

GETTING THINGS DONE: 2011 Legislative Achievements

VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES

- Changed White House policy on Presidential letters of condolence to ensure that all military families are treated equally and with respect, regardless of how their loved one died serving their country.
- Won a Distinguished Service Cross, our Nation's second highest award for bravery, on behalf of a Hoosier hero for his service during the Vietnam War, righting an historic wrong.
- Enacted the "Restoring GI Bill Fairness Act of 2011" (P.L. 112-26) to ensure that all veterans entitled to benefits under the "Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2010" actually receive those benefits.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ACCOUNTABILITY

- Enacted a two-year freeze on Congressional pay.
- Enacted a ban on House Members' earmarking Federal funds for pet projects, which has come to signify the permissive spending culture of Washington.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACCOUNTABILITY

- Initiated an investigation into Attorney General Eric Holder and the Department of Justice's handling of "Operation Fast and Furious" which resulted in the arming of Mexican drug cartels.
- Expanded the investigation into the Obama Administration's bailout of General Motors which resulted in thousands of Delphi salaried retirees receiving lower pension benefits compared with their hourly counterparts.



Congressman Burton attends a signing ceremony to strengthen our agricultural community in Indiana by supporting trade agreements with Taiwan.

U.S. Congressman Dan Burton • Stay Connected 24/7!

Interaction with Congress is just a click away. Visit my official web site and networking sites for daily updates about all the big issues of the day.

Constituent Service Guide

★ ASSISTANCE WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES

This year alone my office has helped hundreds of Hoosiers navigate the Federal bureaucracy to get the benefits rightly owed to them.

★ SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS

We accept applications from high school students interested in appointments to the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Merchant Marine academies.

★ We can help answer questions relating to public policy or current and pending legislation.

PROCURE FLAGS

★ We can help you obtain flags flown over the United States Capitol.

VISITING WASHINGTON

★ We are happy to help arrange tickets and tours for the White House, U.S. Capitol, Library of Congress, Supreme Court, and other DC sites.

FEEDBACK AND UPDATES

Congressman
DAN BURTON

2011 ISSUE UPDATE



UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

PUBLIC DOCUMENT
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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



www.burton.house.gov
and sign up for my e-newsletter



Twitter.com
/repdanburton



YouTube.com
/CongressmanDanBurton



Facebook.com
/CongressmanDanBurton

Dan Burton
M.C.

PRSRT STD

Congressman Dan Burton

Answers Your Questions



GETTING THINGS DONE: 2011 Legislative Achievements

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

- Passed the "Putting the Gulf of Mexico Back to Work Act" (H.R. 1229), the Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act" (H.R. 1230), and reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act" (H.R. 1231) to increase American energy production, Federal revenue, create jobs, and lower energy prices.

SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

- Prevented tax increases on small business owners.
- Repealed onerous IRS paperwork requirement in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
- Passed the "Regulations From the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act" [REINS] (H.R. 10) to ensure proper Congressional oversight of Federal regulations.

- Passed the "Regulatory Accountability Act of 2011" (H.R. 3010) to require Federal agencies to assess the cost and benefits of regulatory alternatives and adopt the least costly alternative.

AUTISM & CANCER

- Enacted the "Combating Autism Reauthorization Act of 2011" (P.L. 112-32) to ensure that the national investment in research on autism spectrum disorders and treatment of persons with autism spectrum disorders continues.
- Secured \$16 Million for ovarian cancer research and \$5 million for gynecological and ovarian cancer awareness education programs.

Inside This Edition

- **Constituent Service Guide**
- **Dan In the District**
- **Spending and Debt Problem**
- **Solving Spending and Debt**



Congressman Burton receives the 2011 National Public Policy Award from representatives of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology for his long-standing support of the Ovarian Cancer Research Program at the Department of Defense.

www.burton.house.gov

Dan in the District

Working to improve Indiana is my top priority. Here are some highlights from 2011:

SUPPORTING HOOSIER JOBS AND BUSINESSES

With unemployment in Indiana close to nine percent, it is my hope to bring job seekers and employers together to help Hoosiers regain employment. Building on previous years' job fairs, this year's H.I.R.E. Job Fair was a resounding success. The turnout exceeded all expectations with over 70 businesses participating, providing more than 340 employment opportunities. The 2011 H.I.R.E. Job Fair showcased a wide range of jobs in a variety of fields.

In February, I visited Stanley Black & Decker, Inc. at its Stanley Security Solutions facility in Indianapolis. And many Indiana companies are leading the way in energy technology. In August, I had the opportunity to tour the Keller-Rivest's Verdetherm recycling installation at Hamilton Heights Elementary. If the United States is going to remain competitive, we need to enact policies that enable businesses and manufacturers such as these strong Indiana companies to operate free of government red tape and high taxes.

SUPPORTING INDIANA'S STUDENTS

In March, I held my annual Youth Leadership Conference at Hamilton Southeastern High School. Speakers included Indiana State Senator Mike Delph; Special Agent Chris Bryan from the Department of Homeland Security; Solicitor General Thomas Fisher from the Attorney General's Office; and Chief Deputy Robyn Crosson from the Indiana Department of Insurance.



Congressman Burton greets Hoosiers and catches up with former Indiana Rep. Ralph Duckwall at a Town Hall meeting.

LISTENING TO CONSTITUENTS

In August, I held a series of Town Halls for the residents of the 5th Congressional District and heard from hundreds of Hoosiers about what's important to them and what they want their elected officials in Washington to do. It truly had been a summer of discontent in Washington and all across this great Nation. Washington's excessive spending and debt has taken center stage in the minds of Americans. With Indiana's unemployment hovering around nine percent and seniors fearful that the benefits they rely on could be cut, it's extremely important I meet with my constituents and have a frank conversation about the issues that matter most to them.



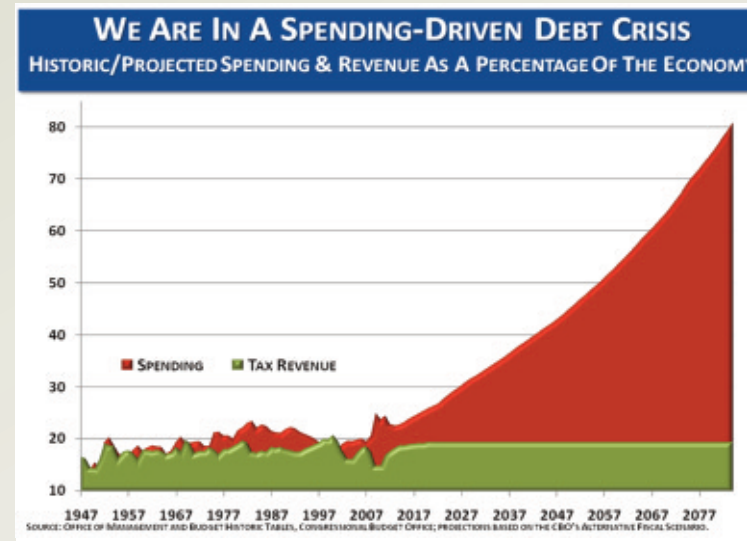
Congressman Dan Burton at Hamilton Heights Elementary School with Verdetherm's Sales and Tech Team discussing green energy policies and technology.

Burton Works to Tackle Spending and Debt

As the economy has continued to stagnate, there are many people out there that want you to believe that the reason we have a debt crisis right now is because Americans do not pay enough taxes. This fallacy could not be further from the truth. The United States has never had a revenue problem, it has a spending problem.

During this congress my colleagues and I have endeavored to cut billions of dollars in discretionary spending. This is still not enough. Only by sticking to the conservative fundamentals of cutting discretionary and mandatory spending, capping federal spending, enacting a Balanced Budget Amendment and continuing to tackle the bloated bureaucracy in Washington can we bring our country back from the brink.

- We cannot tax our way out of this problem. Even if we were to raise taxes on the most successful small businesses in America, the government could not come close to closing the gap. We cannot forget that most of America's small businesses are owned by individuals that file at individual rates.



- If we tried to address the current fiscal deficit by raising taxes, the Federal government would have to raise the tax rate of the median Hoosier household from 15% to 36.4% just to break even on our federal deficit. Tax increases will not address this issue.
- Because the government is spending more than it takes in through taxes, it has to borrow money to cover the shortfall. The deficit is how much the government borrows to fund the gap between spending and revenue in a given year. The debt is the total amount outstanding that the government owes (accumulation of deficits over time.)
- This year - 2011 - it is estimated for the third year in a row, that the government will borrow more than \$1 Trillion. The National debt is over the \$15 trillion mark - nearly the size of the entire U.S. economy.



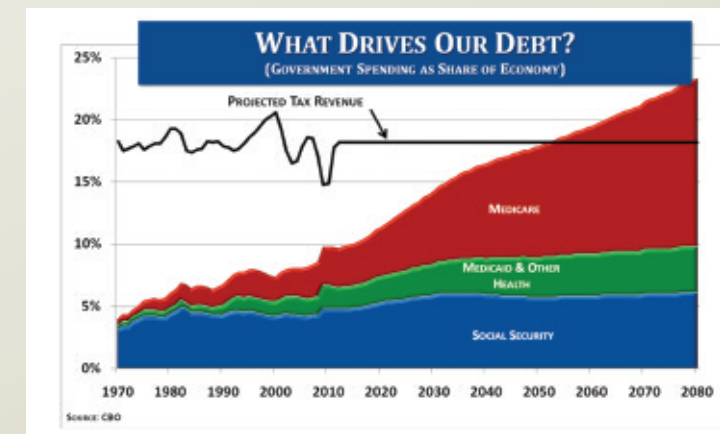
Congressman Burton and local health care providers discuss the implications of the new health care law.

We Can Solve the Federal Government's Spending Problem

- Imposing higher tax rates will put the U.S. at a disadvantage compared to the rest of the world.
- The current tax code for individuals is too complicated, with high marginal rates that discourage growth. We need to embrace pro-growth tax reform by consolidating tax brackets, setting top rates for individuals at 25 percent, and clearing out the burdensome tangle of loopholes that distort economic activity.
- American businesses struggle under the highest corporate income tax in the developed world. The current corporate tax code raises relatively little revenue and encourages U.S. companies to move offshore to places like China, Mexico, and Singapore. The solution is to create incentives for businesses to stay in the United States by lowering the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to a more competitive 25 percent.
- We should eliminate the approximate \$800 Billion in tax increases that result from the new health care law.
- For decades, domestic agencies have received large increases in their base budgets. For example, the Environmental Protection Agency received a 36 percent increase in just two short years. Earlier this year, the House of Representatives voted to return domestic spending to pre-stimulus levels. The House continues to push the Senate and President Obama to rein in spending.

Social Security, Medicare & Medicaid Need to be Brought into the 21st Century

- Americans will not be able to count on Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid much longer unless Congress repairs and reforms them. These programs were structured to operate successfully in the 20th century economy. Congress needs to move these 20th century-devised programs into the 21st century. Republicans will continue to pursue policies that repair and reform these programs so that they will meet the economic and demographic realities of the 21st century.



For more information on these and other issues, visit:

www.burton.house.gov