

Congressman
C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger

Women's Advisory Board

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 25, 2009



C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

As many of you are already aware, the month of October has been declared Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the United States. Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among women in the United States, and, in Maryland this year, 3,660 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed. Another 810 Maryland women will die from this disease, according to the American Community Survey by the U.S. Census. Maryland's breast cancer mortality rates are significantly higher than the national average.

I have known many people affected by this terrible disease and I am sure many of

you have as well. We need to work to reverse these disturbing trends. Mammograms are the best way for women to reduce the risk of dying because screening tests can find cancer early, when it's most treatable. In fact, the survival rate for women with breast cancer that has been treated before it spreads outside the breast is 98 percent.

Please take some time this month to encourage women to talk with their doctor about the risks of breast cancer. If you know of anyone concerned about the health care costs associated with mammograms and other screening methods, please see the contact information below for

the local offices of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program sponsored by the CDC.

Free screenings are also available through the Baltimore City Cancer Program, Monday through Friday, at three local facilities. Please call 410-328-HOPE (4673) for more information.

Together, we can work to promote screenings to friends and family, and to help find a cure for this horrible disease.

Sincerely,

C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress

Inside this issue:

Breast Cancer Awareness

College Financial Aid Workshops

Right Start Child Care and Education Act

Tutoring Opportunity

CDC Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program

Anne Arundel County
410-222-6180

Baltimore County
410-887-3432

Harford County
410-612-1780

Baltimore City
410-350-2001



Cong. Ruppertsberger
speaking at a 2008
Financial Aid Town Hall

Congressional Forum on Finding College Financial Aid

Congressman Ruppertsberger will be hosting a series of college financial aid workshops in the 2nd Congressional District this fall. He will be joined by financial aid experts who will provide information and answer questions. If you have any friends or loved ones looking to attend college in the near future, please pass this information along.

Monday, November 9, 2009
7:00pm-9:00pm
Northeast High School
1121 Duvall Highway
Pasadena, MD 21122

Monday, November 23, 2009
7:00pm-9:00pm
Chesapeake High School
1801 Turkey Point Road
Middle River, MD 21221

Monday, November 30, 2009
7:00pm-9:00pm
Joppatowne High School
555 Joppa Farm Road
Joppatowne, MD 21085

Right Start Child Care and Education Act of 2009

On January 13, 2009, Cong. Ruppertsberger and Senator Barbara Boxer joined together to drop a comprehensive child care bill that modeled the pledge of President Obama.

H.R. 460/ S. 210, the "Right Start Child Care and Education Act of 2009" is an enhanced version of legislation from the 110th Congress (H.R. 2021) that earned 140 sponsors last year.

The bill does the following:

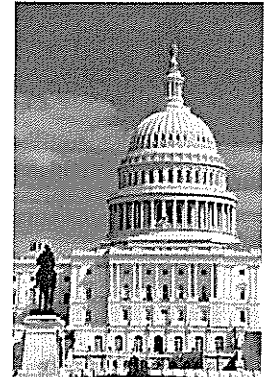
1. Makes the Federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC) fully refundable.
2. Increases the eligible expenses ceiling from \$3,000 per child to \$6,000, reflecting the increase in inflation since it was last increased.
3. Adjusts the share of eligible expenses from 35% to 50%, and raises the qualifying income levels to make the credit more generous for more working families.
4. Increases the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (DCFSA) cap to \$7,500, consistent with the increase in the DCTC.
5. Raises the cap and increases the share of expenses eligible for business tax credit for employers providing workplace child care or referral services.

6. Creates a new personal tax credit for college graduates who enter the child care workforce.

The Congressman believes this is the most comprehensive approach to help families, employers and child care providers alike. Right Start is a perfect companion to the proposal to increase funding for the Child Care block grant. If it became law, just the DCTC reform would mean a family with one child in care would see the maximum credit increase from \$1,050 to \$3,000. Low income families who in the past have not been eligible for the credit would now be able to earn the credit on their expenses or copayments.

If you would like to help the Congressman get this bill passed, you can do one or more of the following;

- Contact the House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means at 202-225-3625, and ask them to hold a hearing on this bill.
- Contact other members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation and ask them to co-sponsor this bill. A full list of members can be found at <http://www.house.gov> and click on "Representatives."



**Congressman
C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger**

2nd District, Maryland

Washington, DC

Congressman Dutch Ruppertsberger
2453 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2002
Phone: 202-225-3061
Fax: 202-225-3094

Timonium, MD

The Atrium
375 West Padonia Road, Suite 200
Timonium, MD 21093
Phone: 410-628-2701
Fax: 410-628-2708

Visit Dutch on the Web:
<http://dutch.house.gov>

Tutoring Opportunity at the Maritime Industries Academy High School

There are currently 185 students in the graduating class at the Maritime Industries Academy HS, and over 100 of them will not pass the MD High School Assessment (HSA) without twilight classes. Many of them have not taken into Algebra, Biology, etc. The principal is looking for tutors to come in at lunch and help the students, as many of them either cannot (due to

family or work responsibilities) or will not stay after school for remedial classes.

Also, the students and parents need mentors. They are overwhelmed and do not know where to begin to help their child navigate the educational process, especially through higher education.

This is a great opportunity to help struggling students in the 2nd Con-

gressional District. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be interested in helping these students and their families, please contact Jennifer Riggs in my office at 410-628-2701, and she can put you in contact with the school.



**Cong. Ruppertsberger talks with
High School students in the 2nd
Congressional District**