



**Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick, Michigan's 13th District**

# Hill News

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**News From The Office of Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick**  
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## **This Week In Congress:**

### **PLEDGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2004 H.R. 2028**

This legislation prohibits federal courts, including the Supreme Court, from hearing cases related to any claim that the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance violates the First Amendment of the Constitution. In a vote of 247-173 the U.S. House passed the bill sponsored by Missouri Republican Todd Akin. Once again the Republicans are making an attempt to strip the courts of their authority and upset the governmental checks and balances put in place by the Founding Fathers. This legislation now heads to the U. S. Senate.

### **THE INCREASED CHILD TAX CREDIT H.R. 1308**

This measure extends the child tax credit, marriage penalty relief and the expansion of the 10 percent bracket for five years. It also extends recent changes in the Alternative Minimum Tax for one year and speeds up the increase in the refundable child tax credit by one year. It extends the range of expiring tax provisions including the research and development tax credit and the welfare-to-work and work opportunity tax credit for one year. Lastly, it includes only a partial and temporary fix of the tax code for the families of soldiers in combat. It extends for five years the fix for military families for the Child Tax Credit, but provides only a temporary two-year fix for families of soldiers earning combat pay, regarding the Earned Income Tax Credit. This package will cost \$150 million over a period of ten years and is only needed because Republicans made the middle-class tax cuts temporary and dropped the child tax credit expansion for working families, in order to pay for their tax cuts for the wealthy and corporate interests. While I strongly support the middle-income tax cuts I also see a need for greater accountability. Record Republican deficits are hurting Americans. I am outraged and dismayed that once again, my Republican colleagues have opted to offer legislation under the guise that it will provide tax relief. In reality, this bill is nothing more than corporate welfare. No nation in history has ever been strong, free and bankrupt. I voted against the measure, however, it passed the House with a vote of 339-65.

### **IRAQI PRIME MINISTER AYAD ALLAWI SPOKE TO A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS**

This week, Iraq's interim Prime Minister, Ayad Allawi spoke to a joint session of Congress. While all Americans appreciate the courage and strength of Prime minister Allawi and join with him understanding the urgency of Iraq moving to stability, security and democracy. The challenges facing the Iraqi people are enormous and they have the support of all the American people. However, the visit of Prime Minister Allawi is also an opportunity for our country to reflect and re-evaluate. I believe that in order for Iraq to successfully move to stability, security and democracy, "staying the course" is not an option and we need a significant change in direction.

### **WOW EVENT**

I will host another WOW Homebuyer's Fair on Saturday, October 2, 2004 at UAW Local 22 located at 4300 Michigan Avenue in Detroit. The event will run from 10:00 am-3:00 pm. At this event there will also be interpreters of the Spanish language for my Hispanic constituents who prefer to use their native tongue.

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