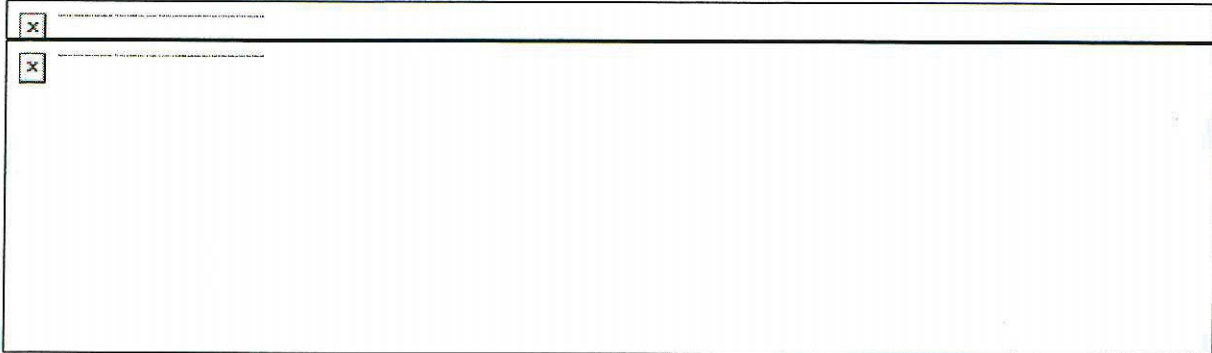


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Lashway, Lisa

From: Rep. Rodney P. Frelinghuysen [Congressman.Frelinghuysen@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2008 4:31 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen's e-Newsletter



eNews - June 20, 2008



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
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Funding for Our Troops and...

Almost a year and a half after the Pentagon submitted its request for funding; the House of Representatives passed the Supplemental Appropriations bill, providing crucial funding for young men and women deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

H.R. 2642 provides \$165 billion for ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. "This funding is critical to continuing our military work and humanitarian efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan and for protecting our troops," said Rep. Frelinghuysen. "It is unfortunate that it has taken this long to provide it to them considering the Pentagon requested it nearly one and a half years ago. Despite the delay, it is an important bill that will help our servicemen and women carry out their work."



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H.R. 2642 also includes an extension of unemployment benefits without increasing taxes. The legislation will now be considered by the Senate.

A Major Victory for Service Members and Their Families

Included in the Supplemental Appropriations bill was a provision to significantly enhance and modernize the GI Bill of Rights.

"It's been a long time in coming, but this bill marks a major victory for our troops and their families," said Frelinghuysen. "Not only are we giving our dedicated warfighters the resources they need to fight and win in the Global War on Terror, we are also providing them and other veterans with a much-needed increase in educational benefits under a vastly improved GI Bill of Rights."

A key provision in the legislation modernizes the current Montgomery GI Bill by extending new benefits to those serving and their families. The provision now provides transferability of education benefits for regular military, National Guard, and Reserve. Under current law, education benefits earned through military

service can only be used by the service member. H.R. 2642 will allow those benefits to be used by a spouse or child; a significant boost for military families.

A compromise was struck between two pieces of legislation that extend education benefits. The legislation introduced by Rep. Adam Putnam, and co-sponsored by Rep. Frelinghuysen, included a provision that allows servicemen and women to transfer their education benefits to a spouse or child. This added provision was critical to his support.

"The GI Bill has not been updated substantially since 1984," said Frelinghuysen. "It is our responsibility to give current and former service members the best benefits we are able to provide. As a veteran, I know how important the GI bill is to those who serve, and I am pleased we have finally improved benefits for our troops and their families."

House FINALLY Passes the Protect America Act

It's been over four months since the expiration of the Protect America Act. In that time, our intelligence community has been operating without the tools it needs to protect our country from terrorist attack.

The bipartisan Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Amendments Act of 2008 is a critically necessary modernization of the original FISA law. FISA was originally enacted in 1978, well before the development of cell and satellite phones and the internet. The bill increases our nation's security by ensuring there is no gap in intelligence collection against violent international extremists, while protecting American's civil liberties by preventing our citizens from surveillance of the government without a warrant. This bipartisan compromise also increases oversight of intelligence.

"I am pleased that we were able to restore these tools to our intelligence community," said Rep. Frelinghuysen. "It is unfortunate that America was deprived of these protections for so long. As a member of the House Intelligence Oversight Committee, I understand that it is our responsibility to ensure that our government does everything in its power to prevent terrorist attacks."

A bipartisan group of 25 State Attorneys General pleaded with House leaders to extend the legislation, but the request was ignored for months.

Frelinghuysen Visits Morris Plains Borough School

Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen visited Monday with more than 60 8th grade students at Morris Plains Borough School, who visited Washington, D.C. in April.

"I thoroughly enjoy my regular visits with students in our schools," said Frelinghuysen. "They give me the opportunity to explain to students the issues I deal with in Congress, and I like to listen to their ideas. Their knowledge is a testament to the exceptional work being done in northern New Jersey, and it is no surprise that the area boasts some of the best schools in the state, if not the country."

Rep. Frelinghuysen was welcomed by the school's Principal Rosalie Haller. He spoke with the students about the work of Congress, the vital issues facing our nation, and the importance of public service and civic involvement, and answered questions from students on a broad range of current issues.

Presents Award to Madison Teen

On Thursday, Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (NJ-11) presented Sean Kennedy of Madison, New Jersey, with the Congressional Award Gold Medal, which recognizes 400 hours of public service and personal development.

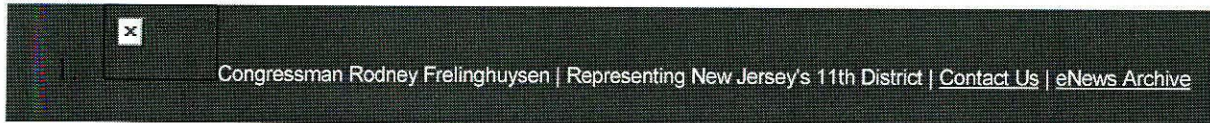
In order to earn the Gold Medal, Sean participated in the National Youth

Leadership Council; earned three varsity letters; was named to both the honor and high honor roll; and developed environmentally friendly events.

“Sean is a remarkable young man, and Eagle Scout, who has worked hard and given countless hours to his community,” said Frelinghuysen. “This recognition is well deserved. Sean’s dedication and determination will serve him well in the future.”

Sean first learned of the Congressional Award program during a visit to Rep. Frelinghuysen’s office when he saw a pamphlet about the program. In 2006, Sean earned a Congressional Award Bronze Medal. At the time, Frelinghuysen challenged Sean to go for the gold. Sean took the challenge, and his hard work is recognized today.

The Congressional Award is open to all young people ages 14-23. To earn the award, young people must set and achieve personally challenging goals in four program areas; voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness, and expedition/exploration. For more information on how to participate please visit www.congressionalaward.org.



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