

Legislative Update to Constituents

from U.S. Representative Bill Posey
Florida's 8th District

Dear Friend,

Thank you for taking a few minutes to review this newsletter which highlights some successes and some initiatives I continue to work on which I believe are important to conservatives and the future of our nation.

Two-way communication between you and me is more important today than ever before as the mainstream media refuses to cover many items that are important. Social media companies like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Google have gone into hyperdrive to censor, "fact-check" or hide conservative or other content with which they disagree. It's another reason I have created a Parler account and invite you to join me on Parler.

I can better represent you and fight for your priorities when I hear from you and understand what is important to you. That's why I invite you to take a few minutes to fill out and return the attached survey card so that I can hear directly from you on some of the issues that will be under consideration in the Congress. Your views will never be shared outside of my official office. You may also sign up to participate in our Telephone Town Hall meetings or to receive our monthly e-newsletter. You may visit www.posey.house.gov/survey to fill out this same survey.

If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. It is an honor to serve you in the Congress. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Bill Posey



Rep. Posey discusses veterans issues at the opening of the new veterans community outpatient clinic in Palm Bay.

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REP. POSEY IS WORKING TO CREATE JOBS, PROTECT

Posey: Remove Blanket Legal Protections for Social Media Monopolies

It is time to end the special blanket liability protection granted by Congress to social media companies in 1996. This special exemption has protected what have become the largest media companies in the United States from liability. This liability protection has enabled them to censor or place warning labels on content that they don't like. This has been the subject of considerable controversy as the targets of their censorship, warning labels and

"fact-checking" have by and large been conservatives. I've cosponsored H.R. 8517 to end the special blanket exemption that empowers them to engage in activism against ideas and politicians with whom they disagree. These companies have outlived the special exemption they were granted, and it is time for them to be held to the same liability standards as news organizations like CNN, the New York Times, Fox and ABC.

COVID-19 UPDATE

When the federal government asked for and encouraged the shutdown of businesses in the immediate outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, I believed that the federal government bore a responsibility to help address the economic harm caused by these government mandates. **I supported the CARES Act and other CARES Act-like bills that provided relief, funded COVID-19 therapies and vaccines, and focused on economic recovery.**

The money that U.S. taxpayers have invested has helped develop effective therapies and vaccines which are saving lives and helping our economy get back to work. There is an appropriate balance that government leaders and public health officials must reach to make sure that lockdowns, business and school closures, and isolation do not cause unnecessary and unprecedented harm while also protecting vulnerable populations.

As we continue to combat and respond to this virus, I will also oppose efforts to exploit the pandemic as an opportunity to "bail out" states and localities that have been plagued by decades of fiscal irresponsibility. The people of Florida should not be forced to bail them out for their poor decisions. And, **I'm also leading the effort in the Congress to recoup hundreds of millions of CARES Act dollars that the California government enabled prisoners to steal. That money should be paid back to the U.S. Treasury.**



Rep. Posey joins Members of Congress in calling on the President to protect America's war memorials.

Fighting for Affordable Health Care Choices

The cost of health insurance continues to saddle too many Americans with expensive insurance that falls short of meeting their needs. Millions of Americans realize that even if they could put together enough money to purchase an Obamacare plan, they don't have enough money left to pay the \$10,000 deductible, leaving them no better off. Obamacare has fundamental flaws designed by politicians and implemented by government bureaucrats – bureaucrats who exempted themselves from Obamacare. That should tell you something!

The same Washington elites who wrote Obamacare now want to pass "Medicare for All" offering the same solutions they told us Obamacare would fix. Don't be fooled. It is simply the next step in the complete government takeover of health care and would ban the private plans that currently insure over 160 million Americans. Let's also remember that they promised to sign up illegal immigrants for "Medicare for All," and with their open border policies you can be assured rationing is to follow.

The good news is that there are many ways to lower costs and preserve health care freedom and choice, while also ensuring affordable health care plans are available for those with pre-existing conditions.

Posey Legislation Will Secure Our American Elections

In the aftermath of the 2020 elections we have seen serious questions raised about the integrity of our federal elections. In a Constitutional Republic, the vote is the most sacred of rights as it is the means by which the people have a voice and can effect change. Voter fraud, ignoring voter laws and foreign involvement in our elections must be exposed, rooted out and prosecuted. I support the right of President Trump – or any candidate – to pursue every legal challenge that is available.

"Running fair and transparent elections is something America must live up to."

- Rep. Bill Posey

- **Files Legislation to Combat Election Fraud:** I have also introduced legislation to ban foreign entities (companies, servers, technologies) from our elections. We must also ensure fraud-prevention measures like voter identification and allowing observers to watch vote counting are not set aside. Transparency is the key to honest elections.
- **Posey Calls On Agencies to Investigate Election Fraud:** I have led and signed nearly a dozen letters demanding the Department of Justice, Department of State, CIA, Director of National Intelligence, the Postal Service and Department of Homeland Security investigate allegations of election fraud.

OUR FREEDOM AND HOLD WASHINGTON ACCOUNTABLE

Keeping America First in Space

With 30 space launches this year from America's Space Coast and a higher number planned for 2021, we continue to make significant progress in keeping America first in space. Posey introduced the bipartisan *American Space Commerce Act*, to combat the unfair trade practices that countries like China, Russia and India, as well as the European Union, have imposed to undermine the economic competitiveness of American space launch companies like SpaceX, United Launch Alliance and Blue Origin. The *American Space Commerce Act* extends the tax relief provided to those who choose to launch American rockets from American soil, building a robust U.S. space launch business and lowering the cost of launching from the U.S.



Posey Legislation Will Bring Manufacturing Jobs Back from China

While the COVID-19 crisis has shown how overly dependent we have become on China and other nations for vital supplies and consumer goods, Posey introduced legislation (H.R. 7594) to lower the cost of bringing manufacturing equipment owned by U.S. companies back to the United States from China. Some companies face hurdles like high costs associated with transporting manufacturing equipment to the United States.

Pre-COVID (2017-2019) the United States added 500,000 manufacturing jobs. H.R. 7594 builds on that success by further breaking our dependence on China, restoring American manufacturing jobs, and rebuilding American industries and supply chains that are vital to our national security by bringing them home. There are American companies with manufacturing equipment in China that they want to bring to our shores and put into operation. We want to encourage that so that we can rebuild our manufacturing base with these good-paying jobs.

Advancing Common-Sense Solutions, Not A Radical Green New Deal

Rep. Posey has been a leader in working for common-sense legislation that leads to cleaner air and water while protecting American jobs and making sure that these initiatives don't kill American jobs or drive up the costs for seniors and others living on a fixed income. He has led national initiatives in the House Science Committee to advance research for clean, affordable energy, while also leading efforts focused on local needs like cleaning up our Indian River Lagoon and remediating PFAS chemical contamination near Patrick AFB.

We all want clean water and clean air, and the good news is we have made significant progress on both of these over the past several decades. But the Green New Deal - introduced by the most liberal Members of Congress - is about much more than that. If implemented it would put the American people at a competitive disadvantage, drive the cost for electricity through the roof and push jobs overseas to China, India and developing countries - countries that have horrible records on the environment. It is estimated that the Green New Deal would cost over \$53 Trillion. Who is going to pay for that?

Securing America's Borders

The nation's leading border security organization, NumbersUSA, has ranked Rep. Posey among the top ten Members of Congress when it comes to putting border security first. He's a Congressional leader on border security, voting to secure funding for the border barriers (fencing/wall and Border Patrol) and against attempts to defund border security. In 1986, when Congress passed the largest amnesty bill, the American people were promised that border security would quickly follow. Sadly, it never came. That is, until President Trump made it a priority. Hundreds of miles of enhanced fencing have been constructed, and our borders are more secure, but there is much more to do.



In addition to fixing broken borders, Posey introduced H.R. 479 to terminate the Visa Lottery Program - a program that randomly grants over 50,000 entry visas a year to people at random across the world. There is little pre-screening or no job skills requirement, and once here they can become an anchor for extended family to enter the U.S. There is no other country in the world that has such a policy, and it is long past time to end it.

Stopping Dangerous Pharmaceuticals from China

Nearly a year ago Rep. Posey introduced the *Safe Medicine Act* (H.R. 5982) to help end our dependence on pharmaceuticals coming from China. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated to us once again the dangers of over-reliance on China for life-saving drugs. China places a lower priority on safety, has a record of sending contaminated drugs to America, and through their COVID-19 misinformation, they have shown little regard for the safety of Americans. Language similar to the *Safe Medicine Act* was incorporated into the CARES Act, and the Trump Administration has begun to implement it.

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.
It is provided as a service to 9th Congressional District constituents.

Rep. Posey's Personal Accountability Checklist

Rep. Posey believes that he should lead by example, and here's how he's doing it:

- ✓ Voted to block Congressional pay increases.
- ✓ Has returned the pay raise every year (that was approved before Rep. Posey came to Congress in 2009).
- ✓ Requiring legislation to be available to the public for at least 72 hours before Congress votes on it. (Adopted as House Rule Reform)
- ✓ 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 \$1 million since taking office.
- ✓ Voted to cut Congressional pensions (P.L. 112-96).
- ✓ Introduced bill to end political family profiteering (H.R. 1020).



Rep. Posey delivers a legislative update to veterans at American Legion Post 117 in Palm Bay on Veterans Day.

Supporting Our Military Veterans

On November 11th we celebrated and gave thanks for our nation's veterans. Rep. Posey is pleased to report that considerable progress has been made to better serve those who put our interests above their own. While we saw record funding for our veterans and dozens of bills passed and signed into law by President Trump, I'd like to highlight a few of them:

- Combatting suicide among veterans, improving mental health services and serving homeless veterans (S. 785 and H.R. 8247)
- Enhancing GI Bill benefits for servicemembers (P.L. 115-48)
- Expanding telehealth for VA benefits
- Increasing employment opportunities for veterans
- Worked to secure a new VA outpatient clinic to Palm Bay
- Led effort to ensure continued retiree access to military treatment facilities

Rep. Posey and His Staff Are Here to Serve Constituents

If you experience a problem dealing with a federal agency, such as Social Security, Medicare, the IRS, Veterans Affairs or any other, Rep. Posey and his staff (pictured at right) stand ready to assist you.

Our office can also help in obtaining U.S. flags flown over the Capitol building, providing passes/tours of the Capitol and other information for Washington, D.C. visits, assisting eligible grant seekers in finding information on federal grants, making nominations to military academies, and with college students looking for internship opportunities in our Florida and Washington offices. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact our local office at 321-632-1776. We're here to serve you.



Rep. Posey's District Office Staff (L-R): Patricia Febro, David Jackson, Cheryl Moore, Rob Medina, Chelsea Greene and Patrick Gavin.

"Thank you Congressman Posey for your part in getting my late husband's 2018 tax documents and money for me. I received everything five days after sending you my plea."

– Sebastian Constituent

"Thank you for your intervention on my behalf with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Viera. It took less than five days after your intervention for the VA to schedule my MRI appointment. My sincere gratitude and thanks again for your help."

– Cocoa Constituent

