



CONGRESSMAN DAN LIPINSKI

Working for Seniors



SPRING UPDATE | 111TH CONGRESS

Dear Neighbor:

In my letter to you last fall I said, "If the health care reform bill does not protect seniors, I cannot support it." When the bill was brought to the House floor, I withstood intense pressure and voted against it. While our health care system needs reform, the bill we were presented cuts Medicare by hundreds of billions of dollars, according to the Congressional Budget Office. In addition, it does little to rein in costs for Americans who already have insurance and provides public funds for abortion. This bill was not right for seniors or for our country.

My vote against the health care bill is just one example of my determination to stand up for middle-class workers and retirees. Medicare and Social Security must be preserved, especially in these tough times. Having voted against the \$700 billion bank bailout, I believe we also must take strong action to stop reckless behavior on Wall Street. We cannot allow the greed and irresponsibility of some people to endanger the hard-earned retirement savings of millions of Americans.

On June 7, I will once again hold a Senior Fair to bring you services and expert assistance. For help with any federal issue, please do not hesitate to visit any of my offices or call 312-886-0481. You can also visit my web site at www.lipinski.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan".

Dan Lipinski

Congressman Lipinski Hosts Senior Fair

Monday, June 7, 2010

10 a.m. to Noon

Mount Greenwood Park

3724 West 111th Street ■ Chicago, Illinois

The Congressman's Senior Fair will give seniors a chance to get help from his staff with Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans' Benefits, the Postal Service, utility bills, and other issues. Local organizations and agencies will also offer assistance, and seniors can meet with businesses that provide services such as retirement living and that offer special discounts for seniors.



Rep. Lipinski discusses his opposition to the health care reform bill with a local senior at a Senior Fair in Chicago in May.



Congressman Dan Lipinski
3rd Congressional District

1717 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5701
Toll free from IL (866) 822-5701
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Dan Lipinski

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★ CONGRESSMAN LIPINSKI FIGHTS FOR SENIORS ★

Rep. Lipinski Votes “No” on Health Care Bill

While his courageous vote against the health care bill could not prevent it from becoming law, Congressman Lipinski will not stop fighting to improve Medicare and preserve seniors’ access to quality medical care. In March, he helped pass a bill to phase out the Medicare prescription drug “doughnut hole” by 2020, but because this is not soon enough, he continues to fight to close the hole sooner. He is also cosponsoring a bill to allow Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices with pharmaceutical companies, helping to lower costs. Unfortunately, the drug industry prevented these measures from being included in the health care bill.

Addressing Rising Costs

Social Security recipients received no cost-of-living increase in their benefits this year because the index used to measure inflation indicated that costs did not rise last year. This index, however, was designed to measure the cost increases faced by urban wage earners, not seniors.



Rep. Lipinski talks about his efforts to improve Social Security.

items, such as health care, the cost of which continues to rise very quickly. It is only right that we create an inflation index that accurately reflects the costs faced by seniors.

To better gauge retirees’ costs, Congressman Lipinski has introduced the CPI for Seniors Act. This bill would create a new index that reflects the fact that seniors spend a higher percentage of their income on certain



Working for Seniors

Congressman Lipinski (pictured above discussing the need to lower prescription drug costs with a constituent) is supporting numerous bills to benefit seniors. These include measures that would:

- Provide a \$250 payment to offset the lack of a Social Security cost-of-living increase this year.
- Reduce costs for seniors and taxpayers by allowing the government to negotiate lower Medicare drug prices.
- End arbitrary limits on medically necessary outpatient rehabilitation under Medicare.
- Create the first national Parkinson’s disease registry to help researchers in their search for a cure.
- Improve cancer treatment under Medicare, consistent with recommendations by the highly regarded Institute of Medicine.

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See reverse for more details.