

A Report to Constituents

from Representative Bill Posey

Dear Friend,

Had we as a nation chosen to let the Soviet Union dominate space in the immediate aftermath of their successful Sputnik satellite launch, our security would have been put at risk, and we would have lost out on the technological and economic advances that resulted from our investment.

In some ways the space program has become the victim of its success and as a result Americans take for granted the numerous spinoffs from the space program that we rely on every day. Over the past three years our space program has come up short on two votes. Our bipartisan coalition was successful in restoring most of the funding during final negotiations on the bill, but the rank-and-file Members of Congress lack a full understanding of the benefits of our investment in human space flight.

At every opportunity I remind other Members of Congress and the public about the direct benefits they receive each day from our investment in space – our national security, an ATM or credit card transaction, a weather report, a mobile phone call, advanced medical diagnostics, or just getting around town using a GPS.

Just five decades after Sputnik's earth-shattering echo we are at the cusp of ceding our leadership in space to China and Russia. Senior national security officials recognize that China and Russia are threatening to overtake us in the area of human space flight, and this would directly compromise our national and economic security. We simply cannot afford to cede the military high ground to Russia, China or anyone else. Our competitors understand the strategic importance of space superiority, and that is why they are investing unprecedented sums to overtake us in space.



“Where there is no vision, the people perish,” reads the Proverb on the wall of the House Science Committee in Washington. I could not agree more, and that is why I am working with like-minded colleagues to ensure a strong national investment in space and provide a clear vision for moving forward.

I would love to know your thoughts on this and other issues affecting our nation.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. I hope you find it informative. And please take time to fill out the reply card and let me know your thoughts.

Sincerely,

Bill

Bill Posey

“I’m for an all-of-the-above approach to space. We need to free the American entrepreneurial spirit so that we can lead the world in space endeavors.”

– Rep. Posey

THE MISSION FOR BREVARD: JOBS, AC

REP. POSEY LEADS BIPARTISAN EFFORTS TO RESTORE AMERICA'S SPACE LEADERSHIP

- Introduced bipartisan legislation providing a clear vision and specific plan for NASA's future missions to the Moon (H.R. 1641)
- Authored language making it easier for NASA to transfer assets to commercial enterprises to create jobs here on the Space Coast (Signed into law, Public Law 112-55)
- Introduced bipartisan legislation (H.R. 1962) to close the human space flight gap
- Reducing NASA Headquarters' mandates that hamper the ability of making KSC/ NASA facilities available to new business ventures
- Proposing legislation enabling the Department of Defense, Space Florida, and commercial space businesses to collaborate on space initiatives more easily



Rep. Posey brings Pennsylvania Rep. Glenn Thompson for a hands-on tour of KSC to promote the importance of Human Space Flight among fellow Members of Congress.



Rep. Posey is supportive of Lockheed Martin moving the D-5 Trident missile integration program (and hundreds of jobs) to Cape Canaveral Air Station.

- Assisting new Brevard space ventures like Starfighters
- Worked to secure funding for continuation of the Orion/Multipurpose Crew Vehicle as America's next crew vehicle
- Supporting strong funding for the Commercial Crew Office at KSC

"Space is the 21st Century military high ground, and since we dominate it today, we dominate the battlefield."

– Rep. Posey

CHINA: THREAT TO AMERICAN SPACE ASSETS

We cannot afford to ignore the threat to our national security posed by China. The Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency testified recently regarding the threat posed by China and the role that their human space flight program plays in those advances.

China's investment in space "supports China's growing ability to deny or degrade the space assets of potential adversaries and enhances China's conventional military capabilities...China successfully tested a direct ascent anti-satellite weapon missile...China's ability to track and identify satellites is enhanced by technologies from China's manned and lunar programs."

(General Burgess, DIA Director)

Read more about my record on other impo

ACCOUNTABILITY AND A THRIVING SPACE PROGRAM

JOB CREATION AND GETTING OUR ECONOMY MOVING: A POSEY PRIORITY

- Voted in favor of more than two dozen job-creation bills in the past year
- Voted to place a hold on costly regulations that are hampering job creation
- Introduced legislation to enhance Congress's oversight of job-killing federal regulations
- Introduced bipartisan legislation (H.R. 1723) stopping federal banking regulators from penalizing banks that work with homeowners who are underwater on their mortgages
- Introduced bipartisan legislation (H.R. 4030) providing relief to small businesses that are current on their loan payments but are being penalized by federal banking regulators (H.R. 4030)
- Advocated for new and expanded AFTAC Air Force presence at Patrick Air Force Base
- Voting against higher taxes on millions of small businesses and voting against the \$2 trillion national energy tax
- Cosponsored bipartisan RESTORE Act requiring that BP fines are used for economic development in Florida
- Directing harbor maintenance tax toward deepening and widening Port Canaveral so it remains competitive
- Held a number of entrepreneur summits where local businesses showcase their products to potential investors



Rep. Posey talks with small business owners about impediments to job creation at recent town hall meeting.

LOWERING GASOLINE PRICES

- Voted over the past 3 years for numerous bills to enable more American energy to be developed by reining in excessive regulations that prevent us from developing American energy (Most bills have been blocked in the U.S. Senate.)
- Supports the Keystone XL pipeline which will bring Canadian oil to U.S. refineries, cutting our reliance on Saudi Arabian oil by half
- Supported an "All of the Above" approach to make energy cheaper, reduce our dependence on foreign oil and increase our use of alternative fuels
- Opposed massive new national energy taxes (H.R. 910)
- Supports lower gas prices by significantly reducing the number of gasoline blends from the current mandate of 27 types
- Supports an investigation to determine if foreign sovereign wealth funds are manipulating the price of oil and gas



A year's worth of new and proposed Federal Regulations compared to all the laws on the books in the State of Florida.

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REP. POSEY LEADING ON ACCOUNTABILITY REFORMS

- Introduced legislation requiring at least 72 hours for the public and Congress to review bills before a House floor vote can take place (Adopted as House Rule Reform, 2011)
- Voted to block Congressional pay increases for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013
- Returned the pay raise approved before Rep. Posey came to Congress 3 years ago
- Ending the Congressional death gratuity so that Members of Congress are required to purchase their own life insurance rather than getting a taxpayer handout when they die (H.R. 3127)
- Introduced Stop the Revolving Door in Washington Act banning Members of Congress from lobbying for 5 years after leaving office (H.R. 4030)
- Voted to reduce Congressional pension (H.R. 3630)
- Cosponsored and voted for the STOCK Act to ensure that Members of Congress don't trade stock based on insider information (S. 2038)
- Filed an amendment to stop sweetheart investment deals that enable Members of Congress to participate in Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) not available to the general public (H.R. 3606)
- Cut his own office budget by \$500,000 over the past 3 years



Rep. Posey returns his pay raise for the third year in a row.