



CONGRESSMAN DAN LIPINSKI

Working for Veterans



SUMMER UPDATE | 111TH CONGRESS

Dear Veteran,

Around the globe, our men and women in uniform are placing themselves in harm's way to defend our freedom. As we steadily reduce our presence in Iraq, nearly 100,000 brave Americans are now fighting for us in Afghanistan. Today's service members are the latest in a long line of American heroes motivated by a profound sense of honor, duty, and patriotism.

As your Congressman, I am working to ensure America fulfills its obligations to each and every one of our veterans. I am especially committed to honoring all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in America's defense. On a daily basis, my office helps veterans obtain military records, request medals they earned but never received, and deal with service-connected disability claims, VA Hospital billing problems, and placement in VA homes, among other matters.

Last month, I once again participated in the Wounded Warrior Project's Soldier Ride, joining members of the military injured in Iraq and Afghanistan and raising awareness of the tremendous sacrifices made by our troops. It is a great honor for me to take part in this inspiring annual event, in which wounded veterans demonstrate extraordinary courage, heart, and comradery in refusing to let their injuries hold them back.

With the economy still in turmoil, I know these are very difficult times for many veterans. On July 19, my Veterans Fair will take place at the centrally located Oremus Community Center in Bridgeview, which features substantial parking and easy access. If you are unable to attend, please do not hesitate to stop by any of my offices or call 312-886-0481. Or visit my web site at www.lipinski.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Dan Lipinski

Congressman Lipinski Hosts Veterans Fair

Monday, July 19, 2010

10:00 a.m. to Noon

Oremus Community Center

79th Street and Oketo Avenue ■ Bridgeview, IL

At the Congressman's Veterans Fair, Congressional staff, the Illinois and U.S. Departments of Veterans Affairs, and other organizations will offer assistance with a variety of veterans' issues, including: Military personnel and medical records, veterans' claims and benefits, medals earned but not received, VA Hospital billing, placement in VA homes, GI Bill information, nominations for Service Academies, and requesting a U.S. Capitol flag.

For more information, call 312-886-0481.



Rep. Lipinski discusses the services he provides for veterans following an event honoring America's fallen heroes at Resurrection Cemetery.



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Presorted Standard

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★ CONGRESSMAN LIPINSKI WORKS FOR VETERANS ★

Honoring America's Heroes

Thanks to Congressman Lipinski, the Department of Defense will launch a major effort this summer to recover the remains of 564 heroic Navy sailors and Marines who lost their lives in the famous World War II Battle of Tarawa. Buried where they fell on a remote island in the Pacific, their bodies were never located after the war. The Congressman (pictured below detailing his work to recover missing troops' remains) has worked closely on this issue with Chicago Alderman Jim Balcer, a decorated Marine veteran of the Vietnam War, and is determined to



ensure we do not forget those who gave their lives for our freedom. He continues to work to increase funding for similar recovery efforts around the world.

Lipinski Opposes Hasty Repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"

Congressman Lipinski voted against repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, stating that Congress should have waited to vote until completion of the Pentagon's comprehensive study of the issue in December. The chiefs of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines all strongly supported waiting so that the Pentagon review process would not be short-circuited and the survey of our men and women in uniform could be completed. By voting prior to the study's completion, Congress sent an unwelcome signal to our troops about the value of their input. The American people have made it clear: Congress should listen before it acts.



Rep. Lipinski speaks about his work in Congress for veterans at a Memorial Day event in Worth.

Supporting Local Veterans

As part of his commitment to supporting our troops and aiding America's veterans, Congressman Lipinski recently voted for legislation that would:

- Increase funding for veterans' health care and other services by \$5.6 billion
- Prevent lenders from foreclosing on a veteran's home within nine months of the end of military service
- Help veterans obtain jobs in energy industries, such as energy-efficient building, renewable electric power, biofuel, oil and gas, and nuclear power
- Increase funding to help homeless veterans
- Boost pay for our troops and extend TRICARE health coverage to dependent children up to age 26

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See reverse for more details.