



CONGRESSMAN

Ed Pastor

WASHINGTON REPORT

Economic security

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Fourth Congressional District - Arizona

January 2008

Improving economic security in 2008

Dear Fellow Arizonans,

As I look toward 2008, the challenges I see for Congress' agenda include economic security, Iraq, immigration reform and the environment.

The economy was the top issue on the minds of Americans as Congress returned to Washington this month, and I am eager to work towards improving our economic security and easing the struggles middle class Americans are facing each day.

Experts say we may already be in a recession. But President Bush continues to support tax cuts for the wealthy as middle class Americans face rising home mortgage foreclosures, higher credit card debt, higher energy and health care costs and paychecks stuck in neutral.

The repercussions of the mortgage crisis, the lack of job creation and lower consumer spending have led to a stagnant economy and put a dent in our financial security.

This month, Democrats began working in a bipartisan way to jumpstart our economy. The leadership is working on developing economic stimulus legislation that adheres to three simple principles: it must be timely, targeted and temporary.

As we face this economic challenge, I will join the Democratic leadership in proposing pro-middle-class, pro-growth, and pro-job creation initiatives that ensure our economy works for all Americans, not just the privileged

few.

I also will work towards an orderly and responsible redeployment of U.S. troops from Iraq. I am looking forward to the March release of a report from Gen. David

H. Petraeus that is hopefully a candid assessment for assisting Congressional deliberations. Our troops have performed magnificently, and we owe them our deepest gratitude for their courage and sacrifices. The United States needs to push the Iraqi government to take a stronger role in governing its country.

In addition, I am hopeful we can move toward comprehensive immigration reform that addresses our nation's security and meets the workforce requirements of the country in order to ensure a stable economy.

Finally, I will continue my work to enhance our energy security legislation and support actions to reduce global warming and lower energy costs.

As you read more inside about my work on your behalf, please feel free to contact my offices with any of your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress



Laveen Community Council members Russell Luder and Jeff Gunn discuss federal appropriations funds secured by Rep. Ed Pastor for a local community center.

ASU students recognize Rep. Pastor for supporting College Cost Reduction Act

A group of Arizona State University students recently recognized U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor for his strong legislative support of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, or H.R. 2669, which was signed into law late last year.

The bill was the largest increase in college financial aid since the GI Bill of Rights in 1944. Pastor voted to pass the bill.

The ASU Downtown Phoenix Campus Student Government Advisory Board recognized Pastor, saying the bill will help alleviate the heavy financial burden many college students carry in order to finance their education.

In Arizona, the typical need-based loan for a four-year public school leaves the average student with a debt of \$14,081.

Under this bill, Arizona will see a \$1.2 billion increase in loan and Pell aid to students and families.



Rep. Ed Pastor, second from left, recently met with Aaron Davis, president of ASU Downtown Student Government; Matthew Kimmel, president of Students for Arizona Public Interest Research Group at ASU and Lindsay Bayuk, Board Chair of the Arizona Students Association, to discuss Pastor's support of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

U.S. citizenship assistance on March 29

U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor, D-Ariz., is offering assistance in applying for U.S. citizenship at his workshop on March 29 where individuals who regularly volunteer in the community will help legal permanent residents complete their citizenship applications. The assistance is free, but appointments are required. **Legal residents need to register with Rep. Pastor's office by March 14 by phoning 602-256-0551 to receive an appointment. Space is limited.**

To become a U.S. citizen, a person must, among other requirements:

- Have been a legal permanent resident of the United States for at least five years, or have been married to a U.S. citizen for at least three years and been a legal permanent resident for at least three years.
- Speak, read and write English unless one qualifies for an exemption.
- Have good moral character. Violations of the law may prevent you from becoming a U.S. citizen.
- Pay a total fee of \$675 to the "U.S. Department of Homeland Security."

Congressional art competition deadline March 31

High school artists are encouraged to enter their original works in the 27th Annual Congressional Arts Competition by March 31. Rep. Pastor hosts the arts competition in his district each year and the winning entry will be exhibited in a corridor leading to the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. The winner also is flown with a guardian to Washington and recognized at an event on Capitol Hill in June. For the competition guidelines and more information, please phone 602-256-0551.

Rep. Pastor working to be accessible, effective

During 2007, Rep. Ed Pastor met with constituents both in Arizona and Washington to listen to their needs in the district. From medical technology to funding for after-school programs, Pastor made sure that the federal government was working for his constituents. He was successful in securing federal funding for many local programs in the district that are critical to Arizonans' quality of life.

"Frequently we hear attacks on Congress for funding projects considered frivolous," Pastor said. "But if you take a close look at how these funds are used here at home, you'll see your taxpayer money is put to work wisely and for the betterment of many."

Some of the local project for which Pastor secured federal funding are listed below and on the next pages.

Pastor hears district's needs, brings home funding

Phoenix Children's Hospital will improve medical records system

A \$287,000 federal appropriation will assist Phoenix Children's Hospital with conversion of medical records from an antiquated filing system to a "cutting edge" computerized format. "The new Electronic Medical Records system will assist the hospital's doctors and medical staff to more quickly and effectively serve Arizona's children and families," Pastor said.



Dr. David Notrica, Phoenix Children Hospital's Medical Director for trauma, met with Rep. Ed Pastor to demonstrate how federal funding will improve the medical record system to better serve patients and their families. Pastor helped the hospital secure appropriations funding for the project.



Quality Time school programs

Rep. Pastor was successful in securing \$564,000 for Operation Quality Time, a nonprofit organization that helps schools in the Phoenix area operating quality after school programs in under served areas.

The program helps children and youth continue to be motivated in educational programs. It provides a safe, supervised and productive environment free from negative pressures.

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met with Operation QT board members at Carl Hayden High School in Phoenix to discuss the appropriations funding he secured for the after-school program. On the left, Pastor, center, meets with Jack Kensler, executive director, and board members Nancy Holloran, former Gov. Rose Mofford and President Mildred Norman.

Rep. Pastor secures federal dollars to address health care and medical research needs

Preventing low birth weights

Aging mobile unit for maternal outreach will be replaced to improve outreach efforts by St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix

Rep. Ed Pastor was recently successful in securing \$406,000 to assist a maternal outreach program established by St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix to address low birth weight and inadequate prenatal care in Phoenix and surrounding rural communities.

The funding will help purchase a new vehicle for the Maternal Outreach Mobile Clinic (MOMobile). The current vehicle frequently breaks down and compromises the program's ability to provide care. A new vehicle will allow the program to improve and expand current services in south Phoenix, Mesa and Goodyear.



"The MOMobile has been a critical player in decreasing the number of low birth weights in Maricopa County. The communities served by the mobile unit have experienced a drop in low birth weight babies, helping prevent future health problems and developmental disorders among children. I'm glad I was able to help put federal funds to work to improve this program."

- Rep. Ed Pastor

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met with representatives from St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center to discuss the replacement of the MOMobile, which will be funded in part by federal dollars secured by Pastor. On the right, Pastor meets with Marisue Garganta, director of community health integration; Linda Hunt, President and CEO, and MOMobile nurses Mariantonieta Salomon, Gail Brown and Margarita Montijo.



Funding approved for TGEN facilities, equipment

Rep. Ed Pastor was successful this past year in securing funding for the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGEN) in Phoenix. About \$1.5 million was approved in the Defense appropriations budget, and \$884,277 in the Omnibus bill. The funding will be used for facilities and equipment. The nonprofit organization studies the human genome to better understand and fight diseases such as cancers. In the photo on the left, TGEN's Dr. Matthew Huentelman and Rep. Pastor tour a microray room and discuss how federal funding will boost research that focuses on analyzing DNA.

Pastor helps local organizations obtain funding for museum, community center

Funds for Carver Museum will help preserve Phoenix's African-American culture

A museum and cultural center that would be housed in the historic former Carver High School in Phoenix will receive \$295,320 in federal funding secured by U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor. The funding was approved under the Save America's Treasures program in the Interior Appropriations bill, which was passed as part of the all-encompassing Omnibus Bill, Pastor said.

The former Carver High School at 415 E. Grant St., in Phoenix is undergoing restoration as the new George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center. Carver High School was built exclusively for African-Americans during the period of enforced segregation. Community leaders are working to restore the building and to preserve the African-American culture in Phoenix.

Besides a museum, the restoration project includes an art gallery and multi-purpose spaces.



U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor, second from left, recently met with Princess Crump, Carver Museum executive director; Tommie Williams; and Phil Jones, executive director of the city of Phoenix's office of Arts and Culture, to discuss plans to use federal funds to restore the former high school into a museum to showcase Phoenix's African-American culture. They are standing under a bronze statue of George Washington Carver.

"The Carver museum will enhance opportunities for Valley residents and all Arizonans to learn, experience and share in the diverse cultural heritage of African-Americans," Pastor said.



Rep. Ed Pastor, center, met with Laveen Community Council members to discuss federal funding for a new community center. Pastor met with Jeff Gunn, Russell Luder, Claudine Reifschneider and Carlos Terrazas at the Laveen Historical Auditorium (Building A).

Laveen Community Center Call for federal funds answered

Plans for a Laveen Community Center will move forward with the assistance of \$196,000 in federal funding secured by Rep. Ed Pastor for the project.

The growing community in the southwest Valley has been working through the leadership of the Laveen Community Council to raise funds to build a multipurpose community center that houses a volunteer office, youth activities, senior services and community meeting space.

The Laveen Community Council will be able to use the federal funds to leverage matching funds that will help finance the beginning design phase of the project.

Mobile office locations for February, March

To assist constituents with any issues they may have with federal agencies, a representative from Congressman Pastor's office will be at the locations below the next few months. No appointments are necessary. More information is available by phoning Rep. Pastor's office at 602-256-0551.

South Mountain Community Center: Feb. 6 and March 5, 10 a.m. to Noon

212 E. Alta Vista, Phoenix

Golden Gate Community Center: Feb. 12, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

1625 N. 39th Ave., Phoenix

Glendale Community Center: Feb. 20 and March 19, 10 a.m. to noon

5401 W. Ocotillo, Glendale

Guadalupe Senior Center: Feb. 26 and March 25, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

9401 S. Avenida del Yaqui, Guadalupe

Desert West Community Center: March 11, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

6501 W. Virginia, Phoenix

How to contact Congressman Ed Pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor's office is in your city to serve your needs. Please keep this information handy to contact his offices for assistance.

<http://www.pastor.house.gov>

Washington Office

2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0302
Phone: (202) 225-4065

Phoenix District Office

411 N. Central Ave., Suite 150
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: (602) 256-0551

Please send postal delivery mail to Phoenix District Office only.
Due to the threat of anthrax-contaminated mail delivered to the Capitol complex, all incoming letters to my Washington Office must be irradiated before delivery, resulting in a delay of at least three weeks. Feel free to send mail instead to my Phoenix District Office. Thanks.

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