000 for Federal Prison System salaries and expenses. It would have been offset by a cut of the same amount for the International Organizations Contributions account. **NO Failed 163-257**

★ **330 6/27/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment adding \$50 million for Justice Assistance Grants. It was offset by a cut of the same amount for the Bureau of Census. **YES Passed 291-139**

★ **333 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill to prevent the implementation of state laws authorizing the use of marijuana for medical reasons in Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont or Washington state. **NO Failed 163-259**

★ **334 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill for the Arthur Avenue Retail Market in Bronx, NY, for local business requirements and improvements. **NO Failed 76-345**

★ **335 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill for the Bronx Council for the Arts in Bronx, NY. **NO Failed 74-343**

★ **336 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill for the Johnstown Area Regional Industries Workforce Development Program and Small Business Technology Center in Johnstown, PA. **NO Failed 63-356**

★ **337 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill for Fairmont State University in Fairmont, WV. **NO Failed 70-350**

★ **338 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill for the Southern and Eastern Kentucky Tourism Development Association in Somerset, KY. **NO Failed 56-363**

★ **339 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill for Mars exploration. **NO Failed 145-274**

★ **340 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill to carry out any provisions added in 1975 to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that require bilingual voting materials in areas that have a significant minority of voters who speak a language other than English. **NO Failed 167-254**

★ **341 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have added \$477 million to the Community Oriented Policing Service hiring program. It would have been offset by a cut of the same amount for NASA Mars exploration. **NO Failed 185-236**

★ **342 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill to design, renovate, construct, or rent any headquarters for the United Nations at any location in the United States. **NO Failed 131-288**

★ **343 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment bar-

ring the use of funds in the bill to carry out certain firearm-related crime and criminal procedure penalties. **YES Passed 230-191**

★ **344 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill to issue a national security letter for health insurance records under any of the provisions of law amended by Section 505 of the Patriot Act. **NO Failed 189-230**

★ **345 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment barring the use of funds in the bill to enforce the Federal District Court of the Southern District of Indiana's judgment in *Hinrichs v. Bosma*, which prohibits the Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives from permitting sectarian prayer as part of the official proceedings of the House. **YES Passed 246-174**

★ **346 6/28/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred the use of funds in the bill to obtain evidence in contravention of the U.S. code requiring officers with a warrant to knock and announce their presence before entering a private residence. **NO Failed 109-310**

★ **347 6/29/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have barred individuals from using any documentation other than a passport to denote citizenship and identity when traveling into the United States from a foreign country. **NO Failed 90-318**

★ **348 6/29/06 H.R. 5672** An amendment that would have required a 1 percent across-the-board cut in discretionary spending. **NO Failed 94-316**

★ **349 6/29/06 H.R. 5672** Passage of the bill providing \$60.2 billion in FY2007 for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State as well as various science and other related agencies. It provides \$22.3 billion for the Justice Department, \$5.9 billion for the Commerce Department and \$9.1 billion for the State Department and international broadcasting agencies. The bill also appropriates \$16.7 billion for NASA and \$6 billion for the National Science Foundation. As amended, it bars the use of funds in the bill to carry out certain firearm-related crime and criminal procedure penalties. **YES Passed 393-23**

★ **354 6/29/06 H.R. 4761** An amendment that would have removed all provisions in the bill ending the current ban on offshore drilling. **NO Failed 170-249**

★ **355 6/29/06 H.R. 4761** An amendment that would have barred the Interior Department from issuing leases for oil or natural development within 125 miles of a state's coast, unless the state specifically requests such leases. **NO Failed 65-353**

★ **356 6/29/06 H.R. 4761** Passage of the bill ending a federal moratorium on most offshore exploration and development of oil and natural gas but giving states more control over drilling along their coasts. The bill requires the Interior Department to offer leases for offshore oil and gas drilling for 75 percent of available offshore locations on the Outer Continental Shelf. Drilling is banned out to 50 miles off the coasts. States can repeal the ban and pursue exploration closer to the coast or extend protection to 100 miles. It incrementally increases states' share of revenue from offshore fuel production, bids for leases, and royalty payments from 4.6 percent in fiscal 2006 to 42.5 percent in FY2022. **YES Passed 232-187**

★ **357 6/29/06 H. Res. 895** Adoption of the resolution expressing support for intelligence and law enforcement programs to track terrorists and terrorist finances as well as condemning the disclosure and publication of classified information that relate to such programs. It also states that the House expects the cooperation of all news media by not disclosing classified intelligence programs. **YES Passed 227-183**

★ **358 7/10/06 H.R. 2563** Authorizing \$3 million for the Interior Department, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conduct studies to determine the feasibility of water storage in the Snake, Boise and Payette river basins in Idaho. **YES Passed\* 366-1**

★ **359 7/10/06 H.R. 5061** Directing the Interior

Department to convey the properties of the Paint Bank National Fish Hatchery and the Wytheville National Fish Hatchery to the state of Virginia. **YES Passed\* 366-0**

★ **361 7/11/06 H.R. 4411** An amendment to remove a provision in the bill allowing states and tribes to permit Internet gambling under certain conditions. **NO Failed 114-297**

★ **363 7/11/06 H.R. 4411** Prohibiting banks and credit card companies from processing payments for online gambling bets and bar gambling businesses from accepting credit cards and electronic transfers for online betting. The bill protects financial institutions from any civil liability for blocking transactions that are reasonably believed to involve illegal gambling. It increases the criminal penalties for businesses to a maximum prison term of five years. It authorizes \$10 million per year from FY2007 to FY2010 for the Justice Department to investigate and prosecute illegal Internet gambling operations. **YES Passed 317-93**

★ **367 7/12/06 H.R. 2990** An amendment to require the SEC to finalize, within 60 days of enactment, a rule to define a nationally recognized statistical rating organization and, within 180 days of enactment, to establish guidelines about the process used to identify such organizations. It would have required an annual congressional hearing on the effectiveness of the new definitions and guidelines, and the voluntary self-regulatory framework for five years after enactment. **NO Failed 198-222**

★ **368 7/12/06 H.R. 2990** Removing the SEC's discretion in designating nationally recognized credit rating companies, instead of giving the agency the authority to establish a voluntary registration process for credit rating companies. It requires all SEC-registered rating organizations to establish and enforce policies that prevent the misuse of non-public information and address any conflicts of interest that may arise during the organization's normal course of business. **YES Passed 255-166**

★ **369 7/12/06 H.R. 5646** Requiring the EPA to conduct a study of energy consumption at computer data centers operated by the federal government and private entities. The study will review and analyze cost-saving measures and recommendations for adopting energy-efficient computer centers. **YES Passed 417-4**

★ **370 7/13/06 H.R. 9** An amendment to revise the formula used to determine which voting jurisdictions are required to gain "pre-clearance" from the federal government before changing voting policies or procedures. It would have required state or local jurisdictions to seek pre-clearance if there is a discrimination policy or test in place, or voter turnout or registration rates were less than 50 percent in any of the last three presidential elections. **YES Failed 96-318**

★ **371 7/13/06 H.R. 9** An amendment to reauthorize expiring provisions of the 1965 Voting Rights Act for 10 years through 2016. **YES Failed 134-288**

★ **372 7/13/06 H.R. 9** An amendment to remove a provision in the bill reauthorizing, for 25 years, the requirement that states provide bilingual voting assistance as well as the use of American Community Survey census data. **YES Failed 185-238**

★ **373 7/13/06 H.R. 9** An amendment to require the Justice Department to annually compile a list of voting jurisdictions subject to pre-clearance requirements that have met current standards to end such status, beginning three years after enactment. The agency would have had to inform the public and the affected state or locality of those eligible for ending their status and approve a jurisdiction's request to formally end its pre-clearance requirement. **YES Failed 118-302**

★ **374 7/13/06 H.R. 9** Extending expiring provisions of the 1965 Voting Rights Act for 25 years, including a requirement that states with a history of voter discrimination pre-clear any voting law

## Defense Contractors in Joplin Pump Millions into Local Economy



Led by Gestalt, Eagle Picher and LaBarge, Inc., Joplin area defense contractors are landing defense contracts worth millions of dollars that are creating good paying local jobs and new products and technologies for the Pentagon.

Gestalt, an international consulting firm providing management consulting, technology solutions, and managed services to the defense and energy and utilities industries, won more than \$53 million in defense contracts this year, including a contract valued at over \$6.5 million in support of the Air Force's Command and Control Service Level Management (C2SLM) application. Sponsored by Congressman Roy Blunt, the

contract directs Gestalt to create a set of new management tools necessary for the military to operate in a web services world. Gestalt has created more than 18 new jobs since establishing offices (pictured left) in Joplin two years ago.

LaBarge, Inc. maintains manufacturing facilities in Joplin that employ more than 220 people. In addition to working on wiring harnesses used on the space shuttles, LaBarge engineers and makes parts for military aircraft made by Boeing, Northrop Grumman and Raytheon.

A restructured Eagle Picher Corporation is making important investments in its Joplin operations with the development of a \$10 million manufacturing facility to make smaller, more powerful Lithium-ion batteries for military and space uses. Congressman Blunt secured a \$1.4 million federal appropriation in 2006 and \$2.3 million in 2007 to support research and development (pictured top) of Lithium-ion batteries by Eagle Picher for use in space and on the battlefield.



## Work Begins on New Joplin Airport Terminal

Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt, flanked by supporters of the Joplin Regional Airport, broke ground for the new terminal building in August. The \$6 million project should be operational by 2008. Blunt worked to secure \$1.4 million for the project.

Convenient commercial air service is a vital part of any community's economic development," Congressman Blunt said. "Joplin will benefit from a new terminal in its efforts to gain dependable daily air service and renew interest from companies searching for a community in which to establish business operations." Joplin began new commercial air service this year with daily flights to Kansas City and Dallas.

Aviation Director Steve Stockham says construction of the terminal will be followed by new automobile parking facilities, taxiways and aprons used by aircraft. Other improvements to the Joplin airport includes new daily air service direct to Kansas City and Dallas.



## Budget Transparency Bill is Law

Legislation championed by Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt and Government Reform Chairman Tom Davis (Va.) to increase budget accountability and transparency by establishing a public database to track federal grants and contracts was signed into law by President Bush.

"This bill will enhance the accountability and transparency in the federal budget process," Blunt said. "It's a great, bipartisan plan to make sure tax dollars are spent wisely. The database is a simple, straightforward way to hold the budgeting process accountable to the people."

The federal government awards approximately \$300 billion in grants to roughly 30,000 different organizations annually. Each year, roughly

one million contracts exceed the \$25,000 reporting threshold. The Blunt-Davis bill will ensure that those expenditures are readily accessible to the media, the public, and Members of Congress.

**The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act will:**

- Eliminate Wasteful Spending by empowering everyone with access to the internet to begin reviewing federal grants and other forms of taxpayer assistance for waste, fraud, and abuse;
- Ensure Compliance with Federal Law by requiring grantees to also disclose their subgrantees, and
- Ensure Compliance with Lobbying Restrictions by identifying entities receiving federal grants that would be subject to lobbying restrictions in existing law.

## Congressman Blunt's Newtonia Battlefields Study Wins House Approval

Washington, DC - Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt's proposal to have the National Park Service study protections for the 1862 and 1864 Civil War battlefields around Newtonia, Missouri, has won House approval. Blunt explained, "The area around the battlefields is still largely undeveloped, but this area will see lots of pressure in the next decade for residential and commercial expansion."

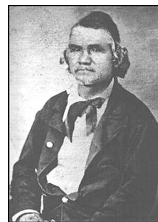
Blunt's H. R. 5978 proposes preservation of the battlefields as a new park, or management of the Newtonia battlefields by the National Park Service at Wilson's Creek Battlefield near Springfield. Blunt added, "The National Park Service rated the 1864 battle a Priority I and the 1862 battle a Priority II for protection from development."

Kay Hively, representing the Newtonia Battlefield Protection Association, told the a Congressional panel in September that the Newtonia battlefields deserve preservation by the National Park Service because the battles are significant in the history of the Civil War. Hively said, "The First Battle of Newtonia is nationally significant because it is believed to be the only Civil War battle in

which full Native American units fought on both sides of the conflict. While Native American soldiers fought in many battles, it was unprecedented to have Native American units on both sides, led by Native American officers such as the great General Stand Watie. At Newtonia this happened, and these units actually met in hand-to-hand combat on the battlefield. Newtonia is clearly THE site best suited to tell the story of Native American participation in the Civil War."

The 1864 battle was the last battle in Missouri, a state that had more Civil War battles than any other state besides Virginia and Tennessee. Approximately 350 soldiers were casualties (killed and wounded) on both sides in 1862, and 650 casualties were reported in the 1864 battle.

For a dozen years the Newtonia Battlefield Protection Association has led efforts to preserve the battlefield with the purchase of 11 acres and the Ritchey Mansion that was both a headquarters and hospital in both battles.



Stand Watie

## Congressman Blunt Secures \$10.5 Million for Jordan Valley Innovation Center Research



The Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (H.R. 5631), signed into law in October, contains \$10.5 million in funding for Springfield's Jordan Valley Innovation Center (JVIC) Phase II expansion and two major research projects sought by Seventh District Congressman Roy Blunt. The funding includes \$2.6 million for the start of Phase II development of the Jordan Valley Innovation Center now under construction and scheduled to be put into use next year.

"Phase I of the Jordan Valley Innovation Center is a success even before it opens," Congressman Blunt said. "There is already a demand for more space by companies doing original research in biology, engineering, electronics, manufacturing and chemistry. I look forward to continuing these advancements by working with Missouri State University and local legislators to provide our military a new generation of weapons, support systems and defense technologies that America needs to defend our nation and keep us safe."

"The Jordan Valley Innovation Center is becoming a reality because of the wonderful work of the Missouri Congressional delegation, including Senators (Kit) Bond and (Jim) Talent," said Missouri State President Michael T. Nietzel. "But from the beginning, the driving force behind this project has been Congressman Blunt. Through his leadership, the economic potential, technology infrastructure, and future of Springfield and the Ozarks are changing rapidly and permanently. The ultimate beneficiaries of the research and development at JVIC will be the students and citizens of Missouri and the United States."

The \$12.4 million, Phase I development of the JVIC is underway and set for occupancy in mid-2007.

## Blunt Lauds increased Port Security

President Bush has signed the SAFE Port Act into law. Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt welcomed the new legislation: The most important responsibility of our government is to protect the American people.

By making the SAFE Port Act law, we will enhance the security of our nation's ports to help protect against any future terrorist attacks. Because we are at war against an enemy who has vowed to exploit any weakness they can find, we must know what is entering into our country. The SAFE Port Act gives us the necessary tools to prevent dangerous cargo from reaching our shores."

The measure strengthens cargo security requirements in the container's country of origin, en route, and at U.S. ports, and requires 98 percent of all inbound cargo to be scanned for radiation. The bill also fully authorizes the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office to develop the global nuclear detection architecture, improve information-sharing in the law



enforcement community, and strengthen our nuclear detection capabilities.

Supporting our \$11 trillion economy are:

- 7,500 miles of land border with Canada and Mexico.

- Crossing every year are 500 million people, 130 million motor vehicles and 2.5 million rail cars.
- 95,000 miles of shore line and navigable waters.
- 361 ports that see 8,000 foreign flag vessels, 9 million containers of cargo and nearly 200 million cruise and ferry passengers every year.
- 422 primary airports and another 124 commercial service airports that see 30,000 flights and 1.8 million passengers every day.
- 110,000 miles of highway and 220,000 miles of rail track with 590,000 bridges.



# Southwest Missouri Constituent Success Stories

The new Medicare Prescription D program brought several calls from constituents for help. Many of the calls were from people who were eligible for Medicaid/Medicare coverage and wanted to solve problems with the insurance companies providing coverage. One wrote, "Thank you for your assistance in getting my prescription plan back on track. Your letter to Medicare was very successful."

Some of the common problems included seniors who had enrolled in two programs or were paying two premiums. In most cases, the problem was resolved within a few days with Medicare, the insurance company or the constituent. (See other success stories about Medicare Part D on Page 16).

In seeking a disability claim with Social Security a Springfield man had pre-paid his attorney. Social Security continued to withhold the man's attorney fees until Congressman Blunt's office explained the problem. "I had been earnestly trying to get the money returned for 8 months, he said." Within a month after visiting your Springfield office, I had the money in my bank account.

"What I have been working on for four months took only about a week to be resolved with your help," wrote a Joplin woman after her Social Security check failed to arrive. A visit to the Joplin Constituent Service Center, some paperwork and the lady said she was "very confident that things would finally be straightened out." They were.

After five years of work without resolution of a problem with the Social Security Administration, a woman visited Congressman Blunt's office in a plea for help in recovering \$3,000. "You got the funds they took from me paid back to me," she explained.

A Joplin man encountered trouble with the IRS after filing his income taxes. He submitted the documentation three separate times and turned to Congressman Blunt's constituency staff for assistance. "We got the IRS to agree to our original filing. The problem was resolved in half the time" he expected.

A woman from the nation of Togo won a lottery for a diversity visa to come to the United States, but the State Department had listed the wrong country on the visa. Congressman Blunt's office worked to correct the mistake and allowed her to come to the United States to attend school and gain lawful employment in the finance sector.

With only two days remaining before three Springfield brothers were to leave on a church mission trip to Nicaragua, they realized their passports had not arrived. Constituent Advocate Sue Ellen Ball called the National Passport office and explained the need to expedite the passports. The passports arrived after the morning the boys left on the trip. Their mother had to deliver the passports as the boys boarded their bus to the airport. Their mother said, "We knew he was meant to go. Thanks for allowing God to work."

When an elderly Neosho man was injured in an auto accident, a third party claim was filed with Medicare, but it was many months later they sought assistance from Congressman Blunt. "We had been trying over a

year to settle a third party liability claim and could seem to make virtually no progress. I followed the procedure Sue Ellen Ball presented to me and within thirty days the issue was resolved," she wrote.



Gene Ballay



Thirty-eight years ago Gene Ballay was injured when his jeep flipped coming off Hill 272 in Thailand. He spent 11 months in five different hospitals. In 2005 he learned that the soldiers serving on Hill 272 had been awarded medals, and he contacted Congressman Blunt's office.

He wrote, "Congressman Roy Blunt's Constituent Advocate office 'took the bull by the horns,' and I have been informed by the Army Review board that my record has been updated to reflect award of these medals."

## Congressman Blunt Honors Academy Appointees

Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt met with seven students from Southwest Missouri who will pursue their higher education at the U.S. Service Academies.

Congressman Blunt, the father of a Naval Academy graduate, said, "The nation will look to these young men to provide leadership to keep Americans safe at home and abroad in the years to come. I applaud their decision to pursue a future in the service of our country."

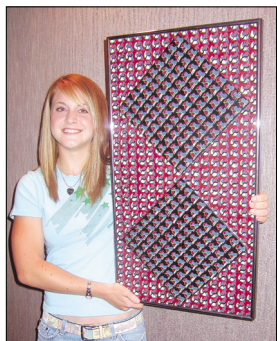
The gathering offered the new students and their families the opportunity to start building relationships and establishing networks with other academy families in the area. The new students and their parents met other families who can share their experiences and give them advice on how best to approach the lifestyle that goes with attending a military academy.



Southwest Missouri students attending military academies: Jay Twitty from Springfield, West Point; Edgar Conrad from Joplin, West Point; 7th District Congressional District Director Sharon Nahon; Taylor Ross from Springfield, Naval Academy; William McNeely from Springfield, Naval Academy; Cameron Ross from Reeds Spring, Merchant Marine; Joshua McChrystal from Springfield, West Point, and Jonathan Benson from Webb City, Air Force, were unable to attend and are not pictured.

## Monett High School Student Wins Blunt's 2006 Congressional Art Competition

Springfield, MO – Emily Newbold, a sophomore from Monett High School, took top honors in the 10th Annual Seventh Congressional District High School Art Competition held at the Springfield Art Museum on April 7.



Newbold's untitled jazz gloss tempera painting was judged as the best of 15 works submitted. Art faculty members from six Southwest Missouri colleges and universities anonymously scored the paintings.

Newbold's painting will hang in the U.S. Capitol complex for the next year. Judges awarded honorable mentions to Webb City High School senior Nikki Hill for her watercolor and pencil drawing "Summer of '65." Her painting will be displayed in Congressman Blunt's Joplin Constituent Service Center in NorthPark Mall for the next year. Glendale High School junior Andrew Stone's graphite piece "My Backyard" will hang in Blunt's Springfield Constituent Service Center.

## Congressman Blunt Delivers Crime Laboratory Funding

"With funding in the bank," Congressman Blunt said, "the City of Springfield and its partners can look at moving forward on creating the crime lab. The backlogs that currently exist are a key factor that keeps criminals on the streets longer, creating fear and anguish for their victims and more crime for law enforcement officers. The new crime lab will offer lawmen new forensic science and technology, and will speed the delivery of justice to help convict criminals and predators and remove them from our neighborhoods."

The \$1.48 million grant would be used to create a "full service crime laboratory providing services in the forensic



Governor Matt Blunt announced his support for the lab by adding appropriations to his budget to staff and operate the crime lab in Springfield when it is established.

specialties of DNA, trace evidence, fire and toolmarks, toxicology, latent fingerprints and drug chemistry. The laboratory will be accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) in each of the disciplines and be Combine DNA Index System (CODIS) certified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

According to the Justice Department grant award, the goals of the federal laboratory grant include:

- Providing full service forensic laboratory capabilities to Southwest Missouri
- Achieving a 30-day turnaround for all requests for forensic services in the Springfield area
- Providing forensic personnel to testify in court in a more timely manner, and
- Enhancing local criminal investigations by making forensic science personnel available to assist criminal investigations.

## Telephone Excise Tax Goes the Way of the Telegraph



House Majority Whip Roy Blunt welcomed the decision by the Treasury Department to end the federal excise tax on long-distance service. Blunt has worked for over six years to disconnect this 102 year-old tax that 99 million American households have paid every month.

"Levied to help fund the 220-day, Spanish American War in 1898, the telephone excise tax has outlasted two world wars, the Great Depression, and the start of two new centuries," Congressman Blunt said, "but the federal government continued to needlessly tax basic telephone services." The telephone excise tax was designed as a luxury tax on the rich who were the predominant telephone users in 1898, but it developed into an onerous tax on low income taxpayers over the last century.

changes with the federal government and a requirement that states provide bilingual assistance to non-English speaking voters. It also overturns two recent Supreme Court decisions regarding federal standards in approving redistricting plans. It allows the Justice Department to directly send federal observers to any area in which there is a reasonable belief a violation of voting rights could occur. **YES Passed 390-33**

★ **375 7/17/06 H.R. 3085** Directing the Interior Department, within six months of the bill's enactment, to submit to Congress a study regarding the feasibility of adding new segments and routes to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. **YES Passed\* 356-5**

★ **376 7/17/06 H.R. 3496** Authorizing an additional \$1.5 billion over 10 years for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for capital and preventive maintenance projects. The funding is contingent upon amendments to the interstate compact between the local governments that established WMATA, including a requirement that the participating governments provide dedicated funding sources, the establishment of an inspector general, and expansion of the WMATA board of directors. **YES Passed\* 242-120**

★ **377 7/17/06 H.R. 3729** Providing emergency authority to the chief judges of federal district courts to toll, delay or otherwise provide relief from deadlines under federal or state laws or rules in the event of emergency situations. **YES Passed\* 363-0**

★ **378 7/18/06 H.J. Res. 88** Proposing a constitutional amendment that would have defined marriage as consisting only of the union of a man and a woman. It would have provided that the U.S. Constitution or any state's constitution could not be construed to require that marriage or any other constructs of marriage be conferred to any other union. Note: A two-thirds majority vote is required to pass a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution. **YES Failed\* 236-187**

★ **379 7/18/06 S. 3504** Prohibiting the solicitation or knowing acceptance of tissue from human fetuses deliberately gestated for research purposes, a process called "fetal farming". **YES Passed\* 425-0**

★ **380 7/18/06 S. 2754** Requiring the National Institutes of Health to conduct and support research on the isolation, derivation and production of pluripotent stem cells that do not destroy human embryos. It would have required the Health and Human Services secretary to issue final guidelines for additional stem cell research, with priority for research with the greatest potential to yield benefits in the near future. **YES Failed\* 273-154**

★ **381 7/18/06 H. Res. 498** Expressing the support of the House for the goals and ideals of School Bus Safety Week. **YES Passed\* 424-0**

★ **384 7/19/06 H.R. 2389** An amendment to remove language in the bill prohibiting the Supreme Court from hearing any cases relating to the constitutionality of the Pledge of Allegiance. **NO Failed 183-241**

★ **385 7/19/06 H.R. 2389** Prohibiting federal district and appellate courts and the Supreme Court from hearing cases challenging the constitutionality of the Pledge of Allegiance. It allows the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals to continue considering such cases. **YES Passed 260-167**

★ **386 7/19/06 H.R. 5683** Authorizing the federal acquisition of the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial in San Diego, CA. **YES Passed\* 349-74**

★ **387 7/19/06 H. Res. 911** Condemning the July 11, 2006, terrorist attacks in Mumbai and Srinagar, India, and expressing deepest condolences to the families and friends of those killed in the attacks. **YES Passed\* 425-0**

★ **388 7/19/06 H.R. 810** Overriding President Bush's July 19, 2006 veto. The measure would have allowed the use of federal funds in research on embryonic stem cell lines at in-vitro fertilization clinics. The bill would have authorized the Health

and Human Services Department to conduct and support research involving human embryonic stem cells that meet certain criteria, regardless of when stem cells were derived from a human embryo. Note: A two-thirds majority of both chambers is required to override a Presidential veto. **NO Failed 235-193**

★ **391 7/20/06 H. Res. 921** Reaffirming the support of the House of Representatives for the state of Israel, and condemning Hamas and Hezbollah for unprovoked attacks against Israel. **YES Passed\* 410-8**

★ **392 7/20/06 H.R. 5684** Implementing a trade agreement between the United States and Oman. It reduces most tariffs and duties currently affecting trade between the two countries, reduces barriers for services and increases protections for intellectual property. The measure also requires each nation to comply with International Labor Organization standards. **YES Passed 221-205**

★ **393 7/20/06 H. Con. Res. 448** Expressing the sense of Congress that NASA should be commended for the successful completion of the 13-day mission by the space shuttle Discovery and for its work in space exploration. **YES Passed\* 415-0**

★ **394 7/24/06 S. 1496** Requiring the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service, in consultation with state management agencies, to conduct a three-year pilot program for up to 15 states to issue electronic versions of federal duck stamps, which are required for individuals who hunt waterfowl on federal lands. **YES Passed\* 358-4**

★ **395 7/24/06 S. 203** Reducing royalties on soda ash for five years, authorizing funds for the federal government to assist California with groundwater cleanup, designating 10 new national heritage areas, authorizing studies into potential new national heritage areas, and reauthorizing programs related to two existing national heritage areas. **YES Passed\* 323-39**

★ **396 7/24/06 H.R. 5534** Directing fines collected from violations of Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards into a new Energy Department grant program intended to increase infrastructure to make alternative fuels more widely available to consumers. **YES Passed\* 355-9**

★ **397 7/25/06 H.R. 5852** Establishing a new Office of Emergency Communications in the Homeland Security Department, requiring assessments on the adequacy of current equipment and systems, restricting the availability of grants for communications equipment unless certain conditions are met, and establishing regional working groups. **YES Passed\* 414-2**

★ **398 7/25/06 H.R. 4804** Requiring the Federal Housing Administration to insure 90 percent of an individual's loan for the purchase and improvement of manufactured housing. It also increases the loan limits for insuring a manufactured home to \$68,040 in 2008, and requires that the limits be indexed for inflation on an annual basis. **YES Passed\* 412-4**

★ **400 7/25/06 H.R. 5121** Allowing the Federal Housing Administration to use risk-based pricing in determining a borrower's mortgage insurance premium. It expands the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage loan insurance program and raises loan limits for the single-family loan program. **YES Passed\* 415-7**

★ **401 7/25/06 H.R. 5013** Prohibiting the confiscation of legally owned weapons during national emergencies or Presidentially declared disasters, unless expressly permitted by other federal, state or local laws. **YES Passed\* 322-99**

★ **402 7/25/06 H. Con. Res. 449** Commemorating the 60th anniversary of professional baseball pitcher Bob Feller's 1946 season and his return from military service. **YES Passed\* 417-0**

★ **403 7/25/06 H. Con. Res. 384** Recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity and expressing best wishes for its continued success. **YES Passed\* 422-0**

★ **404 7/26/06 H.R. 5337** Formally establishing

the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) with the Treasury Secretary as chairperson and the Homeland Security Secretary as vice chairperson. It authorizes \$10 million per year for the Treasury Department in FY2007 through FY2009 for CFIUS operations. The bill also requires CFIUS to conduct a review of any national security-related business transactions. **YES Passed\* 424-0**

★ **405 7/26/06 H.R. 5319** Requiring schools and libraries that apply for grants through the Federal Communications Commission's Universal Service Fund to certify that they are enforcing a policy of Internet safety for minors. Libraries and schools must certify that their computers are protected against access to visual depictions that are obscene, contain child pornography or are harmful to minors. **YES Passed\* 410-15**

★ **407 7/26/06 H.R. 5682** An amendment reaffirming the intent of Congress that the nuclear cooperation into which the governments of the United States and India would enter is not for military use. **YES Passed 414-0**

★ **408 7/26/06 H.R. 5682** An amendment to require that before any nuclear cooperation with India would proceed, and every year thereafter, the President must certify India has not increased the level of domestic uranium it sends through its weapons program. **NO Failed 155-268**

★ **409 7/26/06 H.R. 5682** An amendment to restrict exports of uranium and other types of nuclear reactor fuel, defined as "source material" and "special nuclear material" in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, to India until the President determines that India has halted the production of fissile material, including plutonium and highly enriched uranium, for use in nuclear weapons. **NO Failed 184-241**

★ **411 7/26/06 H.R. 5682** Permitting the President to waive certain provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to seek congressional approval for civilian nuclear cooperation agreements with India if the President makes certain determinations, including that India would provide the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency with a plan to separate civilian and military nuclear facilities and programs. The bill requires a joint resolution of approval by Congress for a nuclear cooperation agreement with India to enforce the agreement. **YES Passed 359-68**

★ **414 7/27/06 H.R. 4157** An amendment requiring a study to establish benchmarks for the best practices and cost effectiveness for the use of health information technology in medically underserved areas. **YES Passed 417-1**

★ **416 7/27/06 H.R. 4157** Expanding the number of codes used by insurers and health care providers in billing. It authorizes \$15 million per year in FY2007 and FY2008 for a grant program to assist in the coordination of health care for the uninsured, underinsured, and medically underserved through new or improved health information technology. The bill codifies the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and requires the national coordinator to publish a strategic plan to endorse core interoperability guidelines by December 31, 2006. **YES Passed 270-148**

★ **422 7/28/06 H.R. 4** Overhauling federal pension laws. It establishes a new premium, \$1,250 for each participant in the company's pension plan, that employers who terminate their plans must pay the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. It changes the formula for determining whether a pension plan is fully funded, and requires employers to meet a 100 percent funding target. Firms that administer 401(k) plans are allowed to give investment advice to employees with respect to the firm's own financial products, but it must be based on an independently certified computer model. **YES Passed 279-131**

★ **423 7/28/06 H. Res. 844** Congratulating the

International AIDS Vaccine Initiative on 10 years of achievement in the search for an HIV/AIDS vaccine. **YES Passed\* 407-0**

★ **425 7/29/2006 H.R. 5970** Raising the minimum wage by \$2.10 to \$7.25 per hour by June 1, 2009 and increasing the death tax exemption to \$5 million per individual and \$10 million per couple, indexed for inflation, by Jan. 1, 2015. The bill also extends through 2007 a group of expiring tax breaks, including the research and development credit, the maximum \$4,000 tuition tax deduction for higher education and the deduction for state and local sales taxes. **YES Passed 230-180**

★ **426 7/29/2006 S. 250** Adoption of the conference report on the bill reauthorizing the Perkins vocational and technical education program, including the basic state grant program, for such sums as necessary from FY2007 to FY2011. The measure maintains the Tech Prep program, separates from the state grant program, but gives states the option of combining the funding for the two programs into one program. It requires local recipients of federal vocational education funds to establish local performance measures. **YES Passed 399-1**

★ **427 9/6/06 H.R. 2808** Directing the Treasury Department to produce no more than 500,000 \$1 silver coins commemorating the life of President Abraham Lincoln. **YES Passed\* 401-0**

★ **428 9/6/06 H. Res. 605** Recognizing the life of businessman and New York Giants co-owner Preston Robert Tisch and his contributions to New York City, the New York Giants football club, the National Football League and the United States. **YES Passed\* 399-0**

★ **429 9/6/06 H. Res. 875** Congratulating Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga., on its 125th anniversary. **YES Passed\* 400-0**

★ **431 9/7/06 H.R. 503** An amendment to require the Agriculture Department to certify that sufficient horse sanctuaries exist to care for unwanted horses before the legislation would take effect. **YES Failed 177-229**

★ **432 9/7/06 H.R. 503** An amendment to allow horses to be transported, possessed, purchased, sold, received, or donated for slaughter for human consumption by Native Americans or people from other cultures that eat horse meat. **YES Failed 149-256**

★ **433 9/7/06 H.R. 503** Prohibiting the transporting, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses to be slaughtered for human consumption. It also authorizes the Agriculture Department to detain horses that it has reason to believe might be transported, delivered, received, possessed, purchased, sold, or donated for slaughter for human consumption. **NO Passed 263-146**

★ **436 9/12/06 H.R. 5428** Designating a post office in Morris, Ill., for Sgt. Joshua A. Terando, a reservist in the Army National Guard who died in Iraq on Nov. 10, 2005. **YES Passed\* 389-0**

★ **437 9/12/06 H. Res. 175** Recognizing the importance of establishing a national memorial at the site of the former World Trade Center to mark the terrorist attacks of Feb. 26, 1993, and Sept. 11, 2001, and supporting the efforts of the World Trade Center Memorial Foundation. **YES Passed\* 394-0**

★ **439 9/13/06 H.R. 4893** Placing additional limits on opening new off-reservation gambling operations for American Indian tribes. It would have eliminated the test under which a tribe may build new off-reservation casinos if Interior Department and state officials determine that the new development is in the best interest of the tribe and the community. **YES Failed\* 247-171**

★ **440 9/13/06 H. Res. 994** Expressing the sense of the House recognizing September 11 as a day to remember those who died on Sept. 11, 2001. It encourages Americans to make September 11 a day of national service; extends sympathies to families and loved ones of the victims of that day; and honors first-responders,

law enforcement personnel, and others who aided the victims and risked their lives following the attacks. **YES Passed 395-22**

★ **441 9/14/06 H.R. 2965** An amendment to allow the attorney general to authorize certain agencies within the Justice Department to award contracts to Federal Prison Industries on a non-competitive basis. **NO Failed 77-339**

★ **442 9/14/06 H.R. 2965** An amendment to allow the Federal Prison Industries to continue contracts, of the type being performed on the date of enactment of the bill, providing services to for-profit businesses. **NO Failed 80-332**

★ **443 9/14/06 H.R. 2965** Phasing out, over five years, the current requirement that federal agencies seeking to purchase at least \$2,500 worth of products or services must first attempt to buy them through the Federal Prison Industries before considering other vendors. The requirement will expire on Oct. 1, 2011. The bill also authorizes \$75 million per year after FY2008 for the federal Bureau of Prisons to run a new program to provide inmates with education, vocational training and apprenticeships. **YES Passed 362-57**

★ **446 9/14/06 H.R. 6061** Requiring the Homeland Security Department to prevent the entry of terrorists, unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband along the nation's international borders. It authorizes the construction of approximately 700 miles of fencing along the U.S.-Mexican border. The bill requires a study of implementing security systems along the U.S.-Canadian border and directs the agency to evaluate the ability of personnel to stop fleeing vehicles at the border. **YES Passed 283-138**

★ **449 9/14/06 H. Res. 1000** Changing House rules requiring committees to list the earmarks contained in the bills they approve or in the accompanying committee reports, along with the names of the members requesting those earmarks. It also requires conferees to include in the managers' statement a list of any earmarks added by conferees and the names of the requesters. The requirements apply to bills that come to the House floor without being reported by a committee or to amendments that are offered on the House floor. The changes made by the resolution apply only to the House of Representatives. **YES Passed 245-171**

★ **450 9/14/06 H.R. 6033** Designating a post office in Woodside, N.Y., for Thomas J. Manton, D-N.Y., who served seven terms in the House. **YES Passed\* 403-0**

★ **451 9/19/06 H. Con. Res. 210** Expressing the sense of Congress in support of the goal of eliminating suffering and death due to cancer by 2015. **YES Passed\* 403-0**

★ **452 9/19/06 H. Res. 622** Recognizing and honoring the Filipino World War II veterans for their defense of American democracy and their contribution to the victorious outcome of World War II. **YES Passed\* 402-0**

★ **453 9/19/06 H. Con. Res. 415** Condemning the Iranian government for repression of the Iranian Baha'i community, requesting the president to call for the Iranian government to emancipate the Baha'i community and emphasizing that the United States regards its human rights practices as a significant factor in its foreign policy regarding Iran. **YES Passed\* 393-2**

★ **457 9/20/06 H. Res. 942** Recognizing the centennial anniversary of the Iranian Constitution of 1906. **YES Passed\* 413-2**

★ **459 9/20/06 H.R. 4844** Requiring individuals voting in a federal election to provide photo identification, and in FY2010, require photo identification that also shows proof of citizenship in order to vote. It allows voters who cannot show identification to cast provisional ballots, which could be counted only if the voter presents photo identification to an election official within 48 hours. Voters in federal elections have to provide a photocopy of government-issued photo identifi-

cation when voting by mail. It also requires states to provide photographic voter identification cards to voters who do not have other forms of government-issued identification. **YES Passed 228-196**

★ **460 9/20/06 H. Res. 976** Adoption of the resolution condemning the human rights abuses by the Iranian government and strongly urging the international community and the United States government to bring pressure on Iran to halt such acts. **YES Passed\* 408-10**

★ **463 9/21/06 S. 418** Banning future sales of periodic payment plans, requiring greater regulation of insurance sales on military bases, as well as requiring the Defense Department to create a registry of agents who are prohibited from selling financial policies on bases. It also expands investor access to registration information for brokers, dealers and advisers. **YES Passed\* 418-3**

★ **465 9/21/06 H.R. 6094** Setting conditions under which illegal immigrants may be detained indefinitely pending their deportation, barring admission into the United States for gang members and allowing alien members of certain gangs to be automatically eligible for deportation. The Homeland Security Department is able to detain illegal immigrants indefinitely beyond the initial 90-day period pending their deportation. The bill also authorizes the agency to remove those detained immigrants. **YES Passed 328-95**

★ **468 9/21/06 H.R. 6095** Setting new procedures to expedite lawsuits against the government involving immigration law, requiring the Justice Department to hire more attorneys to prosecute human smuggling cases, and clarifying that state and local law enforcement agencies have the authority to investigate and apprehend illegal immigrants. It also requires courts considering civil lawsuits against the government involving immigration law enforcement to expedite such cases. It requires the Justice Department to increase the number of U.S. attorneys by at least 20 per year for FY2008 through FY2013 to prosecute human smuggling cases. **YES Passed 277-140**

★ **469 9/21/06 H.R. 4830** Establishing new criminal penalties for individuals involved with the construction of illegal tunnels across the U.S. border. It sets a penalty of up to 20 years imprisonment for those convicted of knowingly constructing or financing a tunnel across the border and a penalty of up to 10 years in prison for those that permit the construction or use of such a tunnel on their land. Individuals convicted of using illegal tunnels to smuggle illegal immigrants, controlled substances, weapons of mass destruction or other illegal goods are subject to twice the criminal penalty that they otherwise would have faced. **YES Passed 422-0**

★ **470 9/21/06 S. 2832** Reauthorizing the Appalachian Regional Development Act through FY2011, and authorized a total of \$511 million over five years for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). It would have allowed ARC to provide a greater level of assistance to counties at risk of becoming economically distressed. **YES Failed\* 215-204**

★ **471 9/25/06 H.R. 5059** Designating approximately 24,000 acres of land in New Hampshire's White Mountains as the Wild River Wilderness, and as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. **YES Failed\* 223-167**

★ **472 9/25/06 H.R. 5062** Designating approximately 11,000 acres of land in the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire as wilderness. It would have included it in the Sandwich Range Wilderness area. **YES Failed\* 220-169**

★ **473 9/25/06 H.R. 6102** Designating a post office in Vienna, Va., for Captain Christopher P. Petty and Major William F. Hecker III, who died in Iraq in January, 2006. **YES Passed\* 383-1**

★ **476 9/26/06 H.R. 5092** Allowing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to enforce civil penalties for gun license violations based on their severity. Fines of up to \$2,500 per

violation, with a maximum of \$15,000, per inspection can be imposed for serious violations. **YES Passed\* 277-131**

★ **477 9/26/06 H.R. 4772** Ensuring access to federal courts for those challenging government attempts to take their property under eminent domain. **YES Failed\* 234-172**

★ **479 9/26/06 S. 403** Making it a federal crime to take a minor across state lines to obtain an abortion in order to circumvent state parental notification and consent laws. It provides an exception for cases in which an abortion is necessary to save the life of the minor. Physicians who perform an abortion on an out-of-state minor must provide at least 24 hours notice to the minor's parent. Violators will be subject to a fine of up to \$100,000 and up to one year in prison. **YES Passed 264-153**

★ **480 9/26/06 H.R. 2679** Barring the awarding of attorney fees to individuals who win lawsuits against government officials in cases involving the First Amendment's prohibition on laws regarding the establishment or free exercise of religion. The bill applies, but is not limited, to cases involving veterans' memorials or public buildings containing religious words or imagery, the presence of religious words or imagery in official state seals, or the charter or use of public buildings by the Boy Scouts. **YES Passed 244-173**

★ **481 9/26/06 H. Res. 723** Calling on the President to take immediate steps to improve security and protection for civilians in the Darfur region of Sudan. It includes asking the Sudanese government to withdraw all military aircraft from the region, cease all support for Janjaweed militias and rebels from Chad and disarm all Janjaweed militias. **YES Passed\* 412-7**

★ **482 9/26/06 H. Res. 992** Supporting the appointment of a Presidential special envoy for Sudan. **YES Passed\* 414-3**

★ **483 9/26/06 H. Res. 989** Commending British law enforcement authorities on their actions to prevent a terrorist attack and intelligence officials for their work in identifying those seeking to carry out the plot. **YES Passed\* 412-3**

★ **484 9/26/06 H. Res. 1017** Commending Lebanese who continue to adhere to the principles of the "Cedar Revolution." It also commends the democratically elected government of Lebanon for deploying Lebanese armed forces to the country's border with Israel. **YES Passed\* 411-5**

★ **485 9/26/06 H.R. 6164** Reauthorizing the National Institutes of Health. It authorizes \$29.7 billion in FY2007, \$31.2 billion in FY2008 and \$32.8 billion in FY2009 and creates a common fund financing research projects involving more than one of the NIH's institutes or centers. **YES Passed\* 414-2**

★ **486 9/26/06 H.R. 5631** Adoption of the conference report appropriating \$447.6 billion for defense spending, including \$70 billion in emergency spending for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as military equipment. The total includes \$119.8 billion for operations and maintenance, \$80.9 billion for procurement, \$86.4 billion for personnel and \$75.7 billion for research and development. It provides for an average 2.2 percent pay increase for military and Pentagon civilian personnel in FY2007. The measure also includes a continuing resolution providing funding through Nov. 17 for those departments, agencies and programs whose FY2007 appropriations bills have not yet been enacted. **YES Passed 394-22**

★ **491 9/27/06 H.R. 6166** Authorizing military tribunals to try suspected terrorists, allowing prosecutors to make only certain portions of classified evidence available to defendants and permitting trials to proceed without the defendant's presence if the judge finds that the defendant is disruptive. It also sets standards for the interrogation and treatment of detainees, and provides for an appeals process for those convicted by military commissions. Detainees are barred from filing habeas corpus suits challenging their deten-

tions, preventing them from initiating any judicial proceedings. **YES Passed 253-168**

★ **492 9/27/06 H.R. 5637** Establishing national standards for how states may regulate, collect, and tax "nonadmitted" insurance, which covers unique or atypical risks. It also sets national standards on how states regulate reinsurance, which is insurance for insurance companies. **YES Passed\* 417-0**

★ **493 9/27/06 H.R. 6115** Extending for five years, through FY2010, the Multifamily Assisted Housing Restructuring and Affordability law which authorized the mark-to-market approach for renewing Section 8 housing assistance payment contracts. **YES Passed\* 416-1**

★ **494 9/27/06 S. 2856** Authorizing the payment of interest on balances held by depository institutions at a federal reserve bank. It also provides the Federal Reserve with greater flexibility to set the ratio of reserves a depository institution must maintain against its transaction accounts and allows the Fed to permit institutions to have no reserve. **YES Passed\* 417-0**

★ **502 9/28/06 H.R. 5825** Allowing electronic surveillance of communications by suspected terrorists for specified periods without first obtaining approval from the secret court established by the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). The bill allows warrantless surveillance to be conducted for up to 90 days if an armed or terrorist attack against the United States has occurred, or if there is an "imminent threat." The President must notify congressional intelligence committees and the FISA court of such surveillance. The bill extends the amount of time intelligence agencies can conduct warrantless electronic surveillance in "emergency situations" before seeking FISA court approval to seven days. **YES Passed 232-191**

★ **503 9/28/06 H.R. 6143** Reauthorizing the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, including emergency relief, comprehensive care and early intervention programs, through FY2011. The bill authorizes \$2.3 billion in FY2007 and a total of \$12.2 billion from FY2007 through FY2011. **YES Passed\* 325-98**

★ **508 9/29/06 S. 3930** Authorizing military tribunals to try detainees designated as unlawful enemy combatants, defined as a person who has "engaged in hostilities or who has purposefully and materially supported hostilities against the United States" in the war on terror. It also allows prisoners to contest their classification as enemy combatants. It eliminates habeas corpus rights retroactive to Sept. 11, 2001. The legislation allows for the use of some coerced testimony and evidence seized without a warrant. Evidence obtained through torture could not be used. Classified evidence, including the sources and methods used to acquire it, will not be disclosed if it would be detrimental to national security. **YES Passed 250-170**

★ **509 9/29/06 H.R. 5441** Adoption of the conference report providing \$34.8 billion in FY2007 for the Homeland Security Department and related activities. The bill includes \$9.3 billion for customs and border protection, including fees; \$6.4 billion for the Transportation Security Administration, including fees; \$8.3 billion for the Coast Guard; \$1.3 billion for the Secret Service and \$2.5 billion for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It appropriates \$3.4 billion for the Office of Grants and Training, which deals with state and local grant programs, and changes formula-based grants distribution to guarantee each state at least 0.75 percent of the total funding. The remaining funds will be distributed based on risk and need assessments. **YES Passed 412-6**

★ **510 9/29/06 H.R. 5122** Adoption of the conference report authorizing \$532.8 billion for defense programs, including \$70 billion in emergency spending for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for FY2007. The bill authorizes \$84.2 billion for weapons procurement, \$155.3 billion for operations and maintenance, \$110.1 billion for personnel, \$17.1 billion for military construction and family housing. It also authorizes \$9.4 billion

## Three Southwest Missouri FFA Students to Experience Taiwan Agriculture



Henry Fan with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Kansas City meets students Kelin Kruse of Fairview and Mindy Breshears of Halfway who spent a week in November in Taiwan learning about that nation's agricultural practices.

Three officers of the Future Farmers of America from Southwest Missouri spent a week at a vocational-agriculture high school in Taiwan learning about the nation's agriculture practices.

Kelin Kruse of Fairview, Mindy Breshears of Halfway, and Allie Massa of Lamar were chosen for the trip to Taiwan.

They are the third trio from Southwest Missouri to make the trip in three years. "These trips to Taiwan offer our students a new understanding of how different cultures address food safety, agricultural production, and environmental concerns," Congressman Blunt said. "This has proven to be a great learning opportunity that the Taiwan government is offering to our students."

The student trips to Taiwan are a direct result of participation by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the Southwest Missouri Agriculture Tour that Congressman Blunt hosts each year. For the third year, Director-General Jack Chen has invited a trio of Southwest Missouri FFA students to make the trip to Taipei. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Kansas City paid half the air fare for Breshears, Kruse and Massa to spend a week at the National Taichung Agricultural Senior High School in Taiwan. In addition, three students from Nebraska and two from South Dakota made the trip.

## Congressman Blunt Introduces Measure to Open Interstate Markets to State Inspected Meats

Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt with 13 original cosponsors introduced the "New Markets for State-Inspected Meat and Poultry Act of 2006" (H.R. 6130), which would give local meat processors that pass state inspections equal footing with interstate and international meat suppliers.

"The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has agreed that state inspection programs are 'at least equal to' federal inspections, but a 40 year-old law is keeping state-inspected meat from being marketed across state lines," Congressman Blunt said. "I can't find a good reason—scientific or political—for this law. That is why I want to

change it. If we want to open markets for agriculture products, we ought to start at home."

Blunt added, "There are 2,000 state-inspected meat processors—31 of them in Missouri—that are prevented from competing in the national marketplace. Yet, 30 foreign meat producing countries can sell their meats freely across the nation. Our locally produced, state-inspected meats are just as safe. In fairness, this measure will promote the local livestock sector of agriculture without compromising food safety that consumers demand."

The same federal law that restricts interstate shipment of state-inspected beef, lamb, pork, goat and poultry now allows interstate shipments of state-inspected bison, venison, pheasant, rabbit and quail to every state. The 28 state-run inspection programs receive half of their funding from the USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) and must demonstrate that its system is equivalent to federal inspection. Even so, state inspected establishments do not receive the USDA stamp that allows them to market their beef, poultry, pork, goat and lamb products outside their home state.

## Congressman Blunt Welcomes Reopening of Japanese Markets to American Beef

Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt welcomed the resumption of American beef exports to Japan. "Southwest Missouri beef producers enjoyed success in the Japanese markets before, and I am certain our best cuts of beef which have always been safe and of high quality will find eager consumers in Japan again," Blunt said. "I am pleased the Japanese government has taken steps toward a more science-based approach in the resumption of beef trade with the United States."

There are more cow-calf pairs within 100 miles of Springfield and Joplin than anywhere else on the planet. The Joplin and Springfield livestock sales barns are among the nation's top cattle sales barns in the nation, so opening new markets is important for the region.

Blunt also praised the persistent efforts of U.S. trade negotiators in winning the reopening of the Japanese markets after they were closed to American beef exports. Under the new agreement, the Japanese will accept slaughtered cattle that are 20-months old and younger. The cattle have to be slaughtered under specific guidelines that only 35 companies meet. Blunt is also committed to expanding the Japanese market to more American beef exports.

Dallas Love Field headquarters, eight years after the statute was enacted. Southwest is prohibited from flying international routes from or to Love Field. **YES Passed\* 386-22**

**\* 516 9/29/06 H.R. 4954** Adoption of the conference report authorizing a total of \$2 billion over five years for the port security grant program, and a total of \$213 million between FY2008 and FY2010 for the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism program. The measure authorizes the Container Security Initiative and authorizes a total of \$443 million between FY2008 and FY2010. It requires the department to ensure that 100 percent of cargo originating from outside the United States undergo a high risk screening, and requires that 100 percent of the containers identified as high-risk be scanned for radiation before entering the country. It also prohibits banks and credit card

companies from processing payments for online gambling bets and bars gambling businesses from accepting credit cards and electronic transfers for online betting. **YES Passed 409-2**

**\* 517 11/13/06 H.R. 3085** Agreeing to the Senate amendment directing the Interior Department, within six months of enactment, to submit to Congress a study regarding the feasibility and suitability of adding new segments and routes to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. **YES Passed\* 383-3**

**\* 518 11/13/06 S. 819** Authorizing the Interior Department to reallocate funds previously designated for irrigation water distribution in South Dakota to municipal water distribution and fish and wildlife needs. **YES Passed\* 387-0**

**519 11/13/06 H.R. 5602** Giving the President the authority to proclaim permanent normal trade relations with Vietnam. **YES Failed\* 228-161**

**\* 520 11/14/06 H.R. 6314** Extending education and training assistance to the families of individuals who have been permanently disabled during military service but not yet discharged. The bill also extends authority for a number of programs administered by the Veterans Affairs Department that are due to expire, including health care for persons participating in Defense Department chemical and biological warfare testing; grants for homeless veterans; treatment and rehabilitation for seriously mentally ill veterans; and education assistance for work-study programs. **YES Passed\* 393-0**

**\* 521 11/14/06 H.R. 864** Establishing a federal committee to coordinate the efforts of federal agencies to prevent underage drinking. It also authorizes a national media campaign and authorizes new grant programs intended to combat underage drinking. The measure authorizes a total of \$18 million in each of FY2007 through FY2010 for these activities. **YES Passed\* 373-23**

**\* 522 11/15/06 H.R. 5585** Agreeing to the Senate amendments altering banking, bankruptcy, and securities laws related to the disposition of financial contracts in the event of insolvency. It updates existing laws regarding netting to ensure that some of the newer forms of contractual arrangements are resolved in the same manner as other similar contracts. Netting occurs when one party of a financial contract is experiencing extreme financial difficulty, such as bankruptcy, and involves settling mutual obligations at the net value of a contract as opposed to its gross dollar value. **YES Passed\* 395-0**

**\* 523 11/15/06 H. Res. 1078** Congratulating the St. Louis Cardinals for their victory in Major League Baseball's 2006 World Series. **YES Passed\* 395-0**

**\* 524 11/15/06 H. Res. 1079** Congratulating the St. Louis Cardinals for their victory in Major League Baseball's 2006 World Series. **YES Passed\* 395-0**

## Roy's Record 109th Congress, First Session, 2005 (Completion)

**\* 545 10/26/05 H.R. 1461** An amendment to eliminate language in the bill increasing the maximum size mortgages Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac can buy, by 50 percent in areas with high home prices. **NO Failed 57-358**

**\* 547 10/26/05 H.R. 1461** Overhauling the regulations regarding government-sponsored enterprises, including Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the 12 Federal Home Loan Banks. The bill creates a new independent agency, the Federal Housing Finance Agency, to regulate Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loan Bank System. It also establishes an affordable housing fund. As amended, the bill sunsets the fund in the bill after five years and requires Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to allocate 3.5 percent of their profits in the first two years of the fund and 5 percent of profits in the final three years. It also prohibits the use of funds in the bill for political activities, advocacy, lobbying, counseling services, travel expenses, or preparing or providing advice on tax returns. **YES Passed 331-90**

**\* 548 10/27/05 H. J. Res. 65** Disapproving the President's recommendations for the fifth round of

base closures and realignments. **NO Failed 85-324**

**\* 549 10/27/05 H.R. 3945** Requiring federal reserve banks to waive or rebate any transaction fee for wire transfer services that would normally be imposed on an insured depository institution or insured credit union if they are all headquartered in a presidentially declared disaster area. **YES Passed\* 411-0**

**\* 550 10/27/05 H. Res. 368** Congratulating Ambassador Dan Gillerman, Israel's permanent representative to the United Nations, and the Israeli government and people on Gillerman's election as Vice-President of the 60th U.N. General Assembly. **YES Passed\* 407-0**

**\* 557 11/1/05 H.R. 3548** Designating a post office in Pearl River, N.Y., for Heinz Ahlmeyer Jr., who was killed in action along with three members of his seven-man patrol, known as Team Breaker, while on a reconnaissance mission in Vietnam. **YES Passed\* 390-0**

**\* 558 11/1/05 H.R. 3989** Designating a post office in Dennison, Minn., for Albert Harold Quie, R-Minn. (1958-79), who represented Minnesota in the House for 10 full terms and served as governor of the state for one term. **YES Passed\* 391-1**

**\* 559 11/2/05 H.R. 1606** Exempting the Internet, including blogs and e-mail, from being considered as a form of public communication subject to Federal Election Commission regulation and disclosure requirements. **YES Failed\* 225-182**

**\* 560 11/2/05 H.R. 4061** Reorganizing the Veterans Affairs (VA) Department division of information technology (IT) and giving the VA chief information officer authority over all IT resources, budget and personnel. **YES Passed\* 408-0**

**\* 561 11/2/05 H.R. 1691** Designating a Veterans Affairs Department outpatient clinic in Appleton, Wis., for John H. Bradley, one of six Marines who raised a U.S. flag on the top of Mount Suribachi at Iwa Jima. **YES Passed\* 407-0**

**\* 564 11/3/05 H.R. 4128** An amendment to permit a property owner to go to court before any property is taken to challenge a government's use of eminent domain as well as striking provisions in the bill prohibiting states and local governments that exercise eminent domain from receiving federal economic development funds for two fiscal years thereafter. **NO Failed 63-355**

**\* 565 11/3/05 H.R. 4128** An amendment to define "economic development" as the use of property for commercial for-profit enterprises, or where the "primary purpose" is to increase tax revenue or the tax base. **NO Failed 49-368**

**\* 566 11/3/05 H.R. 4128** An amendment to specify harmful uses of land that would constitute a threat to public health and safety, in which case the bill would permit the use of eminent domain. **YES Failed 56-357**

**\* 567 11/3/05 H.R. 4128** An amendment to remove all sections of the bill and retain only a provision expressing the sense of Congress that recognizes the importance of property rights and that the Supreme Court's decision in *Kelo v. City of New London* may lead to abuses of eminent domain power. **NO Failed 44-371**

**\* 568 11/3/05 H.R. 4128** Prohibiting state and local governments that receive federal economic development funds from using "eminent domain" to seize land for economic development purposes. It allows any private property owner who suffers injury as a result of a state or local government's eminent domain actions for economic development to bring a lawsuit against the government or seek a temporary restraining order or a preliminary injunction. States or local governments that take land for private development can not receive federal economic development funds for the two fiscal years thereafter, if a court determines that the government did, in fact, use eminent domain to further economic development. **YES Passed 376-38**

**\* 569 11/4/05 H.R. 3057** Adoption of the conference report appropriating \$21 billion in FY2006 for foreign operations and economic assistance. It

provides \$2.5 billion in military assistance for Israel and \$1.8 billion for Egypt. It also appropriates \$2.8 billion for programs to combat HIV/AIDS and related diseases as well as \$1.8 billion for the Millennium Challenge Corporation. The measure appropriates \$322 million for the Peace Corps. It also forbids foreign organizations that receive U.S. aid from using that money to perform abortions or abortion counseling. **YES Passed 358-39**

★ **570 11/7/05 H. Con. Res. 260** Recognizing the 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, which is the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions, and also recognizing the religious diversity of the United States and the world. **YES Passed\* 349-0**

★ **571 11/7/05 H.R. 1973** Authorizing the president to furnish foreign assistance to provide safe water and sanitation to people in developing countries, and authorizing such sums as may be necessary in FY2006 and each subsequent year to carry out this assistance. **YES Passed\* 319-34**

★ **572 11/7/05 H. Res. 444** Supporting the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, which was proclaimed by President Bush for September. **YES Passed\* 348-0**

★ **574 11/8/05 H. Res. 38** Expressing the sense of the House that the U.S. government should support the accession of Israel to the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development, through coordinated efforts with Mexico, Great Britain and other countries supporting Israel's membership. **YES Passed\* 391-0**

★ **575 11/8/05 H. Res. 302** Recognizing and supporting employers of National Guard members and other reserve forces for their strong support of the goals and struggles of the United States during the war on terrorism. **YES Passed\* 395-0**

★ **576 11/8/05 H.R. 3770** Designating a post office in Knox, Ind., for Grant W. Green, who was a postal worker for 50 years, serving from 1920-1970. **YES Passed\* 393-1**

★ **580 11/9/05 H.R. 2419** Adoption of the conference report providing \$30.5 billion in FY2006 for energy and water development projects, including \$5.4 billion for the Army Corps of Engineers and \$9.2 billion for the National Nuclear Security Administration. The bill appropriates \$6.2 billion for defense environmental cleanup. It also provides \$450 million for the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository. The administration would be barred from redirecting more than \$2 million, or 50 percent of a project's value, whichever is less, from one account to another. **YES Passed 399-17**

★ **581 11/9/05 H.R. 2862** Adoption of the conference report providing \$61.8 billion, including \$57.9 billion in discretionary spending, in FY2006 for the departments of Commerce, Justice and State, as well as various science and other related agencies. It provides \$21.7 billion for the Justice Department, \$6.6 billion for the Commerce Department and \$9.7 billion for the State Department and international broadcasting agencies. It also appropriates \$16.5 billion for NASA and \$5.6 billion for the National Science Foundation. It blocks the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative from enforcing language in future trade agreements making it more difficult to import prescription drugs to the United States. **YES Passed 397-19**

★ **582 11/9/05 S. 1894** Changing current law to clarify that federal foster care payments can be made to private, for-profit — as well as nonprofit — therapeutic foster care agencies. **YES Passed\* 408-1**

★ **583 11/9/05 H.R. 1751** An amendment to eliminate the death penalty authorized in the bill for individuals convicted of killing federal public safety officers, and replacing it with language allowing for a sentence of up to life in prison for the same crime. **NO Failed 97-325**

★ **585 11/9/05 H.R. 1751** Increasing federal penalties for the assault, murder, or kidnapping of judges or their immediate family members. It

makes it a federal crime to kill or assault public safety officers or other court personnel. The bill prohibits the possession of dangerous weapons, in addition to guns, in federal courts. It gives presiding judges in federal appellate or circuit courts the authority to allow news media to photograph, broadcast, televise or electronically record court proceedings. **YES Passed 375-45**

★ **586 11/15/05 H.R. 1564** Transferring nine acres of federal land and several buildings to the Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District. **YES Passed\* 420-0**

★ **587 11/15/05 H.R. 323** Passage of the bill redesignating the Ellis Island Library, which is managed by the National Park Service as part of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, as the Bob Hope Memorial Library. **YES Passed\* 419-0**

★ **588 11/15/05 H.R. 856** Establishing a Federal Youth Development Council to allow for better communication among federal agencies serving youth, to assess the needs of disadvantaged youth, and to report on youth programs. **YES Passed\* 353-62**

★ **590 11/16/05 H.R. 1790** Requiring states, as a condition of receiving funds under any Education Department program, to develop and implement policies that prohibit schools from requiring a child to obtain a prescription for a controlled substance or psychotropic drug as a condition of attending school or receiving services. **YES Passed\* 407-12**

★ **591 11/16/05 H. Res. 547** Expressing the sense of the House that parents have a "fundamental right" to direct their children's education and that the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling in *Fields v. Palmdale School District* undermines that right. **YES Passed\* 320-91**

★ **592 11/16/05 H.R. 1065** Creating a federal boxing commission within the Commerce Department to regulate the sport of boxing at the professional level. It would have authorized the commission for 12 years and granted the agency powers to regulate boxers and promoters, investigate illegal activity in the sport, and use the federal courts to enforce its regulatory authority. Boxing managers, promoters, matchmakers, judges, referees, or sanctioning organizations would have been prohibited from participating in a professional boxing match if they are not licensed by the commission. It also would have established a unified national computerized registry for the collection, storage and retrieval of all professional boxing information. **YES Failed 190-233**

★ **593 11/16/05 H. Con. Res. 230** Expressing the sense of Congress that Russia should provide adequate and effective protection of intellectual property rights, or risk losing its eligibility to participate in the Generalized System of Preferences program. **YES Passed\* 421-2**

★ **594 11/16/05 H. Con. Res. 268** Expressing the sense of Congress that the authoritative root zone server should remain physically located in the United States, with the Commerce Department maintaining oversight of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers. **YES Passed\* 423-0**

★ **597 11/17/05 H. Res. 500** Recognizing the 60th anniversary of the disappearance of the five naval Avenger torpedo bombers of Flight 19 and the naval Mariner rescue aircraft sent to search for them. **YES Passed\* 420-2**

★ **598 11/17/05 H.R. 3010** Adoption of the conference report to appropriate \$601.7 billion, including \$142.5 billion in discretionary spending, for the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education departments and related agencies in FY2006. **YES Failed 209-224**

★ **599 11/17/05 H. J. Res. 72** Providing for continuing appropriations through Dec. 17 for all federal departments and agencies whose FY2006 appropriations bills have not been enacted. **YES Passed 413-16**

★ **601 11/17/05 H.R. 4241** Making changes to programs for a net savings of \$49.9 billion over five years. It reduces subsidies to lenders of student

loans, with a net savings of \$14.3 billion. The bill creates \$4.9 billion in net savings by reforming states' child support enforcement. It reforms Medicaid, producing \$11 billion in savings. It also provides \$2.5 billion in assistance to Hurricane Katrina victims by increasing the federal share of Medicaid spending as well as providing full federal funding for children from affected areas who are enrolled in the State Children's Health Insurance Program. The bill repeals a law that sends anti-dumping trade penalties to aggrieved corporations instead of to the U.S. Treasury. **YES Passed 217-215**

★ **602 11/17/05 H. Res. 546** Condemning the terrorist attacks that occurred on Nov. 9 in Amman, Jordan. It expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives to the families and friends of those killed in the attacks. **YES Passed\* 409-0**

★ **604 11/18/05 H.R. 2528** Adoption of the conference report providing \$82.6 billion in FY2006 for the Department of Veterans Affairs, military construction and military housing, including \$22.5 billion for veterans medical services. The bill provides \$2.2 billion for mental health services. It also provides \$6.2 billion for military construction, \$4 billion for military family housing construction and operations and \$1.5 billion for the latest round of base closures. It directs the VA and Defense Departments to jointly study mental health care, the onset and nature of post-traumatic stress disorder, panic disorder and bipolar disorder. **YES Passed 427-0**

★ **605 11/18/05 H.R. 3058** Adoption of the conference report appropriating \$137.6 billion in FY2006, including \$65.9 billion in discretionary spending, for the departments of Housing and Urban Development, Treasury and Transportation, and related agencies. It provides \$34 billion for the Housing and Urban Development Department, \$13.8 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration, \$11.7 billion for the Treasury Department and \$5.8 billion for the judiciary. It also provides \$18.7 billion for the Office of Personnel Management, \$10.7 billion for the Internal Revenue Service and \$603 million for the District of Columbia. The bill appropriates \$1.3 billion for Amtrak. **YES Passed 392-31**

★ **608 11/18/05 H. Res. 571** Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that deployment of U.S. forces in Iraq should be terminated immediately. **NO Failed 3-403**

★ **609 12/6/05 H. Res. 438** Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that member states of the United Nations should stop supporting resolutions that unfairly castigate Israel. **YES Passed\* 400-1**

★ **610 12/6/05 H. Res. 535** Honoring the late Yitzhak Rabin, a former Israeli prime minister, for his contributions to the country, and expressing condolences on the 10th anniversary of his death. **YES Passed\* 399-0**

★ **611 12/6/05 H. Res. 479** Commending the people of Hungary as they mark the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, which set the stage for the ultimate collapse of communism in 1989 throughout central and eastern Europe. **YES Passed\* 395-0**

★ **612 12/7/05 S. 467** Reauthorizing the federal terrorism insurance program through Dec. 31, 2007. It increases the "trigger" level from the current \$5 million aggregate industry insured losses to \$50 million in 2006 and \$100 million in 2007. The bill also extends the \$100 billion annual cap on covered losses. **YES Passed\* 371-49**

★ **613 12/7/05 H.R. 4096** Extending for one year, through 2006, the exemption levels for the alternative minimum tax, adjusted for inflation. **YES Passed\* 414-4**

★ **614 12/7/05 H. Con. Res. 196** Recognizing volunteer pilots in the Federal Flight Deck Officer Program and applauding them for taking a stand against terrorism. **YES Passed\* 413-2**

★ **616 12/7/05 H.R. 4340** Implementing a trade agreement between the United States and

Bahrain. It provides immediate duty-free access for 98 percent of U.S. agricultural exports and phases out tariffs on the remaining products within 10 years. It also provides immediate duty-free access on all of Bahrain's agricultural exports to the United States. **YES Passed 327-95**

★ **617 12/7/05 H.R. 4388** Extending for one year various expiring tax provisions including one that would allow military combat pay to continue to be counted for purposes of calculating the earned income tax credit. **YES Passed\* 423-0**

★ **618 12/7/05 H.R. 4440** Providing tax benefits for areas of Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi that were affected by Hurricane Katrina. It provides authority for tax-exempt bonds to help rebuild infrastructure, authorizes additional credits for low-income housing and authorizes federal guarantees for up to \$3 billion in bonds to aid local governments that cannot meet certain financing requirements. **YES Passed\* 415-4**

★ **619 12/8/05 H.R. 4297** An amendment that extends, for one year, many expiring provisions such as the deduction for state and local retail sales taxes, the deduction for college tuition expenses, tax incentives for the District of Columbia and Indian reservations, the 15 year depreciation period for leasehold and restaurant improvements, qualified zone academy bonds and the Brownfields cleanup tax incentive. The amendment would also have eliminated all individual minimum tax liability for incomes below \$200,000 in the case of joint returns and below \$100,000 in all other cases for taxable year 2006. **NO Failed 192-239**

★ **621 12/8/05 H.R. 4297** Providing \$56.1 billion to extend a series of tax cuts set to expire between 2005 and 2010. It extends for two years, through 2010, reduced tax rates on capital gains and dividends. It also extends, for two years, a tax provision that allows small businesses to write off more than \$100,000 in capital investments in the year they are made. It allows for a one-year extension of the college tuition deduction, the research and experimentation tax credit and the state and local sales tax deduction in states without income taxes. **YES Passed 234-197**

★ **623 12/13/05 H. Res. 487** Supporting the goals and ideals of Korean American Day and urging all Americans to observe the day in appreciation of the contributions that Korean Americans have made to the United States. **YES Passed\* 405-0**

★ **624 12/13/05 S. 1047** Authorizing the U.S. Mint to issue a redesigned \$1 coin to commemorate U.S. presidents, a series of \$10 gold bullion coins to honor first ladies and a new \$50 gold bullion coin. It also authorizes the redesign of the penny in 2009 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. **NO Passed\* 291-113**

★ **625 12/13/05 H.R. 3422** Exempting qualified small public housing authorities from the requirement of preparing an annual housing agency plan. **YES Passed\* 387-2**

★ **627 12/14/05 H.R. 3199** Adoption of the conference report making permanent 14 of the 16 provisions of the Patriot Act set to expire at the end of the year, and extending for four years the two provisions on access to business and other records and "roving" wiretaps. It permanently extends provisions that expand law enforcement's power to investigate suspected terrorists. The measure allows recipients of "national security letters" demanding information to consult with a lawyer and to challenge it in court. It also permits "sneak and peek" searches and seizures of property, and allows a delay of up to 30 days for notifying individuals of such searches. **YES Passed 251-174**

★ **628 12/14/05 H.R. 3010** Adoption of the conference report appropriating \$601.6 billion, including \$142.5 billion in discretionary spending, for the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education departments and related agencies in FY2006. It provides \$63.5 billion for the Education Department, including \$13.2 billion for Pell



## Ag Tour 2006

The 10th Annual Southwest Agriculture Tour, hosted by Congressman Roy Blunt, saw a diversity of agricultural enterprises. At Miller High School students learn how to safely process meat that passes state inspection. Miller FFA Cardinal Price Meats sell summer sausage, smoked pork chops, smoked hams, bacon, beef jerky and snack sticks that pass inspection by the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

At the Mathews cattle ranch near Carthage cowboys still ride the ranch to help manage the 1,000 head of Red Angus and Limousin cattle. The 1,700 acre operation has been cited for environmental stewardship awards.



Grants; \$14.8 billion for the Labor Department, including \$5.1 billion for training and employment services; and \$474.1 billion for Health and Human Services, including \$28.6 billion for the National Institutes of Health. The measure also provides \$400 million for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and \$39 million for rural health outreach grants. **YES Passed 215-213**

★ **631 12/14/05 H. Res. 599** Establishing a task force on ocean policy in the House. The task force would have been responsible for making recommendations on the final report of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and reporting those recommendations to the House. **YES Failed\* 103-327**

★ **632 12/14/05 H.R. 972** Amending and reauthorizing funds in FY2006 and FY2007 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. It authorizes \$15 million in each fiscal year for the FBI to investigate severe forms of trafficking and \$18 million each year for the Homeland Security Department for immigration and customs enforcement. **YES Passed\* 426-0**

★ **635 12/15/05 H.R. 2830** Overhauling federal pension laws and increasing the premiums companies pay to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to \$30 per participant. The increase will be phased in over three years for plans that are less than 80 percent funded and five years for those that are more than 80 percent funded. It establishes a premium for employers who terminate their pension plans on an involuntary basis. It also requires employers to make sufficient contributions to meet a 100 percent funding target. **YES Passed 294-132**

★ **637 12/15/05 H. Res. 579** Recognizing the importance of the symbols and traditions of Christmas and strongly disapproving of attempts to ban references to Christmas. **YES Passed\* 401-22**

★ **638 12/15/05 H. Con. Res. 315** Urging the president to issue each year a proclamation calling for the observance of an American Jewish History Month in January. **YES Passed\* 423-0**

★ **639 12/15/05 H.R. 4437** An amendment to direct the Homeland Security Department to create a program under which certain illegal immigrants undergoing an expedited removal process could be released into the custody of an individual or group who would monitor them and ensure that they make required court appearances and not flee. **NO Failed 162-252**

★ **640 12/15/05 H.R. 4437** An amendment requiring the construction of security fencing, including lights and cameras, along certain ports of entry along the U.S.-Mexico border. **YES Passed 260-159**

★ **641 12/15/05 H. Con. Res. 312** Urging the Russian government to withdraw proposed legislation that would have the effect of severely restricting the establishment, operations and activities of domestic and foreign non-govern-

mental organizations in Russia. **YES Passed\* 405-15**

★ **647 12/16/05 H. Con. Res. 294** Calling on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese government. **YES Passed\* 413-1**

★ **648 12/16/05 H. Res. 612** Congratulating Iraq on its election and expressing commitment to achieving victory in Iraq. **YES Passed 279-109**

★ **649 12/16/05 H. Res. 409** Condemning Operation Murambatsvina as a major humanitarian catastrophe caused by the Zimbabwean government's callousness toward its own people, disregard for the rule of law, and lack of planning to move families and businesses to more desirable locations. **YES Passed\* 421-1**

★ **650 12/16/05 H. Res. 575** Asserting that organizations that carry out terrorist acts, such as Hamas, should not be permitted to participate in Palestinian elections until they recognize Israel as a state, disarm and cease terrorist activities. **YES Passed\* 397-17**

★ **651 12/16/05 H. Res. 534** Recognizing the importance of the Iraqi judiciary system. **YES Passed\* 408-1**

★ **653 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** Eliminating the diversity visa program, which makes available 50,000 permanent resident visas annually, drawn from a random selection of entries from people who meet eligibility requirements from countries with low rates of immigration to the United States. **YES Passed 273-148**

★ **654 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** Prohibiting the Homeland Security and Justice departments and courts from granting any kind of legal immigration status to an alien until all the relevant criminal records databases and terrorist watch lists are checked. **YES Passed 420-0**

★ **655 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** An amendment to eliminate language in the bill increasing the maximum sentence for illegal presence or illegal entry into the United States to one year and a day. **YES Failed 164-257**

★ **656 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** An amendment requiring the Homeland Security Department to provide training at no cost to local and state law enforcement, authorizing \$1 billion each year for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program and requiring the department to submit for entry into the National Crime Information Database the names of certain categories of aliens. **YES Passed 237-180**

★ **657 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** An amendment setting caps on the monetary penalties for hiring or employing unauthorized aliens of \$7,500 for first time offenses, \$15,000 for second offenses, and \$40,000 for all subsequent offenses. It provides an exemption for initial good faith violations and a safe harbor for contractors if their subcontractor hires an unauthorized alien. **YES Passed 247-170**

★ **658 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** An amendment to increase the fines on businesses for knowingly hiring unauthorized aliens to \$50,000. In addition, this amendment would have provided that proceeds be shared with state and local governments to help cover the costs associated with providing services to undocumented immigrants. **NO Failed 87-332**

★ **659 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** An amendment to expand deportation for illegal immigrants who cannot prove that they have been in the United States for longer than one year. It would have required federal authorities to detain all illegal immigrants reported to the Homeland Security Department by state and local authorities and required all non-citizens to be processed through the US-VISIT system. **YES Failed 163-251**

★ **661 12/16/05 H.R. 4437** Tightening border security and increasing enforcement of immigration laws. It designates illegal migration as a criminal, rather than a civil, offense. It also increases penalties for a variety of immigration-related crimes. It creates a mandatory program under which all employers would have to verify employees' work eligibility with the federal government. As amended, it requires the construction of security fencing, including lights and cameras, along certain ports of entry along the U.S.-Mexico border. **YES Passed 239-182**

★ **662 12/16/05 H. Res. 598** Condemning the Syrian government for hindering and failing to fully cooperate in a timely manner with the U.N. investigation of the assassination of former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik Hariri. **YES Passed\* 404-5**

★ **664 12/17/05 H.R. 2520** Agreeing to the Senate amendment creating a new federal program to collect and store umbilical cord blood stem cells. The bill also reauthorizes and expands the current bone marrow registry program to bone-marrow and cord-blood transplants and helps match those in need of bone marrow or cord blood with appropriate donors. It authorizes \$186 million over five years for the bone marrow program. **YES Passed\* 413-0**

★ **665 12/19/05 H.R. 1815** Adoption of the conference report authorizing \$441.5 billion for defense programs and \$50 billion for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. It authorizes \$77 billion for weapons procurement, \$108.9 billion for personnel and \$12.2 billion for military construction and family housing. It also authorizes \$7.8 billion for ballistic-missile defense programs and a 3.1 percent pay raise for all military personnel. The measure authorizes \$6.6 billion for Hurricane Katrina relief, \$130 million for flu preparedness and \$40 million for Pakistan earthquake relief efforts. It establishes the U.S. Army Field Manual on Intelligence Interrogation as the uniform standard for interrogating those detained by the Defense Department and pro-

hibits cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment of any prisoner detained by the U.S. government. **YES Passed 374-41**

★ **667 12/19/05 H. Con. Res. 284** Expressing the sense of Congress in recognition of the importance of the presidential election held on Sept. 7, 2005, in Egypt, as a first step toward greater openness and political changes in that country. **YES Passed\* 388-22**

★ **669 12/19/05 H.R. 2863** Adoption of the conference report appropriating \$453.5 billion for defense spending, including \$50 billion for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The total includes \$123.6 billion for operations and maintenance, \$76.5 billion for procurement and \$72.1 billion for research and development. It requires a 1 percent across-the-board cut to all FY2006 discretionary spending except Veterans Administration funding that was added to the legislation. It also provides \$29 billion for disaster assistance to hurricane-damaged areas and \$3.8 billion for flu preparedness. It allows oil and gas leasing in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. **YES Passed 308-106**

★ **670 12/19/05 S. 1932** Adoption of the conference report making changes to programs for a net savings of \$39.7 billion over five years. It reduces subsidies to lenders of student loans, with a net savings of roughly \$12.7 billion. The measure creates \$1.5 billion in net savings by reducing aid to states to enforce child support payments. It creates a \$4.8 billion net reduction in federal spending for Medicaid. It provides \$2.1 billion in assistance to Hurricane Katrina victims and authorizes an additional \$1 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. It also provides \$7.3 billion to avoid a 4.4 percent Medicare reimbursement cut to physicians scheduled to begin on Jan. 1, 2006. It phases in, starting Oct. 1, 2007, the repeal of a law that sends anti-dumping trade penalties to aggrieved companies instead of to the U.S. Treasury. **YES Passed 212-206**

**524 2/5/06 H. Res. 1070** Expressing the sense that members of the House should encourage employers to hire wounded veterans who are transitioning to civilian life. **YES Passed\* 403-0**

**525 12/5/06 H.R. 1176** Providing immunity for properly licensed, certified or authorized nonprofit athletic organizations in lawsuits that claimed negligence resulting from rules enforced during an approved sports practice or competition. It exempts claims arising from federal, state or local antitrust, labor, environmental, defamation, or civil rights law, or any other federal, state, or local law providing protection from discrimination. **YES Failed\* 219-187**

**526 12/6/06 H.R. 6099** Requiring women who are at least 20 weeks pregnant and seeking an abortion to be informed that there is "substantial evidence" that the fetus would experience pain during the procedure. It also would have required that abortion providers inform women that they can request anes-

hibits cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment of any prisoner detained by the U.S. government. **YES Passed 374-41**

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★ **527 12/6/06 H. Res. 1082** Condemning the municipal government of St. Denis, France, for designating a street for Mumia Abu-Jamal, who was convicted of the murder of a Philadelphia police officer. It urges the French government to take appropriate action to change the name of the street. **YES Passed\* 368-31**

## Second Grant for Gillioz Theater Part of Restoration Effort

A second grant for the restoration of the Gillioz Theater arrived from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban (HUD) Development as the downtown complex prepared for a public reopening, following a \$9.5 million, 15 year, overhaul. The \$495,000 Economic Development Initiative grant, secured by the work of 7th District Congressman Roy Blunt, is for the Springfield Landmarks Preservation Trust which is spearheading the Gillioz revitalization.

Blunt secured \$471,200 for the Gillioz Theater restoration effort last year. "The Ronald and Nancy Reagan Center will memorialize the connection President Reagan has with Springfield and commemorate his service to the nation and his contribution to the arts and movie industry," Blunt said. Ronald and Nancy Reagan attended the world premiere of the movie "The Winning Team" in Springfield, Missouri at the Gillioz on June 7, 1952. Ronald Reagan starred as baseball player

and legend Grover Cleveland Alexander in the movie.

Nancy Brown, President of the Springfield Landmarks Preservation Trust said, "Springfield Landmarks Preservation Trust is deeply appreciative of the help that Congressman Blunt has provided in moving the project forward. The remodeled Gillioz Theater promises to be a shining star in the rebirth of downtown Springfield."

Built in 1926 along Route 66, the Gillioz was the community's premier live stage theater and movie house with its ornate plaster cornice, frieze detailing and fixtures. Styled in Spanish Colonial Revival architecture with Mediterranean, Italian and Moroccan influences, the Gillioz was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991. The project includes expansion into the neighboring James D. Morris Art Center to accommodate the theater's offices, modern restroom facilities, a restaurant, art exhibits and a grand ballroom.



## South Missouri Water Quality Project Readies for 5th Year of Operations

The South Missouri Water Quality Project based in Ozark, also known as the Upper White River Basin Water Quality Project, is readying for its 5th year of operations. The project was designed to provide best management practices to landowners, farmers, foresters, developers and government planners to protect water quality on a voluntary consulting basis without the threat of government penalties.

"The work of this office, the only one of its kind in the nation, is an unqualified success," Congressman Roy Blunt said. "The South Missouri Water Quality Project reinforces my belief that partnering government and voluntary water conservation efforts based on sound science works better than creating an adversarial relationship through fines and new governmental regulations."

To date, the conservation activities of the Project include: 386 urban lawn nutrient plans, rural nutrient management plans covering more than 3,300 rural acres, 129 cartography maps, 17,100 acres of forest land

accessed for conservation, 1,000 acres of land access for riparian corridors, and technical advice on non-point source watershed projects.

Blunt added, "The impact of the continuing drought, growth in populations and economic development are placing new stresses on the region's water resources, which are essential for the good health and economic expansion of the area. I am committed to continue working with the private sector, governments and civic leaders to ensure that the region has access to plentiful, affordable water and to safeguard those resources."

Originally created by legislation sponsored by Congressman Blunt, the South Missouri Water Quality Project, staffed by the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS), provides technical assistance to integrate water quality protections with economic development. The NRCS staff of five professionals serves an area comprising 14.7 million acres in 23 counties that includes land in 9 watershed areas.



Clay Robertson and Robert DeMoss, staff members with the USDA-NRCS South Missouri Water Quality Office, assist a local landowner installing a vegetative buffer along a stream. This area will be converted to trees and severe to improve water quality by filtering overland runoff.

## 80% of Seniors Rate

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In late October the nation's first Part D Insurance Fair with representatives from 16 insurers brought out 3,000 seniors in a pouring rain in Springfield (pictured left). A week later, 1,800 seniors attended another fair in Joplin to learn more about Part D.

During a series of 11 sessions for individual counseling in each county, more than 700 seniors attended. One session had to move outdoors when storms knocked out power to the local library in Pineville (pictured right), but it didn't



stop 50 seniors from seeking answers to their inquiries when the sun came out.

Seniors nationwide began to enroll at a pace of approximately 400,000 per week. In the final week, 2 million enrolled, and as more enrolled and personally experienced the savings that Part D provided, even critics in Congress had to urge their constituents to enroll for fear of missing the new benefit that was driving costs down by an estimated \$8 billion the first year.

## Gas Prices

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44¢ between August 29 and September 2 for branded stations and 73¢ at independent stores.

- May 2006: Blunt votes for the American-Made Energy and Good Jobs Act, which authorizes oil and gas exploration in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. America becomes more secure with each step we take to decrease our dependence on foreign sources of energy.

- May 2006: Blunt votes for the H-Prize Act which will establish a prize competition to encourage the research and development of hydrogen as a transportation fuel.

- May 2006: Blunt votes for the Federal Energy Price Protection Act of 2006 to protect consumers from price gouging on gasoline, diesel fuel, crude oil, home heating oil and bio-fuels.

- June 2006: Blunt votes for the Refinery Permit Process Schedule Act to increase the nation's oil refining capacity. "We have not built a new refinery in the United States in the past 30 years, and our lack of refineries has driven up costs at the pump," Blunt said.

- June 2006: Blunt introduces another measure to further curb boutique fuels, or specially formulated fuels - The Boutique Fuels Reduction Act of 2006. Blunt explained, "When supplies of one or more of these special blends are limited, prices rise quickly—sometimes overnight. It's time to see some common sense at the gas pump. When supply can't meet demand in an area that uses a 'boutique' fuel, prices shoot up unexpectedly. This plan relies on simple economics: if we create a larger market for a greater amount of gasoline, we'll help drive prices down."

- July, 2006: After severe storms caused electricity outages and damages around St. Louis and to the Conoco Phillips Wood River oil refinery in Illinois, the EPA, acting under provisions of a law change Congressman Blunt sponsored the summer before, approved a waiver to allow the area to use conventional gasoline that was easier to produce and more readily available. The action stabilized prices for the area.

# Seniors Rate Medicare D's First Year a Success, Saying They Are Saving Money on the Drugs They Need



A series of opinion polls finds four-out-of-five seniors on the new Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit rate it a success. "Approximately 38 million seniors are receiving 3-million prescriptions a day. Nine-out-of-ten seniors in Southwest Missouri have prescription drug coverage," according to Southwest Missouri Congressman Roy Blunt, who cited figures from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

"The pundits were wrong. Competition and the market place still work," Blunt said. "The federal government's use of a market driven, competition based benefit with consumer

choice has driven down costs, increased customer service and yielded startling individual results for millions of seniors." Low-income seniors with subsidized coverage are seeing saving of up to 90% on their previous drug costs. Savings of 20% to 50% are common for seniors who are not receiving subsidized coverage.

Medicare Part D enrollments in Southwest Missouri demonstrate the program was well received. Three-out-of-four Southwest Missouri seniors (88,000) have prescription drug coverage from the federal government:

- 32,455 people enrolled in one of the three

- dozen stand-alone plans.
- 16,505 people enrolled in one of the 16 Advantage plans (HMO or PPO).
- 18,497 people were automatically enrolled because they were eligible to receive "extra help" or were Medicaid eligible.
- 11,249 people are receiving a subsidy in a job or with Medicare as a secondary payer.
- 9,288 are federal government employees or retirees from the Armed Forces.

Seniors have until December 31, 2006 to enroll or change their enrollments to a new Medicare Part D plan that better suits their medicine needs. Benefits would start on January 1, 2007.

**Blunt Tells Area Agencies on Aging: "Your Professional Counseling Was Crucial for Better Understanding of Part D Benefits."**

Between late 2005 and May 15, 2006 when the Medicare Part D program was educating and enrolling seniors, the Southwest Missouri Office on Aging in Springfield and the VantAge Point Area Agency on Aging in Joplin established a record of service and impartial counseling that created a bond of trust for seniors who needed information and guidance on Part D.



With overwhelming success, seniors who came to these agencies got answers to the questions they posed about their options for enrolling or not enrolling in Part D.

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## Happy Customers: Medicare Part D



June Huff was one of a host of highly trained counselors who worked in the Southwest Missouri Part D Caravan, hosted by Congressman Blunt, the Southwest Missouri Office on Aging and VantAge Point Area Agency on Aging. During the 11 city Caravan, hundreds of seniors received individual counseling on the best Part D Plan Medicare offered for their situation. Here are some of her favorite Part D success stories she passed on to Congressman Blunt.

June's aunt who is in her late seventies doesn't take much medication, but, one prescription she has is expensive. Medicare D is saving her almost \$200 a month on her drugs which is always nice for any senior regardless of their income bracket. I have become her hero now.

A 58 year old gentleman, from Mt. Vernon, who had many health issues; heart, diabetes, depression, lung problems said he would alternate each month which medicines he used because of the expense. As you can see, he didn't need to skip medications daily much less monthly. He enrolled in a plan that allowed him to take all meds everyday for \$34.00 a month.



Jo Shiner (seated) with the VantAge Point Area Agency on Aging in Joplin counseled more than 800 seniors in 2006 and conducted several group sessions. Jo said her Part D plan reduced her personal drug costs from \$260 a month to \$60.

One couple was living on Social Security alone and had no resources to help them pay for their medications. They had been getting their medications from the drug companies, but it was a great deal of paperwork to keep up with. They applied for extra help and were approved. They enrolled in a plan, and they are now paying \$2-\$5 co-pays for their prescriptions and don't have to deal with all that paperwork, making life in Republic a lot sweeter.

In Bolivar, a widow utilized the Medicare. Gov comparison tool to determine that she could go with the cheapest plan, and by using generic

drugs, avoid going into the gap. This saved her between \$700 and \$800 on the year for her prescriptions.

A couple on railroad retirement paid almost half of their income in insurance premiums. Part D provided comparable coverage to what they had, but the premium was significantly less expensive, so they enrolled. When they took D coverage, their health premiums with the railroad insurance also dropped. They ended up having the same basic coverage, but their premiums were cut dramatically. They said the drive up from Cassville was well worth their time.

A couple from Aurora were struggling month-to-month to pay medical bills as well as the rising cost of their prescription drugs. After finding a plan that would save them a great deal, they also submitted an application for 'extra help' and they were approved. Now instead of spending \$300 a month on prescriptions, they spend around \$35 a month, including their premium. All they keep saying is "God is faithful."

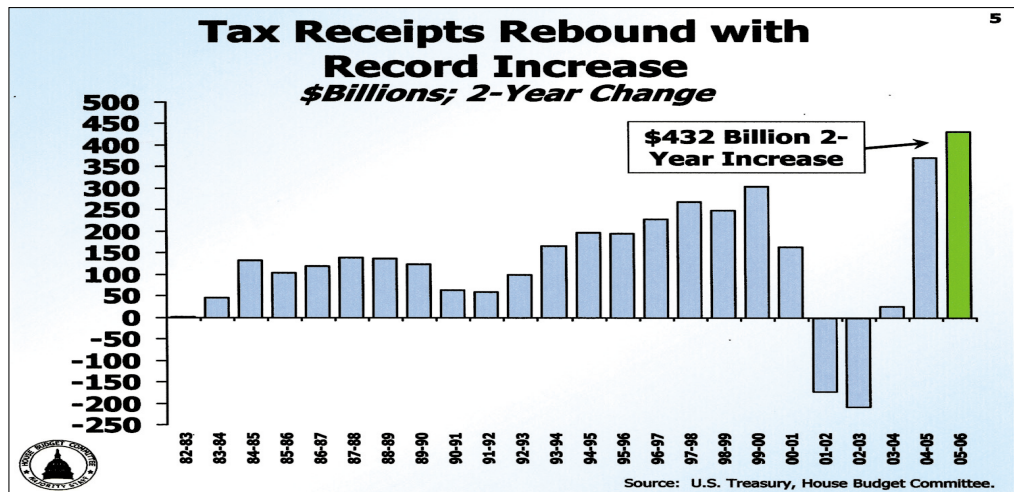
While on Congressman Blunt's Medicare Caravan, a couple who were both in their early 80's and lived near Table Rock Lake said they needed more information on the different plans. In

running plan comparison, the wife was thrilled with both the monthly cost of the plan and the monthly co-pays she would be paying. She enrolled in a plan that was going to cost her \$16.34 per month in premiums. Her husband was so thrilled with what he was seeing for his wife that he said, "This seems too good to be true." We ran the comparison for his medications and found since all his medications were generic, another plan would be his best option. He would pay only the monthly premium of \$23.82 per month and would receive all his generic medications for free.

The gentlemen said "You have made our day. We came in so reluctantly and so overwhelmed. We are leaving with a thorough understanding and a thankful heart."

A 93 year-old woman was doing without in order to meet her monthly drug costs. Each month was a tearful struggle for this Lawrence County resident, trying to stretch her limited income around her medication costs and monthly bills. It was immensely satisfying to the counselors to help enroll her in a plan that saved her \$150 to \$200 every month.

**"Tax policies are acting as incentives for the economy to expand and create jobs. After cutting taxes four times between 2001 and 2005, federal revenues have actually increased to record levels. In Southwest Missouri, job growth remains strong. Of the 32,892 jobs created in Missouri in 2005 (the last year statistics are available) a quarter of those new jobs were in Southwest Missouri's ten counties."**



County Name	Dec 2005	Gain (Loss)
Barry	15,496	567
Christian	14,992	652
Greene	153,282	4,920
Jasper	57,989	538
Lawrence	8,761	291
McDonald	6,449	301
Newton	18,724	68
Polk	8,230	465
Stone	6,648	159
Taney	25,197	842
7th District total employment	315,768	8,803
Percentage of state growth in new jobs through Dec 05.		26.76%
State of Missouri	2,700,859	32,892

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Data; Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, County-by-County, Total All Industries; All established sizes; All employees. Final employment figures for 2006 are not available.