



Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Michigan's 13th District

Hill News

News From The Office of Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick

This Week In Congress:

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN EXPIRES

This week the ban on assault weapons was allowed to expire. President Bush's failure to demand an up or down Congressional vote for the extension of the ban is a tremendous failure of leadership. While I support the second amendment which allows our citizens the right to bear arms, I do not support making assault weapons like the AK-47, the UZI and the AR-15 assault rifle readily available to those who would do harm to Americans. I stand shoulder to shoulder with the men and women of law enforcement on this important issue because like them, I believe these weapons do one thing, and that is kill innocent people.

TRANSPORTATION & TREASURY APPROPRIATIONS H.R.5025

Because of a disagreement among Republicans, nearly \$50 billion in budgetary resources (about 80% off all transportation funding) was stripped out of the Fiscal Year 2005 Transportation, Treasury Appropriations bill. All of the transportation accounts were taken out of the bill due to procedural reasons. This is something the Republican Leadership could have avoided but chose not to. The following programs critical to Michigan's transportation needs were gutted:

- * Federal highway grants to states;
- * Airport improvement grants to local communities;
- * Essential air service grants for rural airports;
- * Transit formula grants for states and funding for major capital investment projects;
- * Highway traffic safety grants to states.

Because of the unresolved differences between the Republican House, the Republican Senate and the Republican White house, the basic authorization for highways, transit and safety programs lapsed 11 months ago. The basic legislation authorizing Amtrak expired 23 months ago. The Appropriations Committee has tried to keep these programs afloat, but other forces in the Republican Caucus have been allowed to gut them. This infighting among Republicans has put in jeopardy approximately 2 million dollars in highway and transit funding for the State of Michigan

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS WEEKEND TOUR THROUGH MICHIGAN

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus will be in Michigan this weekend to help get out the vote. The Members will travel to Detroit, Southfield, Flint , Saginaw, Pontiac and Ann Arbor. Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Elijah Cummings will join me in Ann Arbor at a 4:00PM rally on the campus of the University of Michigan.

You have received this email because you have subscribed to Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick's e-newsletter updates authorizing Congresswoman Kilpatrick to send to your inbox periodic e-mail updates from my office. If you do not want to receive this email or you have received this email in error, please accept our apologies and reply to this email with the word REMOVE in the subject line and you will not be contacted again.