

October 11, 2006

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U.S. Congressman

Mark Steven Kirk

Proudly serving the people of the 10th District of Illinois



U.S. Congressman Mark Steven Kirk, 10th District of Illinois

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5/17/2006: [Kirk Brings Together Metra Officials, Community Leaders to Evaluate Metra's North-Central](#)

Dear <:Firstname: > ,

Thank you for your commitment to the tenth district and country. This month I want to highlight some of the work we are doing to help protect our children from internet sexual predators, maintain healthy suburban communities and expand Chinese language programs so we can be competitive in a global economy.

The Suburban Agenda

With over half of Americans living in suburban communities today, I formed a caucus of over fifty Congressional to form Suburban Caucus. We have worked for six months to design an agenda for Congress to meet key suburban priorities in education, health care, economic growth and conservation.

Gangs are moving to our suburban communities, thousands of online predators are trying to contact our kids, green and open space is rapidly disappearing from our neighborhoods, and millions of Americans worry that it may be more difficult for their children to enter the middle class than it was for us. Our Agenda for action is picking up support with congressional leaders and many democrats joining this bipartisan effort.

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Expanding Chinese Language Programs

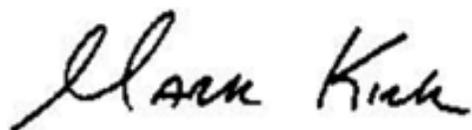
In late April I introduced the *U.S.-China Engagement Act* to expand American high school classes teaching Chinese, increases the number of diplomats posted in China, and provide more help to businesses exporting to China.

Over 150 million Chinese students are learning English while less than 30,000 Americans are learning Chinese. While many of our schools have Spanish, French and Russian language programs, few have Chinese language programs. Mayor Daley has made great strides in this area but we need to do more.

I was proud to unveil the legislation at New Trier High School where enrollment in Chinese language classes rose from 32 to 175

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call us at (847) 940-0202 or through our Web site at www.house.gov/kirk.

Sincerely,



What are your interests?

In addition to our Congressional E-Newsletter, we can update you on specific issues throughout the year. Which issues most interest you?

- Environment
- Health Care
- Womens Health
- Defense
- Transportation
- Law Enforcement
- Trade
- Taxes
- Immigration
- Social Security
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