

Legislative Update to Constituents

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

August 2023

Dear Friend,

Our nation is clearly headed in the wrong direction. You and I see it. Most Americans see it. But, sadly, the Washington Swamp is oblivious.

The latest Economist/YouGov poll shows just 25 percent think things are going well. I don't blame them.

Flawed energy policies have triggered high prices, years of overspending has brought record debt and inflation, there's chaos on our southern border, and federal agencies have been weaponized AGAINST fellow Americans.

House conservatives have been fighting back.

Until the new Republican majority took office six months ago, the Capitol Building had remained closed to the American people. We opened it and then voted to open ALL federal agencies, repeal ESG rules, pass a pro-America energy bill and advance real border security. We also created a Select Committee on Weaponization of Government to expose bad actors, end government censorship programs and stop the federal agencies from illegally targeting citizens.

We face an uphill battle on each of these with a liberal Senate majority and the Biden Administration, but I'll fight every day to roll back these failed policies piece by piece.

I hope you will take a few minutes to read about some of these efforts and others in this Update. Also, if you could share your thoughts with me on other issues before Congress, I would welcome the opportunity to hear from you. Please take a moment to fill out and return the attached survey reply card, or visit posey.house.gov/survey and share your thoughts with me there. This helps me know what you care about most.

Sincerely,



Congressman Posey receives the TRUE BLUE Award from Family Research Council's President, Tony Perkins, for his perfect 100% family-friendly voting record.

Follow Congressman Posey on social media: Twitter: [@CongBillPosey](https://twitter.com/CongBillPosey) and on GETTR: [@BillPosey](https://gettr.com/@BillPosey)

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Congressman Posey is Fighting Inflation, Protecting America



Congressman Posey recently took to the House floor to speak in support of passing the *REINS Act* and reforming federal rulemaking authority.

A Note on the Debt Limit

First, my position always has been, and remains the same: I believe that there shall be NO changes to Medicare or Social Security for those in or near retirement. Like Veterans benefits, these are earned benefits, and the federal government is obligated to pay them.

In 2010, then-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, said the national debt was “the greatest threat to national security.” At the time our national debt was \$13 trillion. Today it is \$32 trillion, and according to the New York Times, the new debt limit deal keeps us on a path toward \$50 trillion in debt by 2033, which is why I opposed that deal. Senate Democrats have already proposed legislation to bust the budget deal caps.

Growth of the national debt is driving inflation and impacts the purchasing power of your dollar. Consider that a monthly Social Security benefit of \$1,666 today has the same purchasing power of a \$1,224 monthly benefit from 2010, a loss of \$441 or a 26% decrease in value. Congress must stop kicking this can down the road and deal with this problem or our nation will eventually go bankrupt. This is why I voted against the debt limit deal.

Congressman Posey has been a leading voice for fiscal responsibility:

- ✓ Voted against 90 percent of all final spending bills
- ✓ Cosponsor of a Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment every Congress
- ✓ Oppose bloated omnibus/continuing resolutions and stimulus plans
- ✓ Named “Taxpayer Hero” by Citizens Against Government Waste for voting in Congress against reckless spending

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

Posey Leads Effort to Hold Chinese Solar Firms Accountable for Violating U.S. Trade Laws

Congressman Posey’s bipartisan legislation to support American solar manufacturers and workers and to hold the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) accountable for breaking our trade laws passed the House and Senate with bipartisan support only to be vetoed by the President.

Posey’s bill would have rescinded a recent White House policy, which even the Commerce Department found allowed CCP-owned and other foreign solar manufacturers to circumvent U.S. trade laws by delivering their products to the U.S. through third-party countries, all to the detriment of American companies and workers, while providing billions in direct relief to Chinese solar companies.

Congressman Posey is a leader in Congress protecting America from the far-reaching influence of China:

- ✓ **Ending Tainted Chinese Pharmaceuticals:** Introduced bipartisan *Safe Medicine Act* to end our reliance on China for lifesaving drugs and protect American patients from contaminated or ineffective pharmaceuticals.
- ✓ **Getting Answers to COVID-19 Pandemic:** Introduced the *Prepare Act* to expose the origins of the pandemic and hold China accountable.
- ✓ **Promoting CCP Transparency:** Passed legislation to make sure China plays by the rules and is transparent in international standards-setting bodies.
- ✓ **Defunding Chinese Research:** Introduced legislation to block over \$200 billion in American research tax dollars from the National Science Foundation from benefiting China’s state-owned companies and military.
- ✓ **Putting American Students First:** Passed amendment to ensure public post-graduate STEM research grants are awarded only to American students and institutions.
- ✓ **Bringing Jobs Back Home:** Introduced legislation to provide tax credits to U.S. companies that bring manufacturing jobs back on our shores.
- ✓ **Resisting Chinese Technology:** Blocking Chinese technology from being integrated into our energy and telecommunications grids.

Posey’s Election Security Agenda

Congressman Posey introduced his legislation, H.R. 3257, the *Election Integrity Act*, to make our election process more transparent and secure. Posey believes that transparency is the cornerstone of free and fair elections and is a principle that must be upheld. The *Election Integrity Act* secures elections by:

- ✓ Prohibiting voting equipment from connecting to the Internet
- ✓ Requiring that election equipment/software is made in America
- ✓ Prohibiting the use of propriety hardware/software that prevents audits

America and Holding the Washington Swamp Accountable

Protecting our Military from the Left's Radical Woke Agenda

Few agencies have been more impacted by the woke agenda than our military. With Congressman Posey's support, the House passed a *National Defense Authorization Act* that blocks mandates on our servicemembers to embrace woke causes and defunds social progressive policies.

- ✓ Bans Critical Race Theory teaching and activities
- ✓ Prohibits funding of drag shows and drag queen story hour
- ✓ Includes a Parents Bill of Rights for servicemembers with children
- ✓ Ends Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programs
- ✓ Prohibits taxpayer funding of abortion travel
- ✓ Focuses our military on national security, not a woke agenda

"Loving our country and being a patriotic American is NOT a crime."

– Congressman Bill Posey on the two-tiered system of justice

Protecting Our Privacy and Reining In Big Tech

Data collection by large tech companies has become a multi-billion-dollar industry leading Internet users to be exposed to identity theft, online targeting and exploitation, manipulation, and severe loss of privacy. To better protect our privacy rights on the Internet, Congressman Posey has introduced legislation which gives individual consumers control of their online data and personal information with tools to limit or prevent data collection, gain access to your own data, delete your data, and most importantly, the right to own your data. The legislation also preserves states' authority to regulate online data collection.

Posey's Drain the Swamp Agenda:

- ✓ **Foreign Entanglement Disclosure Act** requires Members of Congress to disclose family ties to foreign countries and companies (H.R. 661).
- ✓ **Ending Congress-Lobbyist revolving door** by banning retirement benefits for Members of Congress turned lobbyists (H.R. 417).
- ✓ **Imposing a 5-year ban on lobbying for retired Members of Congress and senior staff** (H.R. 414).
- ✓ **Government agency accountability legislation** requires federal agency rules to be reviewed by Congress every three years (H.R. 418).
- ✓ Cosponsored and voted for the *STOCK Act* to stop insider trading in Congress.



Posey: Demand Accountability for Dangerous, Chaotic Border Crisis

In 2006, the *Secure Fence Act* became law requiring the Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to take action to achieve operation control over our borders. The Trump Administration worked to fulfill this obligation, constructing and replacing 450 miles of border wall with hundreds of miles of additional wall under construction by the end of his term.

Under the Biden Administration, DHS Secretary Mayorkas terminated contracts for additional border wall despite funds being appropriated by Congress, leaving key portions of the southern border unsecure. According to U.S. Customs and Border Protection, over 6.5 million illegal aliens have since been encountered at the border and over 1.5 million have entered without detection.

The Biden Administration border policies have also empowered the drug cartels and human traffickers and allowed massive amounts of dangerous fentanyl to pour into our communities. According to CBP, almost 140 known terrorists have been apprehended at the border since last year, and who knows how many have escaped without detection.

In my view, President Biden, and Secretary Mayorkas, have failed to enforce the immigration and border laws of the United States, abandoned our border and the officers who patrol it, and are effectively allowing millions of individuals to enter (invade) the United States.

For these reasons I have introduced articles of impeachment for President Biden and cosponsored impeachment articles for Secretary Mayorkas. Additional actions I have taken to secure the border include:

- ✓ Supporting the *Secure Border Act of 2023*
- ✓ Working to restore Trump border-security-first initiatives
- ✓ Strongly oppose Biden policies of abandoning Trump's successful border security policies
- ✓ Introduced legislation enabling Americans to contribute to border wall/fence
- ✓ Ending the Visa Lottery Program which gives out 50,000 lottery entry visas a year regardless of skills or affiliations.
- ✓ Deporting criminal aliens (H.R. 2003)
- ✓ Earned top grade from NumbersUSA for voting to secure our borders

Congressman Posey is joined by U.S. Space Force General Chance Saltzman, Chief of Space Operations, to receive a briefing by Patrick Space Force Base Major General Stephen Purdy on Space Force's Range of the Future plan.



Paid for by official funds authorized by the House of Representatives.

“Boring But Important” ...

That’s what Politico called Rep. Posey’s effort to protect American inventors. Posey is a leading voice in the Congress for protecting the patent rights of American inventors from being stolen by Chinese Communist Party (CCP)-backed companies and large multinational corporations. America’s economic future will be determined by our ability to protect American inventors, and Posey’s leadership in this area includes:

- ✓ Leading a successful bipartisan effort to overturn Biden’s regulations that would have weakened patent rights
- ✓ Blocked patent-weakening legislation from being secretly added to the FY2022 *National Defense Authorization Act*
- ✓ Reforming PTAB to stop multinational corporations from stealing inventors’ patents and guaranteeing inventors the right to protect their inventions in U.S. courts, and
- ✓ Leading the fight in Congress against the CCP’s strategic efforts to co-opt international standards bodies to advantage Chinese companies at the expense of Americans.

House Approves Posey’s Domestic Heparin Production Initiative

Congressman Bill Posey’s initiative to reduce American dependence on Chinese production of heparin was adopted into the *National Defense Authorization Act* (NDAA). Posey’s initiative will allow for an American-made source of heparin, encourage private capital to drive domestic development of this essential lifesaving drug, and take serious steps to end America’s heparin shortage.

Heparin, which is currently sourced from pigs, is used daily by millions of Americans in dialysis, preventing blood clots, for surgeries and other medical procedures. In addition to controlling the production, China also subsequently bought up the U.S. pig supply and now controls almost 60 percent of the world’s pigs, which has had dangerous repercussions for American patients.

Working to Restore Servicemembers Discharged Over COVID Vax Mandate

Last year Congressman Posey successfully fought to rescind the military’s COVID-19 vaccine mandate for military servicemembers. This year Posey has cosponsored legislation (H.R.291 - *Vaccine Discharge Parity Act*) to ensure military servicemembers who were granted a general discharge under honorable conditions for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine are eligible for VA educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty and Post-9/11 GI Bill programs as well as certain loan fee rates through March 1, 2031, under the VA’s home loan program.



Congressman Posey receives the Phyllis Schlafly Friend of American Invention Award from the Eagle Forum Education & Defense Fund for his legislative efforts to protect the rights of American inventors.

Posey Legislation Prevents Foreign Adversaries Like China from Stealing Taxpayer-Funded Research

Every year U.S. taxpayers fund billions of dollars in scientific research grants, and they should be the ones to reap the benefits of that investment. Yet China and other foreign entities are gaining increased access to that research as third parties through lucrative deals worked out on the back end.

Despite several attempts to address the foreign influence problem in taxpayer-funded research, foreign nations are still attempting to influence and steal this research through our higher education institutions. Congressman Posey wrote the *GRANT Act* which lays out a process of accountability and transparency all the way from the grant recipient to Congress.

Posey is also leading the *Stop Funding Our Adversaries’ Research Act* which prohibits federal research agencies from carrying out certain activities with countries of concern, including China (including Macau and Hong Kong), Russia, Iran, North Korea, Cuba, and Venezuela. The bill does not grant any waiver authority to the executive branch but rather requires the agency to receive Congressional approval.

Need Help with a Federal Agency?

If you experience a problem dealing with a federal agency – Social Security, Medicare, the IRS, Veterans Affairs or any other, Rep. Posey and his staff are here to serve.

For assistance, please contact our local office at 321-632-1776.