



Washington Weekly

May 7, 2007



U. S. Congresswoman
CAROLYN CHEEKS KILPATRICK

13TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

This e-newsletter summarizes events taking place in the U. S. Congress that affect the State of Michigan, with particular emphasis on Michigan's 13th Congressional District. A printable version of this e-newsletter will also be available on my website: www.house.gov/kilpatrick.

Hill Highlights

Legislative Action for 04/23/07 through 05/04/07

H.R. 362 – The 100,000 Teachers, 10 Million Minds Science and Math Scholarship Act: This bill provides support for science and math teachers. This measure authorizes \$1.5 billion over the next five years for federal scholarship and other programs to assist the continuing education of math and science teachers and to encourage undergraduate college students to become science or math teachers. Congresswoman Kilpatrick supported this bill, which passed the House by a vote of 389 to 22.

H.R. 363 – The Sowing the Seeds through Science and Engineering Research Act: This legislation authorizes new grant programs for scientists and engineers in the early phases of their careers. It also establishes a new presidential science award and creates a new office to review and make recommendations on funding federal scientific research efforts. The Congresswoman voted in support of this measure, which passed by a vote of 397 to 20.

H.R. 1332 – The Small Business Lending Improvements Act: This measure authorizes four new loan programs by the Small Business Administration (SBA) to provide long-term loans for business start-ups or expansions. It also expands the number of “certified development companies” with authority to issue SBA-guaranteed loans to assist the growth and development of small businesses in specific geographical areas. Congresswoman Kilpatrick supported this bill, which passed by a vote of 380 to 45.

H.R. 249 – Ban on Slaughtering Wild Horses and Burros: The measure bars the Bureau of Land Management from selling or giving away wild horses and burros for commercial slaughtering. The Congresswoman voted for this bill, which passed the House by a vote of 277 to 137.

H.R. 1591 – Veto Override of U.S Troop Readiness, Veterans' Health & Iraq Accountability Act of 2007: This bill appropriates \$124.2 billion in emergency supplemental funds to cover costs relating to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the larger war on terrorism, the continued recovery from Hurricane Katrina, and other programs. The bill includes a number of benchmarks the Iraqi government must meet to prevent the rapid withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq. It also sets non-binding goals for the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq, and includes \$1 billion in direct aid for Katrina victims and \$400 million in funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) added by Congresswoman Kilpatrick. Furthermore, the bill also blocks the planned closure of Walter Reed Army Medical Center and provides \$20 million to refurbish its facilities and increases the federal minimum wage by \$2.10 an hour to \$7.25 an hour. In this case, a two-thirds majority (about 270 votes) of the Members of Congress present and voting were needed to override the veto. Congresswoman Kilpatrick supported the veto override, which failed by a 222 to 203 (one voting present) margin.

H.R. 1592 – Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act: This bill makes it a federal offense to commit certain violent crimes against an individual because of race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. It also authorizes federal grants to assist state and local law enforcement agencies in prosecuting violent hate crimes. Also, the measure states that nothing in the bill can be interpreted to prohibit free speech that is protected by the First Amendment to the U.S.

prosecuting violent hate crimes. Also, the measure states that nothing in the bill can be interpreted to prohibit free speech that is protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Congresswoman Kilpatrick supported this legislation, which passed by a vote of 237 to 180. To read her statement about H.R. 1592, click [here](#).

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

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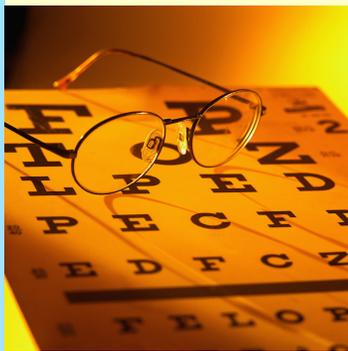
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[Michigan's 13th Congressional District Home Page](#)



News You Can Use

Congresswoman Kilpatrick Shares Eye Care Resource for Seniors with Constituents



EyeCare America (ECA), a public service program of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, is dedicated to preserving sight. ECA's Senior EyeCare Program provides eye care at no out-of-pocket cost to eligible callers. To be eligible, you must be a U.S. citizen or

legal resident, be age 65 or older, not have seen an ophthalmologist in three or more years, and not belong to an HMO or the VA. To find out if you qualify, or to obtain more information, call 1-800-222-EYES (3937) or visit www.eyecareamerica.org.

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