

Legislative Update to Constituents

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

Dear Friend,

Every day I hear from constituents who feel that Washington just isn't listening to them, and I have to say I share their frustration. More and more it seems like heated partisan rhetoric, and powerful special interests, have hijacked important debates and decisions about our freedom and our future.

My top priority is to serve you and work to advance solid initiatives that benefit our district and nation. We have made great progress developing common-sense, bipartisan proposals to strengthen our local communities, our economy, and our national security. I would like to share some of those accomplishments with you.

Florida is growing, and it's encouraging that so many families and businesses are choosing to move to the Space and Treasure Coasts. We welcome their presence. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. We're here to serve you!

Sincerely,



P.S. Please take a few minutes to return the attached reply card – or provide your thoughts online at www.posey.house.gov/survey – to let me know what you think about these and other issues that are being considered in Washington. Also, for more information on Afghanistan or the budget debate, please visit my website www.posey.house.gov.



Congressman Posey recently talked legislative issues with constituents in Melbourne.

Posey Secures Legislative Win That Puts American Science Students First

In March, the House Science, Space and Technology Committee approved two amendments offered by Congressman Posey to strengthen research opportunities for American students studying STEM and whose research has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Posey's amendments were approved with bipartisan support and

incorporated into legislation which passed the House to authorize grant programs aimed at researchers who are just starting out. Posey said that over the years we have substituted American talent with global talent, and it's past time for that to change. We risk falling even further behind in cultivating our STEM talent if we don't prioritize American students.

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Congressman Posey is Working to Create Jobs, R

Posey's Bipartisan Plan Protects American Space Jobs and Keeps America First in Space

To protect America's leadership in space, Congressman Posey introduced the bipartisan *American Space Commerce Act* which provides incentives for American space firms to keep investing in America and launching from American soil. Unfair trade practices from nations like China and Russia that heavily subsidize space launches put the United States at a disadvantage.

Congressman Posey's bill helps America compete by extending existing space launch tax incentives for an additional ten years for companies that launch their payloads from the United States. A bipartisan companion bill has been introduced in the U.S. Senate. Posey said the bill will help free up more capital to allow American space companies to continue to invest in new technology and launch future space missions from the United States.



Congressman Posey delivers a legislative update on our Space Program to students at the Air Force's Air University.

Taking on the Washington Swamp

Too many people in Washington forget that working in Congress is first and foremost about serving the public. Left unchecked over the years, Washington has developed a culture that revolves around influence peddling and personal gain.



To keep the focus on public service, Congressman Posey has introduced legislation making Congress more accountable and transparent:

- **Ending Congress-Lobbyist revolving door** by banning retirement benefits for Members of Congress who become lobbyists (H.R. 417)
- **Imposing a 5-year ban on lobbying** for retired Members of Congress and senior staff (H.R. 414)
- **Ending the special death benefit** for Members of Congress (H.R. 412)
- **Government agency accountability** legislation requires federal agency rules to be reviewed by Congress every three years (H.R. 418)
- **Foreign Entanglement Disclosure Act** requires Members of Congress disclose family ties to foreign countries and companies (H.R. 661)
- **Read the Bill:** Passed what has become known as "the Posey Rule" into the rules of the House of Representatives to make legislation easier for the public to read
- **Transparency:** Requiring legislation to be publicly available for at least 72 hours before Congress votes on it (Adopted as House Rule)

Posey's Amendment to Confront China's Subversion of International Standards Advances

The House Science Committee adopted Congressman Posey's amendment to stop countries like China from gaming the system by co-opting and subverting international standards-setting bodies and placing the U.S. at a disadvantage. Posey's amendment maintains U.S. participation in international standards-setting bodies where appropriate, while providing guidance to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) regarding how those bodies it participates in should operate with respect to Chinese participation. Posey said that the foundation of all our work with international partners must include fairness for American companies.



Congressman Posey talks space issues with employees at the Lockheed Martin Star Center in Titusville.

Protecting Florida Citrus:



- ✓ Led bipartisan effort that was successful in repealing European tariffs on Florida grapefruit
- ✓ Secured fairness in adjusting the USDA nutrition programs to ensure inclusion of Florida citrus
- ✓ Opposing importation of Chinese citrus which may harbor dangerous citrus diseases

Restore Our Lagoon, and Advance Local Priorities

House Passes Posey's Bipartisan Lagoon Initiatives

In May, the House passed Congressman Posey's bipartisan **National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act** or **NEAR Act**, which fights coastal acidification and helps estuaries like our Indian River Lagoon. The **NEAR Act** directs the National Academies of Science Ocean (NOAA) Study Board to conduct a two-year

study examining the science of ocean acidification and its impact on our estuaries so we can better manage and mitigate its effects.

The House also passed bipartisan legislation cosponsored by Posey which directs NOAA to lead our coastal acidification research efforts and protects both wildlife and biodiversity from threats like acidification. Furthermore, Posey co-led bipartisan legislation (H.R. 2467), which also passed the House, to better protect drinking water from PFAS contaminants.



Estuary Caucus Update: Our Lagoon is critical to our economy and natural beauty. Congressman Posey co-founded the bipartisan Congressional Estuary Caucus to give our Lagoon a strong voice in Congress. The Caucus has achieved great results for our estuaries:

- ✓ Reauthorized the National Estuary Program to include increased funding and competitive grants that put more support behind local leadership
- ✓ Addressing PFAS chemical contaminants from military bases (H.R. 4241)
- ✓ Establishing safer standards regarding PFAS and PFOA contaminants in drinking water
- ✓ Secured \$10 billion for states to improve drinking water and wastewater utilities

Posey's Bill Protects Your Privacy and Reins in Big Tech



Data collection by large tech companies has become a multi-billion-dollar industry that can leave Internet users exposed to identity theft, online targeting and exploitation, and severe loss of privacy. Most Big Tech reform bills fail to protect your privacy. However, Congressman Posey has introduced legislation which makes protecting your privacy the top priority by:

- Giving individual consumers control of their online data and personal information
- Providing tools to limit or prevent data collection
- Gaining access to your own data and deleting your data
- Establishing your right to own your data
- Preserving states' authority to regulate online data collection
- Increasing competition from small Internet startups

Bipartisan Legislation Protects Americans from Foreign Contaminated Pharmaceuticals



Congressman Posey introduced his bipartisan **Safe Medicine Act** to end our reliance on foreign powers for important lifesaving pharmaceuticals and protect tens of millions of American patients from being subject to contaminated drugs from countries like China. Eighty percent of the drugs that Americans

depend on come from overseas - mostly China - whose pharmaceuticals have been subject to numerous recalls for contaminants.

Posey argues that our dependence on foreign suppliers gives countries like China dangerous leverage over the United States, allowing them to take full advantage of supply disruptions with few controls to safeguard against contaminated drugs and putting American patients in danger. Posey recently introduced additional bipartisan legislation establishing a commission to help Congress rebuild our domestic supply chain across all sectors of our economy.

Seniors Corner

A top priority for Congressman Posey is keeping our promises to senior citizens.

- ✓ Oppose changes in Social Security or Medicare for those in or nearing retirement
- ✓ Voted to prevent Medicare premium increases
- ✓ Working to reduce costs of insulin and other drugs while cutting Medicare red tape
- ✓ Authored and passed into law Seniors Tax Simplification Act
- ✓ Assisting patients at risk from osteoporosis (H.R. 3715)
- ✓ Lowering prescription drug prices under Medicare Part D (H.R. 3554)
- ✓ Protecting those with pre-existing conditions

Read more about my record and other important issues at www.posey.house.gov

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Presort Standard



Congressman Posey discusses flood insurance with members of the REALTORS Association of Indian River County.

Posey Leads Successful Effort to Protect Florida Travel Jobs

Congressman Posey reintroduced his bipartisan legislation to assist our local hotel and tourism industry by requiring the General Services Administration (GSA) to use pre-COVID data from 2019 when setting future government per-diem rates for federal travel for 2021 and 2022. Florida experienced a 40 percent drop-off from its 131 million visitors in 2019. Posey said past economic crises show it can take years for Florida's hotel and travel industry to recover, and this is one important way that the federal government can help struggling employers and their employees.

Posey, Rubio Team Up to Modernize Flood Mapping

Congressman Posey and U.S. Senator Marco Rubio have reintroduced their bipartisan legislation requiring certain federal agencies use their most current data to assist FEMA in updating floodplain mapping as part of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Posey, a longtime REALTOR® who serves on the House Financial Services Committee, said that many floodplain maps haven't been updated in 20 years, and this proposal would do that cheaper, faster, and more accurately while saving taxpayers and homeowners money. Posey succeeded in passing this bill through the House in a previous Congress and working with Sen. Rubio increases support in the Senate.

Need Help with a Federal Government Agency?

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

Help for Our Afghanistan War Veterans: Our military veterans and their families deserve our gratitude for their service and sacrifices. The VA established a hotline to assist veterans in crisis. If you are a veteran in need of assistance, or you know a veteran who needs help, you can encourage them to call the crisis hotline **1-800-273-8255, press 1, or text 838255.**

Congressman Posey is Fighting for Our Military Veterans

Honoring America's commitment to those who gave their lives in defense of a grateful nation, as well as caring for the families of the fallen and the needs of veterans who served alongside them in battle, is a commitment we must never allow to wane.

- Improving medical care for veterans affected by toxic exposure (H.R. 1355)
- Secured benefits for Vietnam-era Blue Water Navy veterans (Public Law 116-23)
- Meeting medical needs from burn pit exposure
- Fighting to end the veterans records backlog to speed benefits for our veterans
- Supported the **VA Accountability First Act** to hold VA employees accountable for performance or misconduct
- Enabling veterans to obtain identification cards from the Department of Veterans Affairs (Public Law 114-31)