

# A Report to Constituents

*from U.S. Representative Bill Posey*

Dear Friend,

Welcome to the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Florida. Our community is home to beautiful beaches, one of the most diverse lagoons in America, the Kennedy Space Center and many leading high-tech and aerospace companies. There is much that we are blessed with on the Space and Treasure Coasts.

It is an honor to serve as your Member of Congress, and our entire staff welcomes the opportunity to assist you in any way possible. Our very experienced staff is able to serve you with issues that you may have with federal agencies, including Medicare, Social Security and Veterans Affairs. We have been able to intervene and help resolve specific issues with federal agencies for several thousand constituents. Information about additional constituent services that we offer and how to contact our Florida and DC offices is provided in this Report.

As your Representative, I value your input and views on issues that are considered in the Congress, and I welcome your communications. Since coming to Congress in 2009, our office has responded to almost 350,000 letters and e-mails from constituents, and I have benefitted greatly by hearing from those I am privileged to serve.

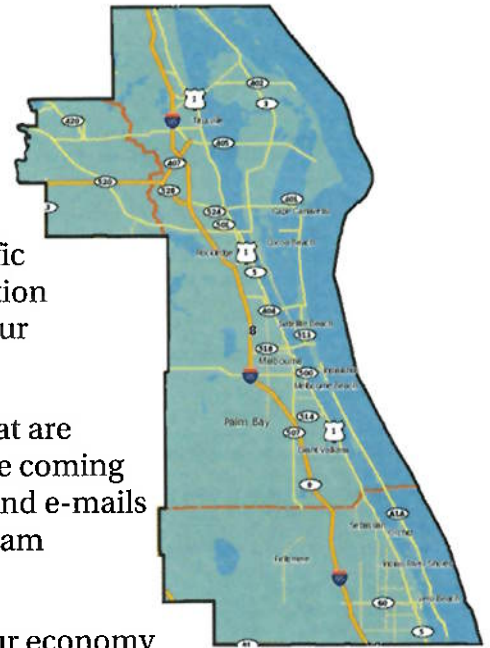
Washington is dealing with many serious challenges related to our economy and the direction of our nation. My top priority has been and remains getting our economy moving again and putting Americans back to work. I have included some of my thoughts on these issues. But more importantly, I want to hear from you. Please complete and return the attached survey card to share your thoughts and concerns about the latest issues on the Congressional agenda. Be sure to include your e-mail address so that we can communicate in a more timely and cost-effective manner in the future.

You can also visit [www.posey.house.gov](http://www.posey.house.gov) and fill out an online survey or e-mail me directly. Please keep this Report handy, and do not hesitate to call, write or e-mail if we can be of assistance. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you.

Sincerely,



Bill Posey  
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Florida's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
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# POSEY'S GOALS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## CREATING JOBS AND GROWING THE ECONOMY

- Stopping new expensive over-regulation of small businesses.
- Creating an environment for private-sector jobs that are real and sustainable.
- Rejecting policies that make America less competitive.
- Helping local entrepreneurs bring their inventions to market.
- Reforming policies so businesses have access to capital for job creation.



Rep. Posey talks about the issues before Congress with residents of Port St. John.

## MEETING LOCAL NEEDS

- Creating a business-friendly environment.
- Advocating policies that promote Florida's #1 industry – tourism.
- Working to keep America first in space.
- Making sure Florida's growers have the resources needed to fight citrus diseases.
- Securing funding to help protect and restore the Indian River Lagoon and our beaches.

## BALANCING THE BUDGET

- Co-sponsor of the Constitutional Amendment to require a Balanced Budget.
- Voted against the sequestration process and instead support selective spending reductions that target wasteful, duplicative, outdated and lower-priority programs.
- Authored legislation to require separate votes on unrelated spending measures.
- Working to make federal programs more accountable and efficient.

## PROTECTING THE FAMILY BUDGET

- Protecting the family budget by voting against the \$2 trillion carbon/national energy tax.
- Introduced bipartisan legislation to block the federal government from raising the cost of your property, auto and life insurance to bail out Wall Street Banks.
- Voting for legislation that lowers the cost of gasoline and electricity.

## KEEPING AMERICA FIRST IN SPACE

- Passed legislation to allow the Department of Defense to work with Commercial Space Companies when beneficial to taxpayers.
- Authored bipartisan plan for a robust national space program.
- Supported record funding levels for commercial space and other key space programs on the Space Coast.

***“If I can’t read the legislation, my vote is NO.”***

## **Restoring the Health of the Indian River Lagoon Among Posey Priorities**

I have lived along the Indian River Lagoon, chose to raise my children there, and know firsthand the beauty and importance of maintaining this natural treasure.

The Lagoon greatly enhances our quality of life, is important for our economy, and provides important recreation for those of us who live here, as well as tourists to our community. Our estuary plays an important role for indigenous and migratory wildlife. Since 2011 the Lagoon has faced some new challenges and degradation due primarily to algae blooms.

**What can we do to help the Lagoon?** In Congress I have supported federal funding for research to help everybody better understand factors that have led to the decline in the Lagoon's health. I introduced bipartisan legislation to provide matching funding for Lagoon restoration, conservation and protection projects. **But there are also ways everyone can get involved.** To find out more please visit: <http://www.sjrwmd.com/waterbodies/whatyoucando.html>.

✓ **Restoring the Indian River Lagoon** – Voted for bipartisan legislation reauthorizing funding for the National Estuary Program (NEP).

✓ **More resources for estuaries** – Passed bipartisan legislation to establish competitive grant program for critical need estuaries like the Indian River Lagoon.

✓ **Everglades funding** – Voted for passage of the Water Resources Development Act to fund the Central Everglades Restoration Projects (CERP) restoring the Everglades and the Lagoon.

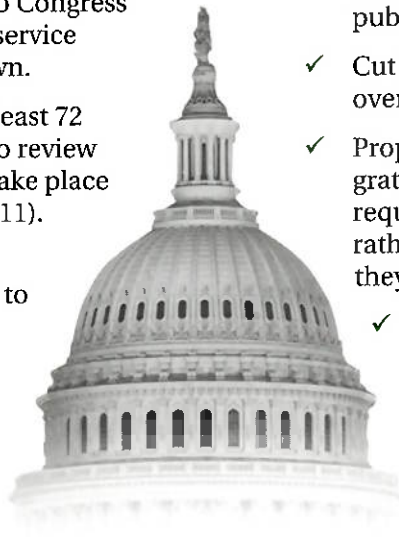
✓ **Saving stranded marine mammals** – Restored funding for the Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Program, which matches local funding to address manatee and dolphin strandings and deaths.



Rep. Posey tours the Indian River Lagoon and talks with volunteers participating in restoration efforts like planting mangroves.

## **Rep. Posey's Accountability Agenda**

- ✓ Voted to block Congressional pay increases for 2010 to 2014.
- ✓ Has returned the pay raise every year (that was approved before Rep. Posey came to Congress in 2009). Also returned full pay for service during federal government shutdown.
- ✓ 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).
- ✓ Reformed House rules to add more transparency by making bills easier to read for Members of Congress and the public.
- ✓ Cosponsored and voted for the STOCK Act to ensure that Members of Congress don't trade stock based on insider information (P.L. 112-105).



- ✓ 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 more than \$650,000 over the past 6 years.
- ✓ Proposed 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 legislation banning Members of Congress from lobbying for 5 years after leaving office (H.R. 318) and to eliminate their federal benefits if they choose to lobby (H.R. 319).
- ✓ Voted to cut Congressional pensions (H.R. 3630).

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.  
It is provided as a service to 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District constituents.

## Congressman Posey and His Staff Stand Ready to Assist You



**Cut Through Government Red Tape.** If you experience a problem dealing with a federal agency such as Social Security, Medicare, the IRS, the Veterans Administration or any other, your Congressman can help.

**Answer Questions** relating to public policy or legislation.

**Obtain U.S. Flags** flown over the Capitol building.

**Provide Passes/Tours of the Capitol** and other information for Washington, D.C. visits.

*"Thank you for your time and effort intervening on my behalf for reinstating my dependency and indemnity compensation. This was done in a timely manner and is greatly appreciated." – Vero Beach Constituent*

*"I want to thank you and your staff for your help with the problem I had in getting information on my recent filing for Social Security benefits." – Cocoa Constituent*

*"Mere words of thanks to you hardly express my deep gratitude to you and your staff in helping obtain back-pay for my daughter, who is 100% disabled from the Navy." – Titusville Constituent*

**Assist Eligible Grant Seekers** in finding information on federal grants.

**Offer Internship Programs** in our Florida and Washington offices for college students.

**Make Nominations To Military Academies.** Posey accepts applications from college-bound students interested in appointments to the Service academies (Army, Navy, Air Force and Merchant Marine).