



C O N G R E S S M A N

# RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

50TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



## BOOSTING THE ECONOMY

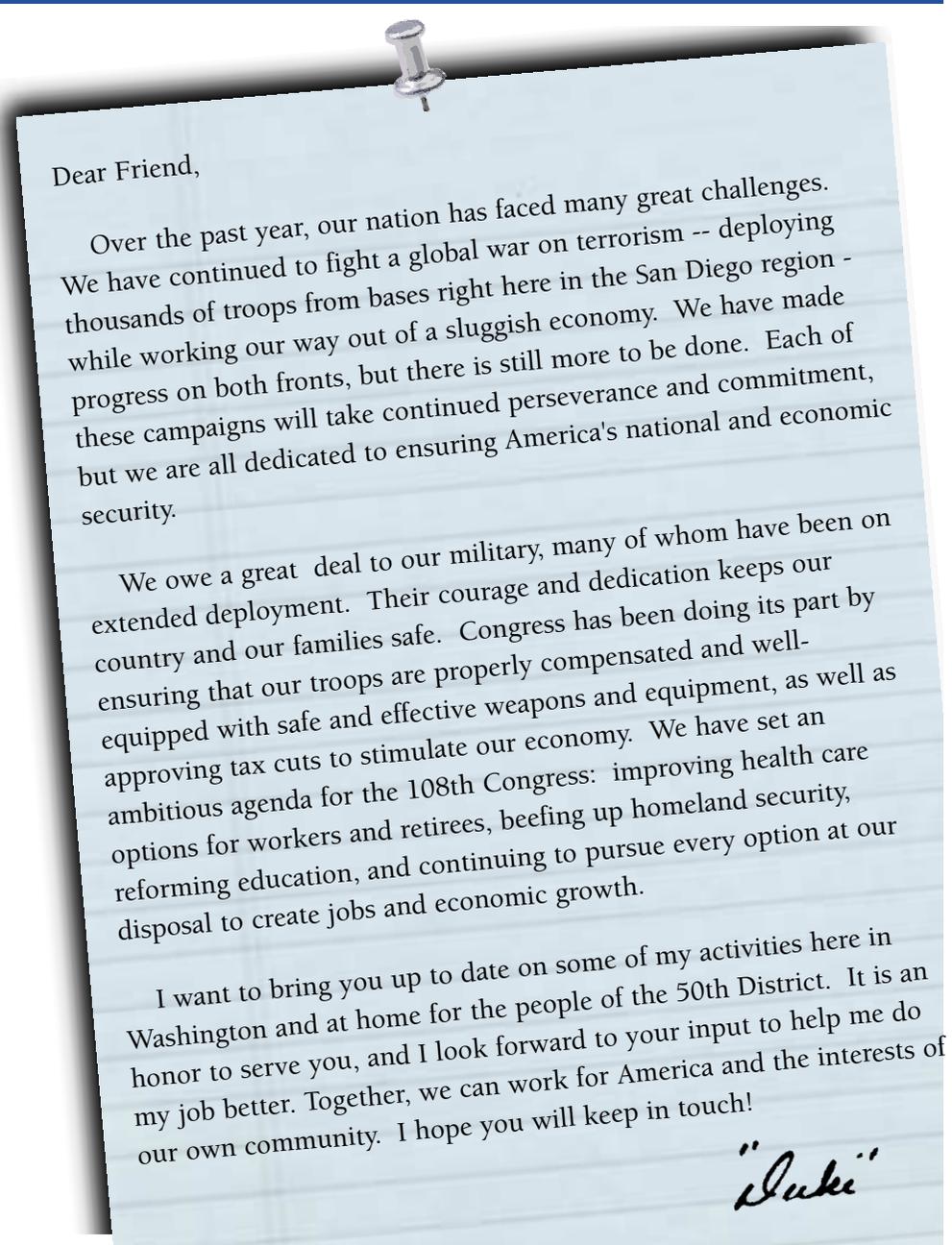
On Wednesday, May 28, 2003 President Bush signed into law H.R. 2, a \$350 billion economic growth and tax relief package over five years – the third largest in U.S. history. The tax cut is part of President Bush's plan to spur the American economy and create a million new jobs over the next two years. Cunningham supported this legislation because it will improve and strengthen the California and national economy. H.R. 2 includes important tax relief for hardworking Americans, as well as tax incentives to create jobs and strengthen the economy. In addition to accelerating marginal tax rate reductions signed into law in 2001, the bill will also help families through marriage tax relief and an increase in the child tax credit. The provisions to strengthen the economy and grow jobs will help California small businesses. The increase in expensing from \$25,000 to \$100,000 for two years should spur investment in capital. Further, California businesses will benefit from the increase in bonus depreciation from 30 percent to 50 percent over the next two years. Both investors and companies will benefit from a reduction in the dividend and capital gains tax to 5 percent for the lowest tax brackets, and to 15 percent for all other taxpayers. In 2008, the rate is reduced on the lowest income earners from 5 percent to zero tax. Finally, the legislation includes \$20 billion in additional federal funds to help state and local governments over the next two years, including \$10 billion in relief for state healthcare programs.

### All American Tax Relief

In addition to the jobs and growth package signed by the President, the House of Representatives has passed two additional packages designed to reduce the tax burden for all Americans. H.R. 1308, the All-American Tax Relief Act of 2003, passed by the House in June, gives tax relief to families, members of America's Armed Forces and families of astronauts who die on shuttle missions. H.R. 1308 also extends the increase in the child tax credit of \$1,000 through 2010 and accelerates the increase in the refundable child credit to 15 percent. The bill eliminates the marriage penalty in the child credit by raising the phase-out threshold for married couples to \$150,000. In addition, the All-American Tax Relief Act includes tax relief and simplification provisions designed to benefit members of the Armed Services, as well as families of astronauts who lose their lives on space missions. This bill would extend this help to the families of those who lost their lives in the shuttle Columbia disaster.

### IRS Accountability

The House also passed common-sense legislation reinforcing the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) fair, efficient and confidential role when administering the Nation's tax laws. H.R. 1528, the Taxpayer Protection and IRS Accountability Act of 2003 passed by the House in June will help keep American taxpayers from being subject to unreasonable collection activity. The tax code is far too complicated for anyone to understand and often turns honest hard working taxpayers into "violators" of unforgiving IRS rules and regulations. This bill strengthens and protects the rights of taxpayers by bringing common sense and accountability to the IRS. This good-government legislation protects American taxpayers from unfair IRS collection procedures by strengthening tax laws and streamlining operations.



Dear Friend,

Over the past year, our nation has faced many great challenges. We have continued to fight a global war on terrorism -- deploying thousands of troops from bases right here in the San Diego region - while working our way out of a sluggish economy. We have made progress on both fronts, but there is still more to be done. Each of these campaigns will take continued perseverance and commitment, but we are all dedicated to ensuring America's national and economic security.

We owe a great deal to our military, many of whom have been on extended deployment. Their courage and dedication keeps our country and our families safe. Congress has been doing its part by ensuring that our troops are properly compensated and well-equipped with safe and effective weapons and equipment, as well as approving tax cuts to stimulate our economy. We have set an ambitious agenda for the 108th Congress: improving health care options for workers and retirees, beefing up homeland security, reforming education, and continuing to pursue every option at our disposal to create jobs and economic growth.

I want to bring you up to date on some of my activities here in Washington and at home for the people of the 50th District. It is an honor to serve you, and I look forward to your input to help me do my job better. Together, we can work for America and the interests of our own community. I hope you will keep in touch!

*"Duke"*

### Inside This Edition

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# MODERNIZING MEDICARE

Medicare was created when many in the baby boom generation were graduating from high school and it reflected modern health care for the 1960s - but it hasn't kept up. The Medicare program continues to offer 1965 coverage despite 21st century advancements. As a matter of

fact, until 1997, Medicare did not even cover annual breast cancer screenings or prostate cancer screenings - two vital, preventive services. And today, Medicare does not include a prescription drug benefit to help seniors pay for important, and sometimes life-saving, medicines - some of which cost several thousand dollars each year.

Based on three key principles, Cunningham supported passage by the U.S. House of Representatives of H.R. 1, the Medicare Prescription Drug Modernization Act of 2003, that includes a prescription drug benefit for seniors in both the traditional fee-for-service and in the new integrated health plans. H.R. 1 includes a prescription drug benefit to seniors enrolled in both the traditional fee-for-service plans and the new health plan choices generated by the legislation. After paying a \$250 deductible, seniors will have access to a drug benefit that covers 80 percent of the drug costs up to \$2,000, at a premium of about a dollar a day. After \$3,500 in out-of-pocket costs, seniors will receive 100 percent coverage under the bill's catastrophic plan. In addition, low-income seniors will receive additional assistance with their premiums and cost sharing. For those below 135 percent of poverty, premiums will be fully subsidized by Medicare, and all cost sharing, except nominal co-payments, will be covered. In addition to creating a prescription drug benefit, the Medicare Prescription Drug Modernization Act of 2003 includes improvements to Medicare to drive down

## Cunningham's key principles for Reform:

A modern Medicare system must offer more choices and better benefits to every senior. Cunningham supports key principles for Medicare reform:

- 1- All seniors should have help in buying prescription drugs, and those who can least afford them should have extra help.
- 2- All seniors should be able to choose the health care plan that best fits their needs.
- 3- All seniors should have access to coverage of preventive benefits and protection from high out-of-pocket costs.

costs and improve benefits for America's seniors. These improvements will give seniors a choice, allowing them to select a health care plan that best fits their needs - including staying in traditional Medicare.

### To make drugs more affordable for all Americans, H.R. 1 will:

- Speed the approval of generic drugs saving Americans tens of billions of dollars on their prescription drugs bills.
- Permit the reimportation and personal importation of FDA-approved drugs from Canada.
- Combat fraud and abuse in the pricing of physician-administered drugs.
- Improve Medicare+Choice to ensure that seniors are able to receive consistent benefits.

### To modernize Medicare, H.R. 1 will:

- Establish coverage of an initial physical and cholesterol screening for all seniors.
- Establish a new choice for seniors by creating enhanced fee-for-service plans that will be required to have uniform premiums and cost sharing, and offer chronic care improvement programs, a single deductible and a limit on out-of-pocket expenses.
- Increase payments to sole community hospitals, critical access hospitals, rural home health agencies and hospice providers.
- Speed the integration of new technologies into hospital treatment regimens to strengthen and increase the delivery of quality care and promote innovation.
- Improve payments to physicians to ensure that seniors have access to the best doctors.
- Reduce regulatory cost and delay under Medicare, ease paperwork burdens and improve Medicare's responsiveness to beneficiaries and health care providers. This will allow physicians to spend more time caring for their patients rather than filling out burdensome paperwork.



Cunningham participates in the Men's Health Network (MHN) in recognition of the 10th anniversary of National Men's Health Week.



# PROTECTING AMERICA'S RETIREMENT SECURITY

As our country works its way out of difficult economic times, we must work to create new jobs and protect those living on fixed incomes. Particularly during this time, Cunningham is committed to protecting Social

Security benefits for seniors. Recently, Mexico attempted to negotiate a "Totalization Agreement" with the U.S. that would make illegal aliens working illegally in the U.S. eligible for Social Security benefits.

Cunningham is a cosponsor of the No Social Security for Illegal Immigrants Act of 2003 (H.R. 1631). This bill would prevent illegally earned wages from being included in the Social Security fund and, therefore, prevent illegal aliens from collecting Social Security on these wages.

In addition to supporting a strong Social Security system that ensures our nation's seniors a secure retirement future, Cunningham also supports

pension reforms to allow working Americans to plan for their own futures. In May, the House passed the Pension Security Act (H.R. 1000), with Cunningham's support. This legislation, backed by President Bush, would give millions of Americans new tools to help them better manage and expand their retirement savings. The bill is a common sense way to encourage employers to provide their workers with access to quality investment advice as an employee benefit, and it includes strong protections to ensure that they receive advice solely in their best interests. Cunningham believes that expanding worker access to quality investment advice is the most important pension protection of all and wants to help Americans who are working hard and saving for their retirement. President Bush reaffirmed his support for the Pension Security Act this year in his FY 2004 budget request and indicated he will sign it into law if it is passed by the Senate and reaches his desk.



# LEAVING NO CHILD BEHIND

In July, the House of Representatives approved an education funding bill for the upcoming fiscal year (FY 2004) that will mark the third major increase in federal education spending since President Bush signed the *No Child*

*Left Behind* education reform bill into law. This increase comes at a time when many non-education programs are being scaled back. Cunningham is a Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Education which is responsible for allocating education dollars. Among the highlights of the education spending bill approved by the House:

## EDUCATION FUNDING INCREASED

Overall funding for the Department of Education is increased by \$2.3 billion. The \$55.4 billion in total funding for federal education is an all-time high. Under President Bush, in just three years the Education Department's overall funding will have increased by \$13.2 billion.

## TITLE I FUNDING

Title I aid to needy and disadvantaged students is increased to \$12.35 billion. The \$667 million increase in FY2004 would be the third significant increase in Title I funding as a result of the *No Child Left Behind Act*. In FY2003, Title I funding was increased by \$1.3 billion, which was on top of the \$1.6 billion increase provided in FY 2002. This increase means Title I spending will have increased more during the first three years of President George W. Bush's administration than it did during the previous seven years combined under President Clinton. These dollars are particularly important to California because of its high populations of disadvantaged students, and Cunningham has fought annually to ensure that California receives its fair share of these dollars.

## IMPACT AID FUNDING

Impact Aid funding for schools serving military and Native American children is increased to \$1.238 billion, which is a \$50 million increase over last year's level and \$223 million above the budget request. Since 1995, the Republican Congress has increased Impact Aid by over \$500 million. These dollars help to educate the children of our fighting forces who are stationed at our military installations. Because so many military operations are located in the San Diego area, our region is a major beneficiary of this critical national program.



Duke and Arnold share ideas on how Congress can continue to improve education.

## AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM FUNDING

Afterschool programs are funded at \$1 billion, which is an increase of \$400 million over the budget request (the architect and sponsor of California's Proposition 49 is Arnold Schwarzenegger). This program provides grant funding to programs such as San Diego's "6 to 6" program which are designed

to provide safe, enriching environments for students after school and to help working families. Cunningham, an advocate for afterschool programs, met with Schwarzenegger in April of this year, and Schwarzenegger testified before Cunningham's subcommittee in May regarding the importance of afterschool programs.



## TAX DOLLARS AT WORK FOR OUR SCHOOLS

In addition to supporting increases for federal programs important to San Diego, Cunningham also delivered funding for key projects in the San Diego region including:

\$475,000 for California State University, San Marcos to upgrade the University Library's electronic catalog and to provide computer stations for the library and campus police communications upgrade.

\$950,000 for the Foundation for the Improvement of Math and Science Education (FIMSE) to continue its partnership with San Diego City Schools to increase student achievement.

\$225,000 for the International Foundation for Music Research (IFMR) in Carlsbad, CA, to fund science-based research on the link between music education and its connection to learning, behavior and health.

\$225,000 to continue the 24 Challenge/Jumping Levels Math Game, which also funds the annual San Diego 24 Challenge Math Tournament.

\$225,000 for the San Pasqual Academy in Escondido, CA, to complete a state-of-the-art Technology Center.

\$500,000 for National University in La Jolla, CA, to establish an Institute for Persons who are hard of hearing or deaf and to support projects for children who are hard of hearing or have a cochlear implant.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS

Special Education grants (IDEA) are increased by \$1 billion over this year's levels in FY2004, as requested by the President. The \$9.9 billion funding level builds on two previous significant increases in funding under President Bush, totaling \$2.5 billion. The FY2004 funding for IDEA is three times higher than in 1995, the final fiscal year of the Democrat-controlled Congress.

## READING FIRST FUNDING

Reading First and Early Reading First grants to states are increased to \$1.15 billion to ensure that children can read by the time they reach the third grade. Under "*No Child Left Behind*", federal funding has more than tripled for reading programs based on proven reading instruction methods rooted in scientifically-based research. Head Start funding to help prepare disadvantaged young children to learn and succeed in school is boosted by \$148 million. The FY2004 increase will bring total Head Start funding to \$6.8 billion, providing significant resources to ensure that we are closing the readiness gap between Head Start graduates and their more affluent peers.

## COLLEGE FUNDING

Pell Grants maintain their historically high maximum award of \$4,050 to help disadvantaged students achieve the dream of a college education. In addition, overall funding is increased by \$885 million over this year's budget, bringing total funding to \$12.3 billion. This means that more families will be served, and more students will have a college education within reach.



## KEEPING SAN DIEGO COUNTY MOVING

Each year, over 90 million passengers travel on San Diego's 610 miles of freeways and highways. By 2015, North County's population is projected to increase by 74 percent and by 2030, San Diego County will become home to 1 million more people and 500,000 new jobs.

### North County Congestion

As we continue to pursue transportation solutions for North County, we must pursue transit options as well as improve our existing freeway system. Congested freeways are not only frustrating, but stop-and-go traffic results in increased emissions that are harmful to the environment. San Diego's three most congested freeways are all located in North County. As you are well aware, I-15, SR-78, and I-5 all have average speeds of less than 35 miles per hour for more than four hours each work day. Cunningham is committed to getting San Diego moving again so that working parents spend less time on the road and more time at home with their families.

### Scheduled Improvements

This year, Cunningham is working to secure money for I-15 widening, bus rapid transit, and adding to the existing carpool lanes. Commuters will also be pleased to learn that Cunningham secured \$2 million last year for I-5 and that Cunningham is working to increase funding for widening sections of I-5 from La Jolla to Solana Beach and at the I-805 split. Further, he obtained \$1.5 million last year for the missing SR-56/I-5 connectors and continues to push for more federal funding for this project. North County is desperately in need of more east-west thoroughfares and the completion of SR-56 and the connectors will improve movement on SR-78.

Alleviating traffic congestion is a crucial quality-of-life issue. Cunningham will continue to work to ensure that the people of the 50th District are spending less time on the road.



## MAKING MUSIC

Recent studies indicate that music education dramatically enhances a child's ability to solve complex math and science problems, and researchers believe there is a link to literacy skills as well. Students who participate in music programs score significantly higher on standardized tests

while at the same time developing self-discipline, communication, and teamwork skills. They also are less likely to be involved in gangs, drugs, or alcohol abuse and have better attendance in school. As schools face budget crunches that force them to make difficult decisions regarding programs that are not part of their core curricula, Cunningham supports innovative efforts to ensure that children are still able to have music in their lives.

In February, Cunningham visited the headquarters of the International Music Products Association (NAMM) in Carlsbad, CA, to make music with a class from the *Music Ventures* program. *Music Ventures* is a federally funded program designed to provide music making opportunities in north San Diego County. Cunningham was instrumental in securing a \$100,000 earmark in the FY02 Labor Health and Human Services Appropriations bill, providing NAMM with

seed money for the *Music Ventures* program. This program consists of several key components that support parent, educator and student involvement in music making as well as reinforcing the correlation between music and education.

Music Ventures in Schools, the Music Ventures Trail, the Interactive Field Trip Program, and Family Activity Days provide a positive foundation of activities to help enhance learning opportunities in districts lacking efficient music education resources.



Cunningham visits with children at NAMM and discusses the importance of music in educating our children.

Photo Courtesy of: Stuart Robertson



## HONORING OUR VETERANS

As the men and women of the U.S. military continue to fight the war on terrorism around the world, they should know that they have the support of the American people not just upon their return but in the future.

Cunningham supported the House budget resolution that provides a 10.7% increase for Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) programs in the coming fiscal year, providing a \$1.4 billion increase in 2004. During consideration of the VA spending bill, Cunningham voted to reject the Administration's proposal to establish new fees for non-service connected veterans.

One of Cunningham's top priorities for San Diego has been securing more veterans' burial space. At his suggestion, the Navy has agreed to provide the VA with land not required for training at Miramar Marine Corps Air Station to establish an annex to Fort Rosecrans. Cunningham secured \$2 million in the veterans spending bill to support planning and initial operations at this

facility that will provide several hundred thousand new burial spaces and initial operations as early as 2004.

Equally high on the Cunningham's legislation agenda is eliminating the offset of military retirement benefits for those receiving VA disability compensation. Cunningham is a longtime cosponsor of H.R. 303, which would eliminate the longstanding equity and is now working with House leaders to ensure action on this issue in the 108th Congress.

Once again, Cunningham is leading the House effort to restore legal protection for the U.S. flag. Given the two Supreme Court rulings since 1989 overturning flag protections, it is now necessary to amend the Constitution to accomplish that goal. His measure, H.J.Res. 4, passed the House overwhelmingly and awaits action in the Senate.

# PROTECTING OUR SHORES

## Increasing Our Water Supply

Water is one of our most precious resources – a basic element required for all life. As California faces the current Colorado River water crisis, Cunningham remains concerned and continues to prepare California for the future. Recently, Cunningham sent a letter to President Bush emphasizing the importance of completing work on California's Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA). A successful resolution of the issues surrounding the use of Colorado River water is integral to the economic health of the Western United States. Cunningham vows to continue pressing for quick resolution of the Colorado River water transfer issue.

As we move towards a more sustainable water solution in the West, Cunningham also feels that it is important to invest in technology that moves California to a more self-sufficient supply of water. As in several years past, he has again secured federal funding for two water treatment plants in the Olivenhain Water District. These facilities will add up to 5 billion gallons of water to the San Diego region's annual water supply.

Olivenhain is constructing the world's largest membrane filtration treatment plant for potable water in Encinitas, CA. The district will incorporate new membrane treatment methods that eliminate waterborne health threats that currently survive more conventional treatment processes. In addition to providing better health protection, the use of membrane treatment technologies benefits the environment by reducing chemical usage and leftover sludge resulting from conventional treatment. This plant will be the largest treatment plant of its kind in the world.

Since his days in the Navy, Cunningham has been fascinated by desalination technology. As we look towards the future for the San Diego water supply, Cunningham believes that we should look to our greatest water resource—the Pacific Ocean. Today's technology can desalinate water – a process that takes salt water and purifies it into drinking water. Currently, he is working to ensure funding for a desalination plant in Carlsbad. This plant will be able to produce 50 million gallons of water per day – that would supply 8 - 10% of the region's water supply. Desalination technology has greatly advanced throughout the years and is now cost-competitive with other new water supplies. Cunningham believes that this technology can help alleviate the current water resource strain being felt by the region. He is also an original cosponsor of result-based legislation that will improve water supply, yield, and reliability by creating a competitive grant program to help communities implement water desalination, water recycling, and brackish water treatment to increase water supply.

## Cleaning Our Oceans

Also of concern to Cunningham is the Tijuana sewage that continues to cause closures of San Diego Beaches. This pollution directly affects the quality of life and health of the residents of San Diego County while the closure of our beaches has caused economic hardship to the local economy. With the support of Cunningham, Congress directed a commission to negotiate a new treaty agreement with the Mexican government that would allow the construction and operation of a privately-owned and operated wastewater treatment plant in Mexico. This facility

would process the 60 million gallons a day of raw sewage that now flows down the Tijuana River Estuary and onto San Diego region beaches, and eliminate this public health hazard to our community.

While nearly three years has passed since the authority started to negotiate an agreement for a sewage treatment facility for our region, the commission has failed to make any notable progress.

Cunningham continues to pressure the government agencies that oversee the negotiations with Mexico to resolve this issue. Most recently, Cunningham and Congressman Duncan Hunter

introduced an amendment to direct the overseeing commission to negotiate treaty language making the resolution of the Tijuana sewage issue a top priority. This measure, which was adopted overwhelmingly by the House of Representatives, also stipulates that the commission should provide Congress with monthly updates on progress made in this endeavor.

## Protecting Our Beaches

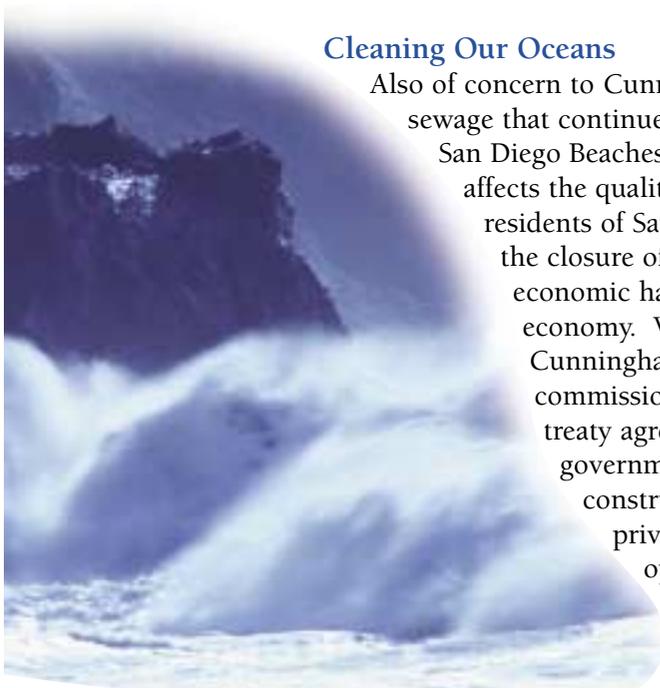
As many in North County have seen, the Solana Beach and Encinitas bluffs continue to erode posing a significant safety risk to residents and visitors. As recently as July of this year, the bluffs continue to fall away. Cunningham secured funding this year to investigate shoreline erosion along the eight-mile stretch of beach from the mouth of the Batiquitos Lagoon, south to the southern corporate boundary of Solana Beach. The protective beaches in the study area have been severely eroded causing backshore development to be susceptible to wave attack, shoreline erosion, and undermining. The eroded beaches have also left high bluffs susceptible to wave attack which has caused bluff undermining in many areas resulting in injuries and numerous deaths over the past few years.

## Offshore Oil Drilling

Cunningham led the charge again this year to uphold the moratorium on oil drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf, including language in the House Interior Appropriations bill for the next fiscal year to prevent that from occurring. It is very important to the people of California and San Diego County that we continue the Federal ban on offshore gas or oil drilling off of California's coast. The environmental sensitivities along the entire California coastline make the region an inappropriate place to drill for oil or gas using current technology. The 1989 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) study confirmed that new exploration and drilling on existing leases and on undeveloped leases in the same area would be detrimental to the environment. He agrees with the NAS study's findings, and has introduced legislation to address the California offshore drilling issue in the past. While Cunningham believes that it is vital to explore additional domestic sources of oil, and to pursue effective energy research and conservation programs, it is clear that immediately drilling off of California's delicate shoreline would be worth far less than the threat that such drilling poses on California's beaches.



Area students learning firsthand about the erosion on our beaches





# PROTECTING OUR HOMELAND

The President and Congress are resolute in their mission to improve homeland security and to protect our country against terrorism. Securing our nation's air, land, and sea borders is a difficult yet critical task. The

United States has 5,525 miles of border with Canada and 1,989 miles with Mexico. Our maritime border includes 95,000 miles of shoreline, and a 3.4 million square mile exclusive economic zone. Each year, more than 500 million people cross the borders into the United States, some 330 million of whom are non-citizens. Cunningham recognizes the vulnerabilities at our points of entry and continues his longstanding efforts to strengthen their security.

## Creating the Department of Homeland Security

Last year with Cunningham's support, Congress passed H.R. 5005 to establish the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The establishment of DHS is the most significant transformation of the U.S. government since 1947 when the Department of Defense was created to better coordinate the nation's defense against military threats. DHS is comprised of 22 previously disparate domestic agencies, now organized under one department for more effective coordination of policies and management.

The new department's first priority is to protect the nation against further terrorist attacks. Agencies within DHS will be responsible for analyzing threats and intelligence, guarding our borders and airports, protecting our critical infrastructure, and coordinating the response of our nation for future emergencies.

Photo Courtesy of Lisa Hamel



Cunningham with members of the Solana Beach Fire Department to discuss Congress' role in readiness and terrorism response policies

## Bioterrorism

Only July 16, 2003, Congress, at the request of President Bush in his State of the Union address, passed the Project Bioshield Act of 2003 (H.R. 2122). This legislation authorizes use of drugs, devices, and biologics not yet approved by the Food and Drug Administration in the event of an emergency public health crisis such as that which might result in the aftermath of a terrorist

attack. Cunningham supported this legislation and recognizes that in times of emergency, it is vitally important that our government has the flexibility to best treat and combat biological threats.

Additionally, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, Cunningham worked to pass the Homeland Security appropriations bill in the House on June 24, 2003, to provide \$5.6 billion to encourage commercial development and production of medical countermeasures against bioterrorism.

## Technology and Research

Cunningham is committed to bringing together the public and private sector and introducing new technologies to be employed in our fight against terrorism, many of which are produced right here in San Diego. The 2004 Homeland Security appropriations bill provides \$900 million for Science and Technology, targeted to research, development, and deployment of innovative technologies, including those proposed by universities, national laboratories, not-for-profit organizations, and private companies. This includes \$60 million for antimissile devices for commercial aircraft.

## Port and Aviation Security

Protecting America from terrorist threats requires constant vigilance across the transportation spectrum.

Enhancing port and maritime security is a priority for Cunningham. The United States has more than 361 ports containing more than 3,700 passenger and cargo terminals. The U.S. sees more than 2 billion tons of freight, 3 billion tons of oil transports, more than 134 million passengers by ferry, and entertains more than 7 million cruise ship passengers each year. To counter potential threats against these vulnerable targets, Cunningham voted in favor of appropriating \$2.6 billion for traditional Coast Guard operating activities in 2004.

With cargo security a continuing public concern, Congress has mandated that all cargo and passenger ships entering a U.S. port are required to provide advance detailed information about their crew, their cargo and their ship at least 4 days prior to their arrival. Vessels are also inspected for compliance with safety, pollution and immigration regulations.

After September 11, the Transportation Security Administration was created and is now administered by DHS. This year, Cunningham voted to provide \$5.172 billion for TSA. Among other things, these funds will be spent on explosive detection systems as well as cargo, and intercity bus and transit security.

## Cyber security

The DHS has created the National Cyber Security Division (NCSD) at the urging of Congress and President Bush to identify, analyze and reduce cyber threats and vulnerabilities, disseminate threat warning information, and coordinate incident response. Cunningham believes that the creation of the NCSD is an important step in protecting our nation's cyber assets so that we may best protect our nation's critical infrastructure assets.

## First responders

Since 2001, Congress has spent more than \$20 million on local first responders. While the Department of Homeland Security has the lead in developing our national homeland security strategy, implementation of the strategy requires the active participation of state and local governments and the private sector. Cunningham has worked tirelessly to bring first responder funds to San Diego to assist our local police and sheriff in their broadened mission to protect San Diego from terrorism.



Cunningham and Oliver North discuss the War in Iraq.



# FIGHTING TERROR ABROAD

Since 9-11, our forces have been engaged across the globe, defending the American people against adversaries intent on killing innocent people and disrupting our way of life.

The United States military liberated Afghanistan and Iraq with remarkable speed and precision. The allied military campaign has made great progress – eliminating two brutal regimes which posed threats to our nation and establishing the foundations for an increased quality of life and self-government for their people.

Our nation owes a debt of gratitude to the brave men and women who have risked their lives to liberate these nations and who make our freedom possible, including the thousands of military men and women based here in San Diego. Cunningham introduced legislation, H.Con. Res. 152, encouraging communities across the nation to organize events honoring returning troops and remembrances for those who did not return and has been part of local homecoming events in the region.

While we have had extraordinary military successes in Afghanistan and Iraq, our forces still face many challenges ahead in the global war on terrorism. Military leaders have acknowledged that rooting out these small networks of destruction around the globe will likely take some time. Continued efforts to secure stability in these struggling nations is just as critical to U.S. security as eliminating all remaining havens for threats to the U.S. worldwide. Cunningham is supporting legislative efforts to provide tax relief for those serving, to limit disruptions for the Guard and Reserves and to minimize open-ended deployments for all military personnel as this campaign continues. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee and Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Cunningham has also supported legislation providing funding to sustain these military operations, to enhance our intelligence capabilities and to ensure that our troops have the tools they need to do their job effectively, bringing this campaign to the swiftest conclusion possible.

## Weapons of Mass Destruction

Since President Bush declared the end of major combat operations in Iraq, there has been considerable debate over Iraq's possession of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). Yet, over the past decade, vast amounts of U.S. and foreign intelligence have been compiled showing that Iraq has pursued major programs to develop WMDs. It is well recognized that Saddam Hussein used chemical weapons against his own people.

## The Weapons Are There

Iraq itself handed over some of its documents to the United Nations detailing the WMDs produced including thousands of chemical bombs, warfare agents and anthrax. It was this kind of evidence that led President Clinton to order the bombing of a chemical weapons plant in 1998, and which led the United Nations (UN) to approve Resolution 1441 last fall concluding that Iraq was in material breach of its obligations and had not provided a complete accounting of its WMD programs.

## Years of Defiance

Despite continued UN demands for Iraq's compliance with the disclosures required under its previous resolutions, Saddam Hussein took every measure to frustrate and obstruct UN inspections. It makes no sense that this power-hungry leader who previously invaded his neighbor would have endured years of international sanctions and isolation if he had nothing to hide. Regrettably, twelve years of defiance provided Iraq with many years to refine its techniques for hiding WMD activities from UN inspectors and US intelligence.

## The Evidence is Mounting

The U.S. has already uncovered 2 of the trailers intended to ensure that Iraq's biological agents production capabilities could evade detection. We have only been searching for a little over three months now and have searched less than one quarter of the 1000 suspected weapons sites. Many key sites have been extensively looted and relevant documentation destroyed. Given the continued climate of fear that Hussein could return, many scientists and officials with relevant information fear coming forward and cooperating with our weapons search efforts. Finding WMDs in a country larger than California will require time and patience.

## Cunningham Helps Improve the Process

The U.S. is now organizing a more systematic, analytical approach to investigating Iraq's programs. As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Cunningham has reviewed extensive classified documentation on Iraq's WMD efforts and remains engaged in the Committee's investigation of intelligence available to the Administration prior to the Iraq war. Cunningham is confident that with time, patience and the support of Iraqis, we will determine the whereabouts of those WMD capabilities.



# SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

Ongoing deployments around the globe, the war in Iraq and increased intelligence demands have produced a flurry of legislative activity in this first session of the 108th Congress. Shortly after major combat operations

began in Iraq this Spring, Congress quickly moved a \$79 billion wartime supplemental spending bill to support the Iraqi campaign, and the global war on terrorism. Funding was also provided for homeland security needs such as first responder equipment grants, border security and enhanced public health protections. Cunningham supported that bill, working to ensure that it replenished funding for maintenance and repair of ships, planes and other military equipment returning home.

Shortly after that measure was signed into law, the House moved the National Defense Authorization bill setting defense policy for the next fiscal year. Cunningham supported this defense policy bill which includes \$2.9 million

for a ground combat training range at Miramar Marine Corps Air Station, as well as \$186 million in military construction projects in San Diego area bases. Recently, the House passed the Defense Appropriations bill which allocates funding for the programs established in the Defense Authorization bill. That measure provides \$369 million dollars to support the Department of Defense and includes a 4.1 percent pay raise for military personnel, as well as key defense systems. Cunningham worked to secure funding for several programs produced here in San Diego, such as T-AKE cargo ships, and Global Hawk and Predator unmanned aerial vehicles while supporting numerous high technology developments.

As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Cunningham also worked to shape the Intelligence Authorization Act that funds several high technology projects in our region, and includes many provisions that will enable the enhancement of our intelligence capabilities.



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

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mailed at taxpayer expense.*

*Randy "Duke" Cunningham*

M.C.

PRSRT STD

Residential Customer

Fiftieth District of  
California

# Report from Congress

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Cunningham welcomes LR Green School to U.S. Capitol in June.

## TOUR UPDATE

Duke is pleased to announce that most federal building tours that were closed to the public after the September 11th terrorist attacks have reopened, some in limited capacity. Please contact his Washington DC office at (202) 225-5452 for more details. Reservations are recommended at least 2 months in advance. Also check out his website: [www.house.gov/cunningham](http://www.house.gov/cunningham), to make tour requests. An updated tour list is as follows:

The White House: . . . . . Open to large community groups only. Individual family and small group tours still unavailable.

The U.S. Capitol: . . . . . Open to groups large and small. Family tours also available. Also arrange to view the House in session.

Bureau of Engraving  
and Printing: . . . . . Reopened.

FBI Building: . . . . . Closed.

Supreme Court: . . . . . Open.

The State Department: . . Reopened.

## FLAG ORDER UPDATE

Please allow 6 weeks from the time your flag is ordered. To receive an update regarding your flag order, please contact Duke's Washington DC office at (202) 225-5452.

## MAIL UPDATE

All postal mail sent to the U.S. Capitol enters an irradiation process upon arrival. The current delay in Congressional offices receiving mail averages 2 weeks, but expect longer delays. Correspondence via fax or webmail is suggested.

## *I Want To Know Your Opinion:*

Please give me your comments on any issues of concern to you: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail this survey to:  
Congressman Duke Cunningham  
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