



Protecting Our Kids

Congressman Kirk talks with a student about her classwork during a visit at Twain Elementary School in Wheeling. To protect our kids from growing threats posed by online predators, gangs and illegal guns, Congressman Kirk visited the local school to discuss his bipartisan *Deleting Online Predators Act*, as well as efforts to reduce the spread of illegal guns and to track down the worst gang members in Lake County using a "10 Most Wanted" list.

Mark Kirk

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Fighting Governor Blagojevich

Kirk joined forces with Congresswoman Melissa Bean to ensure Illinois does not lose \$9 billion in federal transportation funding because Gov. Blagojevich refused to commit state funds.



Congressman Mark Kirk's
10th District Countdown



DISTRICT REVIEW



Saving Our VA Hospital

Award-winning actor Gary Sinise, who grew up in Highland Park and is very supportive of veterans' causes, looks on as Congressman Kirk and Apollo 13 commander Captain James A. Lovell unveil the sign for the new joint Navy-VA hospital that will bear Lovell's name.

Congressional Integrity Act

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Congressman Kirk's *Congressional Integrity Act* denies a congressional pension to any member of Congress convicted of a wide range of crimes including bribery, illegal compensation, fraud, solicitation and tax evasion.

Paying for College

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Despite objections from the White House, Congressman Kirk voted in favor of the *College Opportunity and Affordability Act*. The legislation encourages colleges to limit price increases for tuition, restore accountability to student loan programs, make textbook prices more affordable, and expand college access and support for low-income and minority students.

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Expanding Children's Healthcare

Congressman Kirk voted to override President Bush's veto of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The legislation would increase insurance access from six million to 10 million uninsured children while being funded through an increased levy on tobacco products. The congressman voted four times to expand this program.

4 Boosting Our Economy

Congressman Kirk voted to stop subsidies for wealthy farmers and to end sugar subsidies that cost Americans millions in taxes and increased prices. He voted to repeal the Alternative Minimum Tax and has instituted an earmark moratorium until Congress reforms the way it spends taxpayer money.

INCREASED SCHOOL FUNDING

Congressman Kirk authored legislation, supported by Senators Obama and Durbin, to ensure enactment of legislation that increased federal "Impact Aid" funding to school districts in Glenview, Highland Park, Highwood and North Chicago. Federal aid will go from \$600 to \$6,000 per child.

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Saving Our Lake

The congressman led efforts to stop British Petroleum from further polluting Lake Michigan with ammonia and sludge. He formed the Shoreline Mayors Task Force and, with Congressman Lipinski (D-IL), introduced the *Great Lakes Water Protection Act* to ban sewage dumping into lake systems.



6 Protecting Our Border

Congressman Kirk opposes amnesty for illegal immigrants and instead backed legislation to secure our border by establishing a security barrier and doubling the number of border security agents.



Expanding Stem Cell Research

In 2005, more than 50 kids from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation made a surprise visit to Congressman Kirk's office to thank him for his support of expanded stem cell research. Congressman Kirk has led the fight to pass this important legislation, and recently voted again in favor of the *Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act*. Because Sens. Obama and McCain now support this law, our country will likely have a new stem cell policy in January.

Health Insurance for Life

Congressmen Kirk and Lipinski introduced bipartisan legislation to boost health insurance access for millions of Americans. The *Health Insurance for Life Act* removes the current 18 month time restriction on COBRA health benefits, allowing people to keep their insurance until they are eligible for Medicare.

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Lowering Gas Prices

The congressman introduced the *Apollo Energy Independence Act*, cutting outdated subsidy programs to fund clean American energy. The bill includes provisions for alternative forms of energy, fuel and vehicles and will help the United States become a global leader in energy innovation. Congressman Kirk broke with the President and voted in favor of increased fuel efficiency standards and to reduce tax breaks for big oil companies.

Congressman Kirk addresses energy issues at a 10th District gas station.



Reinstate Assault Weapons Ban

Against the wishes of the NRA, Congressman Kirk introduced legislation that makes it illegal to manufacture, transfer or possess a semiautomatic assault weapon or high-capacity magazines. Over 20 percent of police fatalities involve assault weapons.

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