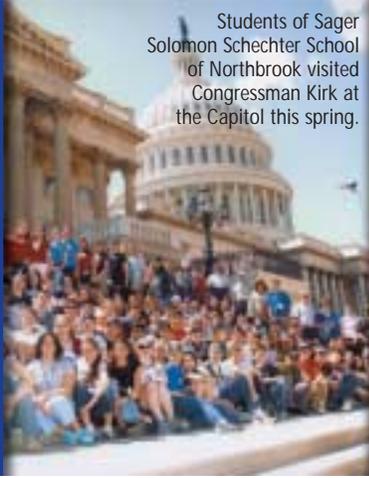




**TENTH
CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT**



Students of Sager Solomon Schechter School of Northbrook visited Congressman Kirk at the Capitol this spring.

REPRESENTATIVE MARK KIRK'S

10th Congressional District Report

September 2003



Jobs, peace and health care

Dear Friends,

Jobs, peace and health care are my three top priorities for this Congress. To boost employment, Congress enacted landmark legislation to improve retirement savings, spur small business investment and fund key economic infrastructure projects. Our timely action saved one million jobs, but we must do more. I am working on legislation to reduce frivolous lawsuits and open new markets for American exports.

Large battles in Iraq ended quickly and now it is time to focus on demobilizing the reserves and caring for our veterans. We are expanding our facilities at the North Chicago VA Medical Center and will soon make plans for a new joint navy/veterans' facility to care for the men and women who served our nation.

Congress recently passed legislation to help pay for seniors' medicine through Medicare. This long awaited reform should be followed with legislation to cover uninsured Americans through Association Health Plans. We must also help our doctors remain in their practices with medical malpractice reform to hold down insurance rates.

It is an honor to serve you in Congress. Please contact me if you have issues of concern or need any assistance from the federal government.

Very truly yours,

Town Hall Meetings

Fighting Transportation Gridlock

Saturday, September 20
2:00-4:00 pm
Olive School, Arlington Heights

Excellence in Education

Sunday, October 19
2:00-4:00 pm
Edgewood Middle School, Highland Park

Fighting the War on Terror

America is winning, but the war is far from over. Congress overwhelmingly passed bipartisan legislation providing the funds necessary to protect our country and support our men and women in uniform. The Department of Defense Appropriations Act for 2004 granted the President's full request, ensuring that our service men and women have the tools they need to win. Our national defense is the most important responsibility of Congress and this legislation reaffirms our commitment to protect our citizens.

Congressman Kirk talks with President Bush aboard Air Force One regarding North Korea.



Legislative Update

Protect Our Great Lakes

Congressman Mark Kirk's top environmental goal is to protect Lake Michigan. Concerned over rising levels of mercury in North Shore rainwater, Rep. Kirk introduced the *Mercury Pollution Reduction Act*, calling for tough new pollution controls that would limit the amount of mercury industry can emit.

"Today, many species of Lake Michigan fish are rated not fit for consumption due to mercury contamination. We are at risk and our children are at greater risk if we do not reduce mercury pollution," said Kirk.

Fighting to protect our lake from mercury pollution, Congressman Kirk led the way in moving a proposed North Shore Sanitary District sludge burning factory off its shores. The factory would have emitted significant amounts of mercury into our lake. Kirk is also the lead co-sponsor on bipartisan legislation in Congress establishing the Great Lakes Restoration Fund to protect the Great Lakes.



Chicago Sun-Times

Congressman demands tougher rules on mercury emissions

"A North Shore congressman urged tougher controls on mercury emissions Tuesday after a report by the National Wildlife Federation found that rainfall locally contains dangerous levels of the toxin." *May 28, 2003*

Stop Youth Violence



Congressman Kirk and Bull's Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf met with children of North Chicago on a world-class basketball facility built by the Bulls, discussing the need for healthy after school activities to deter children from violence.

The recent murders of two North Chicago youths shocked our community. Lacking after school activities, the 4,000 kids of this community needed help to sponsor healthy activities.

Congressman Kirk's efforts in helping at risk youth in North Chicago caught the attention of Bull's Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf, who joined the effort to curb youth violence by building a world-class basketball facility equipped with fencing, turnstiles, lighting and bleachers. "Sometimes being a congressman goes beyond moving government programs. The Bulls built this project so fast that they made a difference in stopping the cycle of violence. This is public-private partnership at its best," Kirk said.

Action to Boost the Illinois Economy

The federal government took action to boost our economy, both nationally and here at home. Nationally, Congress enacted major legislation increasing retirement savings, fostering small business investments and ending the marriage tax penalty. The



Daily Herald

Federal Help for Sheridan Road

"U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk of Highland Park Monday announced \$1.1 million in federal help to spur economic rebirth of a well-known Lake County street near Great Lakes Naval Training Center." *April 15, 2003*

Council of Economic Advisors estimates the timely passage of these bills saved over one million jobs.

Congressman Kirk supported these measures but focused his efforts on local initiatives to boost Illinois employment:

- Supporting the expansion of O'Hare Airport, unlocking 700,000 new jobs.
- Backing construction of the northwest suburbs' new commuter rail line - Metra's Star Line - that will offer service to Mt. Prospect, Arlington Heights, Palatine, Rolling Meadows and Inverness.
- Opening North Chicago's 22nd Street gate of the Great Lakes Naval Training Center will revitalize that city's business district.
- Completing funding for Metra's \$135 million North Central Line, offering commuter rail service to Libertyville, Vernon Hills, Prospect Heights, Mt. Prospect and Des Plaines.
- Moving forward to clean up Waukegan Harbor, lifting real estate values and investor confidence.



The NewsSun

Harbor cleanup a priority for Kirk

"U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk, R-Highland Park, said Wednesday he will put the cleanup of Waukegan Harbor among his top priorities on issues pertaining to Lake County. In his far-reaching speech touching on a variety of local and national issues, Kirk called Waukegan Harbor "a national treasure" and urged city officials to learn a lesson from Kenosha, Wis., which turned its once blighted downtown into a bustling lake-front redevelopment." *February 20, 2003*

Cut Federal Spending

In the face of the current federal deficit, Congress must cut federal spending and return to a balanced budget.

Congressman Kirk voted against the \$274 billion Farm Bill because the proposed legislation spent too much and added to our national debt.

As a member of the powerful Appropriations Committee, Congressman Kirk voted against 10 amendments which would have raised taxes by \$23 billion and voted against 12 amendments that would have increased government spending by \$24.4 billion. Rep. Kirk kept government spending in check by voting for three House floor amendments that cut spending by \$370 million. "In a time of war and recession, we must set priorities and cut spending in lower priority accounts," Kirk said. "Spending on the wasteful sugar subsidy program should be cut, saving taxpayers over \$500 million annually."

Legislative Update

Tell Congressman Kirk What You Think on Key Issues

It is important for us to hear from you on key issues facing Congress. Please take a moment to answer the questions below and send them back to our office in Deerfield. We will report the results in our next newsletter.

To Mail Back: Please cut page along dotted line (left). Fold bottom edge up to arrow.

Fold top third down to meet bottom fold. Place tape at top opening to seal. Be sure mailing address is showing.

- 1.** Congress is considering a new Surface Transportation Act. One proposal would expand federal highway programs with a tax increase of 12 cents a gallon on gasoline.
- Congress should raise the gas tax by 12 cents to build and repair highways
 - Congress should raise the gas tax by 5 cents to fund a more limited expansion
 - Congress should not raise the gas tax, holding to the current program
- 2.** The Clean Air Act imposes aggressive schedules for air pollution reductions. The President proposed lengthening those schedules to lift the burden on the economy.
- Congress should reject the President's proposals and fully implement the Clean Air Act
 - Congress should accept the President's proposals to limit the costs on our economy
 - Congress should toughen the Clean Air Act to require the cleanest air of any industrial country, regardless of economic cost
- 3.** North Korea recently removed UN inspectors and began the production of plutonium for nuclear bombs. The U.S. and other countries currently support food aid programs for North Korea intended to feed starving children.
- The U.S. should cut off all aid to North Korea
 - The U.S. should use food aid as a bargaining chip with North Korea
 - The U.S. should increase food aid and other assistance to North Korea
- 4.** Congress is considering a prescription drug benefit for senior citizens in the Medicare program.
- Medicare should offer one large government plan to handle all of the purchasing and distribution of medicine for seniors
 - Medicare should offer choices to seniors to foster competition and give each senior the right to take their business elsewhere
 - This benefit is too expensive and should not be considered until the government's finances are back in the black
- 5.** The federal government is currently spending more than it receives in tax revenue. With regard to the deficit, Congress should (Pick one):
- Raise taxes
 - Cut spending
 - Continue borrowing
- 6.** Under the No Child Left Behind Act, students in schools that repeatedly fail performance tests will be allowed to go to higher performing schools.
- Congress should allow the full implementation of this requirement
 - Congress should relax this requirement that could shut down failing schools
 - Congress should leave this decision up to state and local school boards

Honoring Our Veterans

Congressman Kirk met with Ted Hudson and other veterans at the future site of Veterans Memorial Park, where they discussed a proposed monument to be erected honoring African-Americans in uniform.



These times call for special attention to our veterans



Congressman Kirk visits with constituents Marine Lance Corporal Patrick Tideman and his mother at Walter Reed Hospital. Tideman was injured during Operation Iraqi Freedom but is recovering and will soon rejoin his unit.

Write your return address here:

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Congressman Mark Kirk
102 Wilmot Road, Suite 200
Deerfield, Illinois 60015

OFFICIAL BUSINESS:
Congressional Survey Enclosed

House Passes Kirk "Do Not Call" Telemarketer Restrictions



Congressman Kirk won House support for provisions to strengthen the national "Do Not Call" list against telemarketers. Many of us have been interrupted by annoying calls from telemarketers. Now, it is illegal for most telemarketers to call you if you have registered on the Do Not Call list. If they violate this new law, telemarketers are subject to fines of up to \$11,000 *per call*.

Under the original regulation, telemarketers were required to update the Do Not Call list every 90 days. Under the Kirk provisions, telemarketers must update their Do Not Call lists on the first of each month.

To register your home telephone number:

- Log on to the Internet at www.donotcall.gov
- Call 1 (888) 382-1222

How Can We Help You?

District Office

102 Wilmot Road, Suite 200
Deerfield, IL 60015
(847) 940-0202
(847) 940-7143 fax

Washington, D.C

1531 Longworth
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4835
(202) 225-0837 fax

Waukegan Office

20 South Martin Luther King Drive
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 662-0101
(847) 662-7519 fax

E-mail:
rep.kirk@mail.house.gov
Web:
www.house.gov/kirk



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Official Business

M.C.
Presorted Standard
ECRWSS

Congressman Mark Steven Kirk
102 Wilmot Road, Suite 200
Deerfield, IL 60015
(847) 940-0202