



Washington Weekly

Week Ending 3/31/06



U.S. Congresswoman

CAROLYN CHEEKS

KILPATRICK

13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
OF MICHIGAN

This E-Newsletter is a weekly summary of the events taking place in the United States Congress that affect the State of Michigan and primarily Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

Legislative Action From the Week Of 3/31/06

H. R. 609 Establishing the College Access and Opportunity Act

H.R.4882 Establishing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center Deadline Enforcement Act

H.Res.680 Recognizing Gallaudet University President Dr. I. King Jordan

H.Res.85 Supporting National MPS Day

H.R.4979 Establishing the Local Community Recovery Act

Hill Highlights

Legislative Action From the Week Ending 3/31/2006

H. R. 609 Establishing the College Access and Opportunity Act

The measure extends for another five years higher education aid programs that were not extended and changed by the recently enacted spending cut reconciliation law. Programs addressed by the bill include the Pell Grant and Perkins student loan programs, work study, teacher training programs, and aid to minority-serving institutions. The bill extends the authorization of the Pell Grant program through FY 2012. The measure authorizes a maximum Pell Grant Award of \$6,000 for academic years 2006-2007 through 2012-2013. However, since Pell Grants are subject to appropriations, the actual amount of the maximum Pell Grant would depend on the amount appropriated for a given year. The bill authorizes \$1 billion for the federal work-study program, \$250 million for the Perkins Loan Program, and \$836.5 million for the TRIO program in FY 2006. The bill authorizes \$300 million in FY 2006, and such sums as may be necessary in fiscal years FY 2007 through FY 2011, for Teacher Quality Grants for States and Partnerships. I voted against this measure, which passed the House by a voice of 221 to 199. Click on the following link to read my statement about this bill: ["Kilpatrick's Statement on the College Access and Opportunity Act."](#)

H.R. 4882 Establishing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center Deadline Enforcement Act

In November 2003, Congress enacted a law authorizing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to construct a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Because of ongoing environmental reviews and concerns about the impact on visitors to the Lincoln Memorial, a site has not yet been approved. This bill sets a deadline of 30 days after enactment for the final approval of the design of a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitors center on the National Mall. It specifies that the visitor center would be located in the triangular land area between Henry Bacon Drive, 23rd Street, Constitution Avenue, and the Lincoln Memorial. I supported this measure, which passed the House by a vote of 404

nue, and the Lincoln Memorial. I supported this measure, which passed the House by a vote of 404 to 4.

H. Res. 680 Recognizing Gallaudet University President Dr. I. King Jordan

Dr. I. King Jordan is the first deaf President of Gallaudet University—the only institution of higher learning serving primarily deaf and hearing impaired students—and was the first deaf college president in the United States. In 2005, he received the George Bush Medal for the Empowerment of People with Disabilities. This resolution recognizes Dr. Jordan for his contributions to Gallaudet University, to the deaf and hard of hearing community, and to all people with disabilities. This resolution was agreed to by a voice vote.

H. Res. 85 Supporting National MPS Day

Mucopolysaccharidoses and mucopolipidoses, known as MPS disorders, are hereditary disorders in which the body either has malfunctioning enzymes or does not produce enzymes to break down complex carbohydrates. Without this function, carbohydrates are stored in cells, resulting in damage to the bones, heart, internal organs, respiratory system, and nervous system. This cellular damage results in mental retardation, short stature, joint stiffness, heart disease, hyperactivity, respiratory problems, and impairments to vision, hearing and speech. The National MPS Society, Inc., has designated February 25 of every year as "National MPS Day." This resolution supports the goals and ideals of "National MPS Day." This measure passed the House by a voice vote.

H. R. 4979 Establishing the Local Community Recovery Act

This bill clarifies that, in order to meet a requirement under the Stafford Act that preference be given to local firms when soliciting for contracts for disaster relief activities, such contracts may be awarded based on a specific geographic area. The measure also provides that any solicitation made by the Army Corps of Engineers in FY 2006 for such contracts would be final and would not be subject to administrative or judicial review. It also states that any pending administrative and judicial reviews would be dismissed on the date of enactment of this bill. This bill passed the House by a voice vote.

To read more about these measures, or any other legislation, please visit the Library of Congress' legislative information site at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>.

In the District

Congresswoman Kilpatrick Helps The Children's Center Celebrate New Technology Center for Youth and Their Families

Congresswoman Kilpatrick joined representatives from The Children's Center, Microsoft, Dynamic

Official Statements for the Record

[Kilpatrick Statement on the College Access and Opportunity Act](#)

In the District

[Kilpatrick Helps The Children's Center Celebrate New Technology Center for Youth and Their Families](#)

[Kilpatrick Encourages Businesses to Pursue Federal Funding](#)

News You Can Use

[High School Students Explore the Music Industry at GRAMMY Camp](#)

Upcoming Town Hall Events

[Kilpatrick to Host Medicare Drug Plan Town Hall April 11th](#)

[View Announcement](#)

Helpful Resources

Helpful Resources

[Directory of Homeownership Assistance in the Detroit Area](#)

Printable booklet of homeownership resources.

[Medicare's New Prescription Drug Plans](#)

Printable handout with important facts to help you understand the program.

[Energy Saving](#)

Brief compilation of tips and tricks to help your energy efficiency in both your home and on the road.

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A printable version of this E-Newsletter is also available on my website www.house.gov/kilpatrick

Congresswoman Kilpatrick joined representatives from The Children's Center, Microsoft, Dynamic Computer, and the Tau Beta Association in announcing more than \$350,000 in grants that will be used to support the Tau Beta Center for Discovery, a new computer and resource lab on the nonprofit's campus. Funds from Microsoft and Dynamic Computer will be used to provide hardware and software. The Tau Beta Association, a civic organization located in Grosse Pointe, will provide ongoing financial support and volunteers, who will coordinate training for at-risk youth and their families. "Having access to technology and understanding how to use it is vital to success in our increasingly global economy," said Congresswoman Kilpatrick. "I applaud Microsoft, Dynamic Computer, and the Tau Beta Association's efforts to support The Children's Center. This donation will help ensure that youth and families in our community are equipped with the computer skills and knowledge needed to compete in the 21st century and beyond."

Congresswoman Kilpatrick Encourages Businesses to Pursue Federal Funding

Congresswoman Kilpatrick addressed members of the newly formed Downriver Business Association last week. She provided counsel to local business owners interested in securing funds from federal agencies.

"Thanks to Congresswoman Kilpatrick, this was the largest assemblage of business owners we've had since our inception," said Dr. S. Gleton-Wilson. "The information she shared with the group was very useful, and I am sure many of those in attendance will take advantage of those opportunities." For information about federal funding opportunities, click on the [Grant Information](#) link on my [home page](#).



News You Can Use

High School Students Explore the Music Industry at GRAMMY Camp



GRAMMY Camp gives high school students the opportunity to explore 14 music industry career tracks that will interact together to produce culminating projects and concert performances. College faculty, GRAMMY-winning professionals, and industry specialists will present instruc-



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lege faculty, GRAMMY-winning professionals, and industry specialists will present instruction grounded in academic and real world applications. This year's camp is scheduled to take place July 15-31 at Citrus College in Glendora, California. The application deadline is April 14. For more information and an application, visit www.grammyintheschools.com.

By subscribing to Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick's e-mail newsletter, you are authorizing me to send regular e-mail updates from my office to your e-mail account. If you do not want to receive this e-mail, or if you have received this e-mail in error, please accept my apologies and click the link below and you will not be contacted again.