



CONGRESSMAN DAN LIPINSKI

Representing the Third District ★ ★ ★

SUMMER 2011 UPDATE | 112TH CONGRESS

Dear Neighbor,

As the economy struggles to recover, middle-class Americans need someone to stand up for them. I opposed the Wall Street bailout and other special interest giveaways in Washington, and continue to fight for hard-working Third District residents. Despite the many challenges we face – a lack of jobs, unfair trade, excessive government borrowing, surging gas prices – my faith in America is undiminished.

As this newsletter details, my efforts have helped create good jobs and improve the quality of life in the district. I have successfully fought to require our government to “Buy American,” strongly opposed China’s unfair trade policies, and reintroduced my bill to revitalize American manufacturing that passed the House last year. While supporting the bipartisan budget compromise to prevent a government shutdown and reduce the deficit, I opposed extreme budget proposals that would hurt the middle class and undermine Medicare. My plan to lower gas prices and reduce our dependence on foreign oil includes responsibly tapping domestic sources, promoting alternatives, and punishing price manipulators.

It is an honor to represent you in Congress. To share your concerns, please attend my Town Hall Meeting on June 25. Seniors are invited to my Senior Fairs on June 28 and July 5. For more information, see the back page.

Sincerely,


Dan Lipinski

Lipinski Takes Action with Jobs Plan



Rep. Lipinski, State Sen. Steven Landek, State Rep. Michael Zalewski, Justice Mayor Kris Wasowicz, and Bridgeview officials announce that funding Lipinski helped obtain will allow construction this summer on the 71st St. underpass near Toyota Park, creating hundreds of jobs.

With nearly 14 million Americans unemployed and millions more underemployed, Congressman Lipinski’s top priority remains job creation. He has developed a plan to put Americans back to work that builds on his ongoing efforts to strengthen manufacturing, modernize our infrastructure, enhance education and training, enforce fair trade, boost small businesses, and invest in research that can create new industries. The Congressman has already helped bring home \$633 million for the CREATE rail modernization program, which will add 17,000 jobs and \$2 billion annually to the local economy. He helped write and pass into law the America COMPETES Act, which is funding high-tech manufacturing research and preparing workers to compete in the global economy by improving education. To provide \$12 billion in tax relief and access to credit for small businesses, the Congressman cosponsored and helped pass the Small Business Jobs Act. And he continues to lead the fight against China’s unfair currency manipulation, which if halted would create 500,000 American jobs according to the Peterson Institute for International Economics. For his complete jobs plan – which includes strengthening Buy American laws, providing incentives for returning jobs to the U.S., and toughening enforcement of fair-trade laws – visit www.lipinski.house.gov.

Lipinski Votes to Responsibly Reduce the Deficit

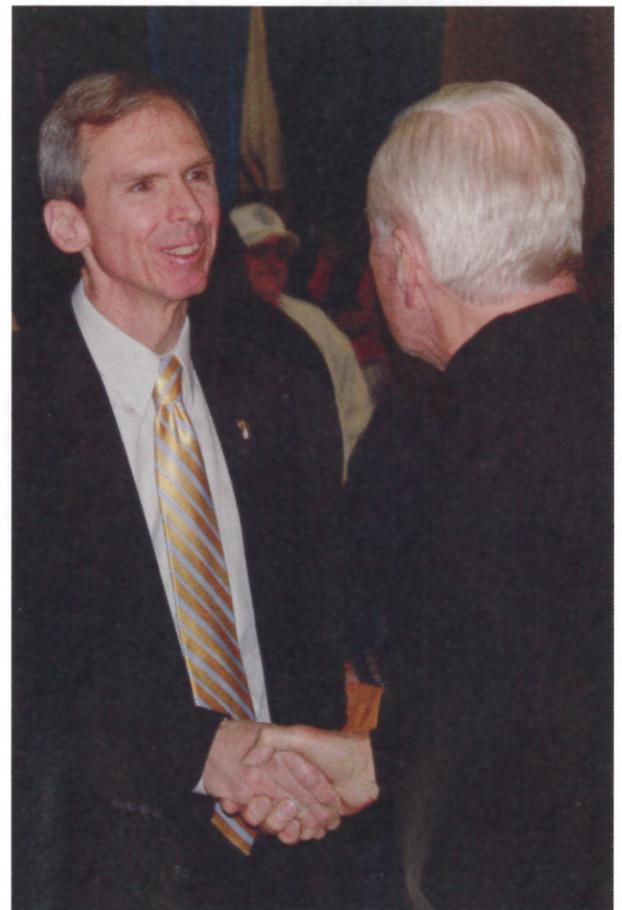


Representative Lipinski emphasizes the need to keep America strong for future generations.

Congressman Lipinski has consistently voted to reduce the deficit and prevent unnecessary spending while preserving investments that help the middle class. He did not vote for the \$700 billion Wall Street bailout, the \$1 trillion health care law, or the poorly designed \$862 billion stimulus bill. In April, he voted for the bipartisan budget compromise to prevent a government shutdown and cut spending by approximately \$38 billion. At the same time, he stood firm and voted against Republican budget proposals that would hurt seniors on Medicare and slash support for public safety, transportation, the environment, Wall Street oversight, and America's long-term competitiveness. Last month, he helped to vote down a bill that would have increased the federal debt ceiling without addressing the causes of our deficits. He believes both sides must reach a compromise that lowers the deficit and paves the way for a bipartisan vote on the debt ceiling prior to the Aug. 2 deadline.

Lipinski Works to Fix Serious Flaws in the Health Care Law

Congressman Lipinski voted against last year's health care bill because it is not fiscally sustainable, does little to reduce costs for most Americans, threatens seniors' access to care by cutting Medicare, and permits federal funding for abortion. He is committed to fixing the law's numerous flaws while maintaining its good provisions, such as the ban on discrimination against those with preexisting conditions. He recently cosponsored and helped pass H.R. 4, a bipartisan bill to repeal a provision of the law that imposed a burdensome IRS paperwork requirement on small businesses. He also helped introduce H.R. 1173 to eliminate one of the most obviously flawed parts of the law, the CLASS Act. Numerous independent experts including the Congressional Budget Office agree this program cannot pay for itself over the long term. Even Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius admitted the CLASS Act is "totally unsustainable" as written. The Congressman also helped pass legislation to apply the Hyde Amendment to the health care law to close loopholes that allow federal funding for abortion.



In Bridgeview, Rep. Lipinski and a local senior discuss the need for affordable health care.

Lipinski Fights to Lower Gas Prices to Help Working Families

As gas prices in the Chicago area soar, Congressman Lipinski continues to work to lower these prices and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. In addition to fighting to preserve funding for alternative energy research, he wrote and passed the H-Prize Act to spark dramatic advances in the use of hydrogen as a clean fuel for transportation. With gas prices hitting record highs even as actual demand has slumped, he supports cracking down on price manipulation that hurts all Americans. And he has repeatedly secured funding for local transportation projects as well as public transit to ease congestion and save gas. His plan for lowering gas prices includes continuing to invest in the kind of advanced research that led to hybrid and electric vehicles, tapping domestic energy sources in an environmentally responsible manner, developing renewable fuels, making sensible use of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and ensuring that America's single largest energy consumer – the federal government – leads the way by cutting its own gasoline usage.



Rep. Lipinski talks with a constituent in Garfield Ridge about his plan to bring down soaring gas prices.

Lipinski's National Manufacturing Strategy Would Create American Jobs

For generations, American manufacturing has been a source of good-paying middle-class jobs and essential for our national security. Today, our manufacturers remain the most innovative and productive in the world. Yet



Rep. Lipinski tours International Paper in Bedford Park, where he talked about his plan to help manufacturers create jobs.

Washington has stood by and watched as China and other countries have pursued unfair trade policies and millions of American manufacturing jobs have disappeared or moved offshore over the last decade. Congressman Lipinski is working to change that. His National Manufacturing Strategy Act, H.R. 1366, will revitalize manufacturing by requiring the government to work with the private sector to conduct an in-depth study of this critical industry and develop specific goals and recommendations for promoting its success. Last year, the bill passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in the House of Representatives. Congressman Lipinski is working to build on that success and see that the measure is passed by both chambers of Congress and signed into law. Other countries take an aggressive and coordinated approach to bolstering their manufacturing sectors. We must also fight for our workers.

Lipinski Fights to Protect Medicare and Address the Lack of a Social Security COLA



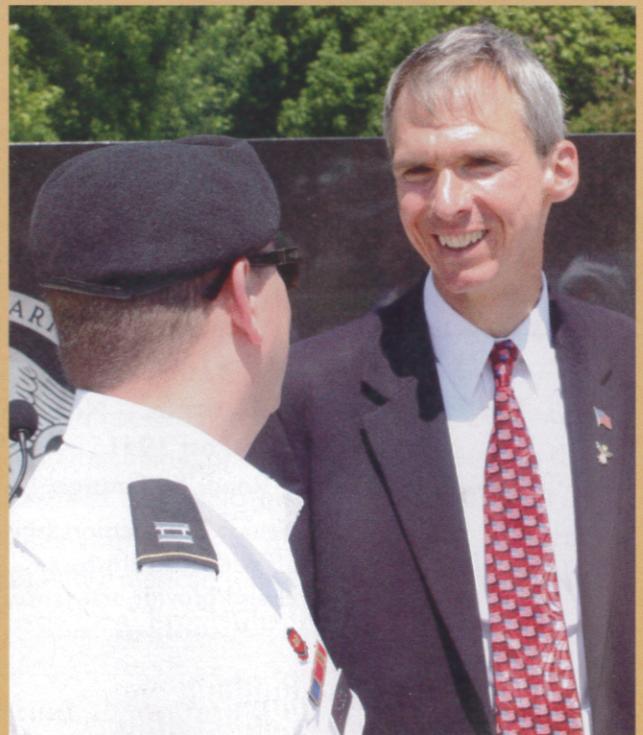
Rep. Lipinski discusses his work to preserve Medicare with a local senior in West Lawn.

Having voted against the deep cuts to Medicare in the health care law last year, Congressman Lipinski is opposing efforts to change Medicare into a voucher program that will sharply increase costs for seniors. To strengthen Medicare, he backed legislation that will gradually phase out the prescription drug “doughnut hole,” and he supports closing the coverage gap more quickly. Another bill that has his backing would allow Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices with pharmaceutical companies in order to lower costs. Today, prices for health care, gasoline, and food are on the rise. Yet this is the second consecutive year with no Social Security cost-of-living increase. Congressman Lipinski helped introduce H.R. 1086 to establish a new inflation index that accurately measures the cost increases faced by seniors, who spend more on items such as health care. This would ensure that Washington understands the reality retirees face at the gas pump, the grocery store, and when they sit down to pay their taxes and medical bills.

Lipinski Leads the Way in Supporting Veterans

An amendment Congressman Lipinski authored recently led the Defense Department to begin searching for the missing remains of more than 500 heroic Marines who were killed in the World War II Battle of Tarawa in the Pacific. Having been invited to serve on the National Advisory Council of the Korean War National Museum that is proposed for Chicago, he succeeded in passing an amendment in the House in May expressing strong support for establishing a Korean War museum. As part of his commitment to honoring our veterans, he also recently voted for legislation that would:

- Institute a cost-of-living adjustment for benefits paid to disabled veterans
- Create a program to recognize businesses that hire veterans and to encourage others to hire veterans
- Fix the Post-9/11 GI Bill to allow veterans to remain in their school of choice
- Extend a VA grant program to help severely wounded veterans modify their residences
- Reduce red tape for veterans with pending benefits claims



Rep. Lipinski talks with Army Captain Dan Johnson of Oak Lawn about his support for our troops and veterans.

Lipinski Announces Major Step Toward Increasing Heritage Corridor Metra Service



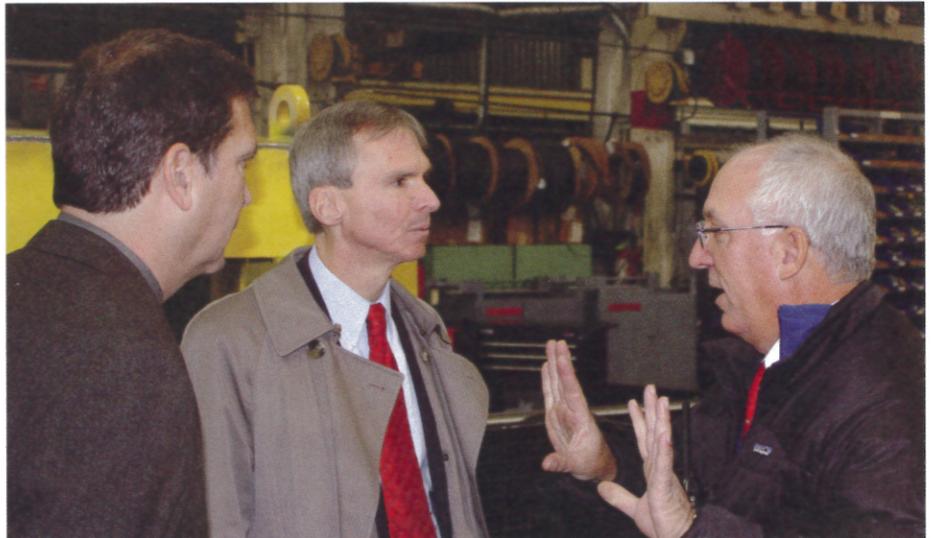
Rep. Lipinski was joined by IDOT, Metra, and local officials to announce a new study needed to increase Metra service on the Heritage Corridor.

At Congressman Lipinski's request, the Illinois Department of Transportation agreed to pay for a study needed to facilitate an increase in Metra service on the Heritage Corridor. The Congressman has been leading the push to expand commuter service on the line, which currently offers only three weekday round trips between Joliet and Chicago's Union Station, with stops in Summit, Willow Springs, Lemont, and Lockport. There is tremendous demand along the corridor for more service, and three round trips a day simply is not enough. Funding the Congressman obtained for the CREATE rail modernization program helped pave the way for additional Metra trains on the Heritage Corridor by reducing conflicts between commuter trains and freight trains.

Lipinski Helps Lead Bipartisan Effort to Protect the Great Lakes

The Great Lakes are our region's most precious natural resource. Yet each year brings news of more beach closings and swimming bans. We cannot allow the dumping of billions of gallons of raw sewage into the same waters we use for drinking, swimming, boating, and fishing. That's why Congressman Lipinski helped introduce the bipartisan Great Lakes Water Protection Act, H.R. 425. This bill would more than double fines for sewage dumping and use the money to start a Great Lakes Clean-Up Fund to improve wastewater treatment and habitat protection.

Lipinski Posts "Buy American" Victory



Rep. Lipinski's work to enforce Buy American laws helped Hoist Liftruck, a Third District manufacturer.

Congressman Lipinski has been working for years to require the federal government to "Buy American" whenever possible. As part of his efforts, he recently helped Hoist Liftruck of Bedford Park to convince the Defense Department to rebid a forklift contract that otherwise would have gone to a foreign manufacturer in violation of existing Buy American laws. That victory gives this local manufacturer a chance to compete for the business and keep jobs in the Third District. To close loopholes in the Buy American Act and ensure taxpayer dollars do not wind up in the pockets of foreign workers, the Congressman plans to introduce an updated version of the Buy American Improvement Act he authored last year.



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3rd Congressional District

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Congressman Lipinski Holds Town Hall Meeting and Senior Fairs



Rep. Lipinski talks to a constituent in Oak Lawn about his work in Congress.

UPCOMING EVENTS Hosted by Congressman Lipinski

TOWN HALL MEETING

Saturday, June 25, 2011, 10 a.m.

Palos Hills City Hall

10335 South Roberts Road, Palos Hills, IL

Starting one hour before the meeting, staff will assist constituents with Social Security and other federal issues.

SENIOR FAIRS

Tuesday, June 28, 2011, 10 a.m. – Noon
Taylor-Lauridsen Playground Park Fieldhouse
704 West 42nd Street, Chicago, IL

Tuesday, July 5, 2011, 10 a.m. – Noon
American Legion Post 1941
900 South La Grange Road, La Grange, IL

At the Congressman's Senior Fairs, seniors can get help from his staff with federal issues. Other organizations will also provide assistance.

Congressional Assistance

My staff is available to assist you with:

- Social Security and Medicare
- Veterans' benefits and military service
- Military Academy appointments
- Obtaining a U.S. passport
- U.S. Small Business Administration
- Immigration and naturalization
- Mail delivery problems
- IRS problems
- Planning trips to Washington D.C.
- Ordering a U.S. Capitol flag

Call Washington toll-free at 866-822-5701 or Chicago at 312-886-0481, or visit www.lipinski.house.gov.



Rep. Lipinski congratulates his 2011 Military Academy appointees.

Congressional assistance is available at these offices:

6245 South Archer Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60638
312-886-0481

26 S. La Grange Rd., Suite 204
La Grange, Illinois 60525
708-352-0524

5309 West 95th St.
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453
708-424-0853

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