



# CONGRESSMAN DAN LIPINSKI

## Representing the People of the 3rd District

SUMMER 2012 UPDATE | 112TH CONGRESS

### Dear Neighbor:

While middle class Americans struggle, both parties jockey for power in Washington and little is getting done. But my focus is on helping the private sector to create jobs through my Five Point Jobs Plan, reducing the deficit while defending the middle class and seniors, and improving daily life in the Third District.

In June there was some good news. Congress finally heeded my call to pass a long-overdue bipartisan transportation bill that will create hundreds of thousands of badly needed jobs in the short term, relieve congestion, and promote long-term economic growth. While others pushed partisan talking points, I moved bipartisan legislation to revitalize American manufacturing through committee and toward a House vote. As a leader in the quest for a balanced, bipartisan approach to deficit reduction, I was among those the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget described as “putting the nation’s fiscal interest above their party’s interest.”

Solving critical problems, forging consensus in order to move our country forward, and restoring opportunity for the middle class – these are my top priorities. Whatever is happening in Washington, you can be sure I will continue to do what is right for the Third District and the American people.

*I hope to see you at my Town Hall Meeting Tuesday, August 14 in Oak Lawn. Job seekers can attend my Job Fair on Friday, August 24 in Hickory Hills. Seniors may attend my Senior Fair on Monday, August 13 in Countryside (see reverse for details). Sign up for my e-newsletter at [www.lipinski.house.gov](http://www.lipinski.house.gov) and follow me on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/repdanlipinski](http://www.facebook.com/repdanlipinski).*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Dan".

Dan Lipinski

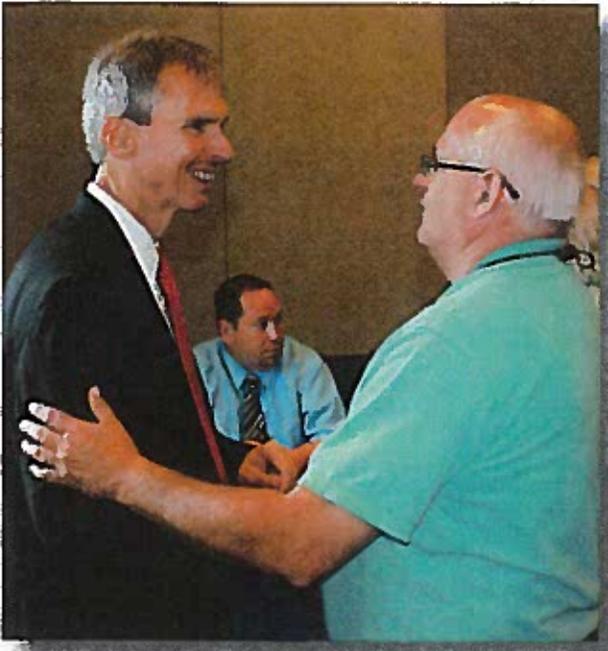
## As Urged by Lipinski, Key Jobs Bill Passes



**Rep. Lipinski worked across the aisle to help preserve funding for Illinois roads and mass transit.**

**After a nearly** three-year delay, Washington finally heeded Congressman Lipinski’s repeated calls to pass a bipartisan transportation reauthorization bill. A component of the Congressman’s Five Point Jobs Plan, this legislation will help create jobs now, relieve congestion, and promote long-term economic growth by fixing our roads and mass transit. As the most senior member of the House Transportation Committee in the region, he was able to work with Republicans and Democrats to defeat proposals by House Republican leaders that put \$450 million for the CTA, Metra, and Pace at risk and cut funding for Illinois roads. The bill also contains measures he worked to include, such as funding that could help further the locally important CREATE rail modernization project, and provisions to help build new mass transit projects. While the bill does not move the Keystone pipeline project forward, the Congressman will continue to support building the pipeline to reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil from unfriendly and unstable nations.

# Lipinski Works to Overhaul Flawed Health Care Law



**Congressman Lipinski** (pictured discussing his work in Congress with a local resident) voted against the health care law in 2010 because it does not do enough to lower health care costs, cuts Medicare, is not fiscally sustainable, and allows federal funding for abortion. Since then, he has been working to fix the many problems with the law while maintaining its best provisions, such as the ban on discrimination against those with preexisting conditions. Last month, in remarks that were later published in the Chicago Tribune, the Congressman spoke on the House floor to urge his colleagues to fix the law and work together to make good health care more affordable in a fiscally responsible fashion. Congressman Lipinski's efforts to fix the problems with the health care law include being the first House Democrat to support repeal of the CLASS Act, which administration officials eventually conceded was fiscally unsustainable and canceled; helping to repeal a tax reporting requirement that would have burdened small businesses; working to pass legislation to ensure no taxpayer money is spent for abortion under the law; and cosponsoring legislation to protect Americans' conscience rights.

*"In two days of House debate...*

*Representative Daniel Lipinski was a lonely voice pleading for a middle way."*

*– The New York Times*

## Lipinski's Manufacturing Bill Passes Committee, Moves Toward House Vote

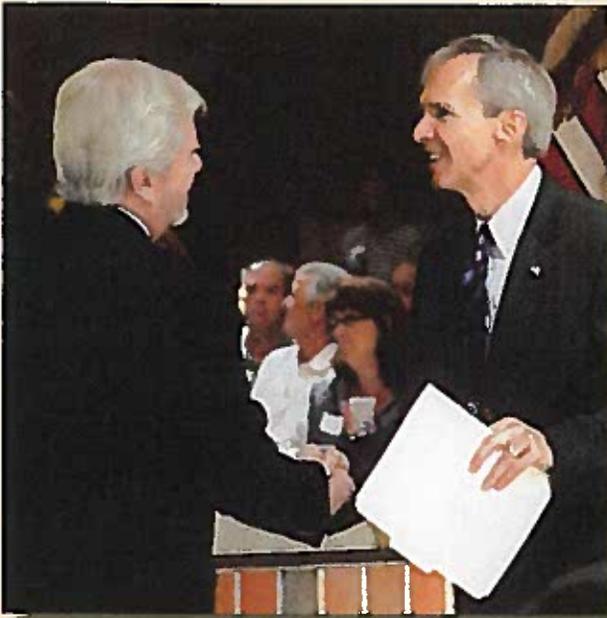
**Congressman Lipinski's** bipartisan bill to require the development of a national strategy to revitalize American manufacturing and create good jobs was approved by the Energy & Commerce Committee in June. The next step is a vote by the full House on this legislation, which is an important part of the Congressman's Five Point Jobs Plan. Far too little is getting done in Congress right now to help the middle class. But the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act, H.R. 5865, is designed to bring the public and private sectors together to develop a national strategy that will help U.S. manufacturers compete in the global economy and create good-paying, middle-class jobs. We have a long way to go to get back the 6.2 million manufacturing

jobs we have lost, and we cannot afford to let partisan bickering delay action.



**Rep. Lipinski toured a factory in Chicago's Back of the Yards neighborhood, where he spoke about his national manufacturing strategy bill.**

# Lipinski Focuses on Bipartisan Deficit Reduction



Rep. Lipinski focused on the need to reduce the deficit with West Suburban Chamber of Commerce members in Countryside.

Experts agree that America needs to commit soon to \$4 trillion in deficit reduction to prevent the national debt from doing grave damage to our economy and middle class. Yet rather than seeking a balanced, long-term solution, both parties are letting politics and partisanship control the debate. Congressman Lipinski was among five Democrats and four Republicans who recently led the way toward a viable solution by introducing a plan to

*“Lipinski’s call for debt reduction meets with approval at Chamber.”*

– Pioneer Press

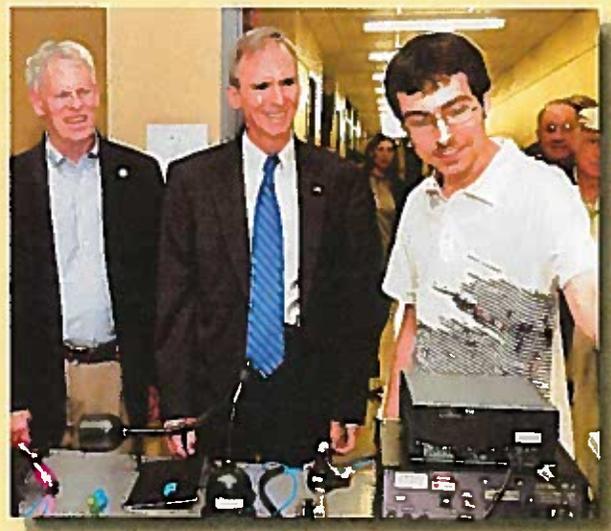
responsibly reduce budget deficits and strengthen programs critical for the middle class and seniors. While only 38 members voted for this centrist plan, it was applauded by numerous nonpartisan observers, including the Chicago Tribune, the Concord Coalition, The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, and USA Today, which hailed those who supported it as “a tiny band” of “heroes.”

## Lipinski Continues Buy American Efforts

As a strong supporter of American manufacturing and a leader in the fight to close loopholes that allow taxpayer dollars to be spent on foreign-made products, Congressman Lipinski was outraged to discover the U.S. Olympic Committee supplied America’s Olympic athletes with ceremonial uniforms made in China. In response, the Congressman wrote and introduced a bipartisan bill to require that the uniforms and equipment supplied to American Olympic athletes by the USOC be made in America whenever possible. The USOC is a federally chartered nonprofit corporation legally obligated to report to Congress. As SouthtownStar columnist Phil Kadner recently noted, “Lipinski has been pounding away at the federal government, trying to enforce existing Buy American laws and pass legislation that toughens them.”

## Lipinski Votes to Prevent Student Loan Interest Rates from Doubling

The unemployment rate for college graduates – 4.1% – is less than half that for those without a college degree, despite the difficulties recent college grads are experiencing. As a former teacher, Congressman Lipinski is a strong believer in making higher education more affordable, especially at a time when middle-class families and students are struggling. That is why he voted to prevent interest rates from doubling to 6.8% for more than 7 million recipients of



While visiting Lewis University, Rep. Lipinski discussed his work to improve education as a member of the Science, Space and Technology Committee.

subsidized Stafford federal student loans. A college education is increasingly critical, and the Congressman looks forward to ensuring that rising costs do not prevent students from obtaining a degree.



**Congressman Dan Lipinski**

3rd Congressional District

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# Rep. Lipinski to Host Town Hall, Senior, and Job Fairs

## 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](http://www.lipinski.house.gov).



Seniors received help with Medicare and other issues at Rep. Lipinski's Senior Fair in Summit.



Rep. Lipinski spoke with Third District residents about his work in Congress at his Town Hall Meeting in La Grange.

### TOWN HALL MEETING

Tuesday, August 14, 7 p.m.

Advocate Christ Medical Center, Auditorium  
4440 W. 95th St., Oak Lawn – Entrance on Kilbourn  
(Free parking across the street on Kilbourn)

At 6 p.m., staff will assist with federal issues.

### SENIOR FAIR

Monday, August 13, 10 a.m. — Noon

Local 150 Headquarters, 6240 Joliet Rd., Countryside

Staff and other organizations will provide assistance with federal issues such as Medicare and Social Security.

### JOB FAIR

Friday, August 24, 10 a.m. — Noon

The Sabre Room, 8900 W. 95th St., Hickory Hills

Job seekers can meet with dozens of area businesses that are currently hiring.

Congressional assistance is available at these offices:

6245 S. Archer Avenue  
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