

Legislative Update to Constituents

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

CONSTITUENT UPDATE

FEBRUARY 7, 2020

Dear Friend,

While the media has been consumed with reporting on partisan gridlock, we have managed to advance bipartisan initiatives to benefit those who call Florida home, creating jobs, supporting our military and promoting accountability. I would like to take a moment to share some of those accomplishments with you.



Rep. Posey talks space issues with KSC workers visiting Washington.

I don't think anyone wins when there is partisan gridlock and I will keep working with Democrats and Republicans alike to put the American people and their interests first. If we can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call 321-632-1776. It's an honor and a privilege to serve as your representative in Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill".

Bill Posey
Member of Congress

IDENTIFYING SCAMS

Don't Fall for Social Security Scams

There are a lot of robo-call scams going on claiming to be from a government agency like Social Security. Don't be fooled by these calls. Government agencies will not call you

unless you have specific business before them. There is a popular scam where the caller claims to be from Social Security, says your Social Security number has been “suspended” and makes threats to get more information from you. This is not a real call.



If you are not sure about a call (or an email) you received, hang up. Remember, do not give out money or personal information to callers (or email) you are not sure about. You can always call the agency directly. **Government agencies like Social Security may call you in some very limited situations but will never:**

- Threaten you,
- Suspend your Social Security Number,
- Demand immediate payment from you,
- Require payment by cash, gift card, pre-paid debit card, wire transfer,
- Ask for gift card numbers over the phone or to wire or mail cash.

If you need assistance, please feel free to contact my local office 321-632-1776. To report a Social Security scam, visit the Social Security Inspector General's website [HERE](#).

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Legislation Takes Action on PFAS Contamination

In December the House passed with Rep. Posey's support the ***PFAS Action Act of 2019*** (H.R. 535) which takes action on PFAS environmental contamination. PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are a group of man-made chemicals manufactured and used in a variety of industries and can be found in a wide range of consumer products. PFAS has now been confirmed in the water of more than 1,400 communities, including nearly 300 military installations, and studies have linked PFAS to serious health problems, including cancer.



The PFAS Action Act will mobilize a muscular response to PFAS under the ***Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act*** — it accelerates drinking water regulations, and provides robust funding to address and remediate PFAS impacts. The legislation builds on progress made in this year's National Defense Authorization Act, which prohibited the

use of PFAS containing firefighting foam on military bases. Last year Rep. Posey worked with residents and the Army Corps of Engineers to designate South Patrick Shores a Formerly Used Defense Site – a major step in remediation and fighting contamination.

EPA Funds Estuary Grant Program



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently set aside \$4 million to create a competition to fund initiatives of the National Estuary Program. In This is the result of Rep. Posey's bipartisan legislation which created this competitive grant program to help estuaries with urgent needs like our Indian River Lagoon obtain additional funding.

Under this program, the EPA formed a cooperative agreement with Restore America's Estuaries, a nonprofit alliance of coastal conservation groups, to administer a competition to provide local estuary programs with the opportunity to apply for additional funding for initiatives that will improve the health of their estuaries. Posey said that the emphasis on competition will help spur creative solutions that can be examined, shared and put to work in estuaries across the nation.

PUERTO RICO RECOVERY EFFORTS

Posey Visits Puerto Rico Following Destructive Earthquakes

Rep. Posey recently joined a small bipartisan Congressional Delegation to Puerto Rico to survey the damage caused by recent earthquakes. On December 28th Puerto Rico suffered a 4.4 magnitude earthquake, followed by a 6.4 magnitude quake on January 7th and a 6.0 magnitude earthquake another four days later.



Rep. Posey is briefed by emergency response officials in Puerto Rico.

Members of Congress were hosted by Puerto Rico's Resident Commissioner Jenniffer González-Colón (R-PR) and received briefings from FEMA, U.S. Geological Survey, Puerto Rico's Seismic Network and Bureau of Emergency Management. Although Puerto Rico is bordered by four fault lines, these were the first major earthquakes in over 100 years.

Geologists and seismologists say future events are completely unpredictable. "It's encouraging that many friends and family on the mainland are providing assistance and want to do more," said Rep. Posey.

DRAINING THE SWAMP

Posey Takes on Foreign Influence in Congress



As part of his drain the swamp initiative, Rep. Posey introduced several bills to help curb foreign influence over public policy and add more transparency to our election process. In February, Posey re-introduced his legislation to require members of Congress, and their family members, to disclose their foreign investments and other overseas business dealings. Transparency and accountability are critically important and this bill does that.

Posey's second proposal requires that former members of Congress and senior staff that pursue lucrative lobbying jobs on behalf of foreign governments forfeit their federal retirement benefits. Posey said that if we want to put an end to undue foreign influence we need more transparency and policies that keep the emphasis on service.

CONSTITUENT SERVICES

Need Help With A Federal Government Agency

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 local 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 or Washington office at 202-225-3671. We're here to serve you.

This update was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense. It is provided as a service to 8th Congressional District constituents.