

**From:** Rep. Bill Posey congressman.posey@mail.house.gov  
**Subject:** Rep. Posey's May 2020 Update & Survey  
**Date:** May 6, 2020 at 11:19 AM  
**To:** davidnrich@gmail.com

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# Legislative Update to Constituents

from U.S. Representative Bill Posey  
Florida's 8<sup>th</sup> District

CONSTITUENT UPDATE

MAY 6, 2020

Dear Friend,

I hope this update finds you and your family safe and healthy as we pull together as a nation to overcome challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic. I would like to get your thoughts on how things are going and what's important to you. [Please take a moment to answer my survey.](#)

Congress passed several bipartisan bills to fund initiatives to combat the virus and to provide broad economic relief to American families, workers and businesses in the near-term and to minimize long-term economic damage because of recent public policies to temporarily shut down economic activity and protect public health. Despite some flaws in this legislation – nothing in Washington is perfect – I believe the federal government needed to act to protect our nation, our families and our communities.

There's work that needs to be done to rebuild our nation in the months ahead, but Washington has been able to break the gridlock and advance solid bipartisan solutions. In fact, more than twenty of my legislative initiatives – most of them bipartisan – have been signed into law that benefit our district, support our economy, protect our freedom and hold Washington Accountable.

If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office. We're here to serve you!

Sincerely,



Bill Posey



Rep. Posey meets with the House Clerk to discuss implementing a new House rule he authored to make legislation easier for the public to read and understand.

**SPACE UPDATE**

**Posey Legislation Will Secure American Space Launch Preeminence**

The future of American space launch companies is threatened by increased subsidies from foreign governments. This harms American workers and U.S. companies, and it undermines our national security.



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

To combat this unfair trade practice and put American launch companies on a level playing field, Rep. Posey introduced the American Space Commerce Act, extending for a decade existing space launch tax incentives for companies that launch from American soil. There are unfair practices coming from China, Russia, India, and Europe, and Rep. Posey knows that a strong domestic space launch industry is in our national security interest.

“This bill bolsters our domestic space launch industry, keeps America first in Space and enhances our national security,” he said.

### ***CARES ACT Includes Posey’s Provision to Protect NASA and Defense Contract Worker Jobs and Pay***

Recently passed legislation to provide economic relief to American families, workers and businesses to help aid our nation through the coronavirus pandemic included a provision authored by Rep. Posey to protect NASA and Defense contract employees to ensure our nation’s space and defense workforce and programs remain intact.

Rep. Posey said contract workers at NASA and within the defense industry face severe financial hardship when they are restricted from reporting to work at the Space Center or their respective program locations – for many there’s no tele-work option. “As we battle the coronavirus we don’t want to risk losing our highly skilled workforce which ultimately could jeopardize our national security and critical space program investments. My provision keeps these work forces intact so that as we reopen they can go right back to work,” he said.

### ***TAKING ON CHINA***

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### ***Rep. Posey’s Bipartisan Bill Targets U.S. Dependence on Pharmaceuticals Produced in China***

Earlier this year, Rep. Posey introduced bipartisan legislation to break America’s dependence on pharmaceuticals produced overseas and protect Americans from contaminated foreign pharmaceuticals. Countries like China do not abide by our laws, putting at risk tens of millions of Americans who depend on life-saving medications.



Eighty percent of the drugs that Americans depend upon come from overseas countries, and China, whose pharmaceuticals have been subject to numerous recalls, is the largest manufacturer. In 2008 a Chinese-based pharmaceutical company pumped counterfeit blood-clot medication into our domestic markets, resulting in the death of 81 Americans with another 785 severely injured. Federal officials, afraid of creating a shortage, allowed Chinese-made heparin to continue to enter the country without inspecting it because there were no

other supply options.

Last year it was discovered that millions of Americans had been taking blood pressure medication tainted with a cancer-causing ingredient from China. The recent disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak only provide further evidence of the importance of reducing this threat to our health.

### ***Bill Stops Federal Retirement Investments in Chinese Companies***

A new bill cosponsored by Rep. Posey puts an end to investing billions of dollars in federal and military retirement funds in Chinese companies. Posey joined with Reps. Meadows, Waltz and several colleagues in introducing legislation (H.R. 5018/H.R. 6614), ensuring that retirement funds are not invested in entities that may be working against America like Chinese business firms associated with the Chinese military.

## ***LAGOON UPDATE***

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### ***Legislation Takes Aim at Local PFAS Contamination***

In December Rep. Posey supported House passage of 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 officially designate South Patrick Shores a Formerly Used Defense Site – a major step in remediation and fighting contamination.

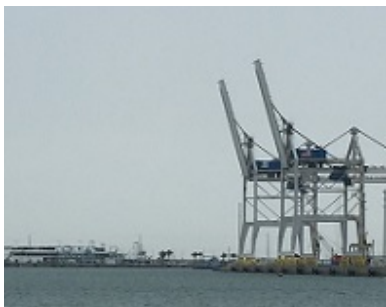


**Rep. Posey testifies before the House Appropriations Committee for strong funding for our National Estuary Program.**

## ***INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT***

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### ***U.S. DOT Awards Port Canaveral Infrastructure Grant***



The U.S. Department of Transportation recently awarded Port Canaveral at \$14 million infrastructure development grant in support of its efforts to modernize and expand its cargo operations. The grant funding will be used to redevelop Port Canaveral's North Cargo Berth 3 to accommodate larger ships simultaneously. Rep. Posey's office had been active in supporting the Port's grant application for the project, which Posey said when completed, will help pave the way for future job creation and economic activity. "Port Canaveral has

long been a vital component to the economy of the Space Coast and Central Florida,” said Rep. Posey.

Last year Rep. Posey worked to authorize and help secure funding to replace the Indian River Bridge which is critical infrastructure to maintaining our space launch capability.

### ***SALUTING OUR STUDENTS***

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#### ***Finalists in Congressional Art Competition Announced***

The 2020 Congressional Art Competition, entitled “An Artistic Discovery,” was held on April 29, 2020. Due to the coronavirus, this year’s competition was held remotely. The theme of this year’s artwork focused on the Lagoon.

Three finalists were chosen, and two entries were also selected for special recognition. This year’s winning piece, titled “The Promise” (pictured right) by Michael Spears of Master’s Academy will be displayed in the United States Capitol in Washington, DC.



“I commend all of the students who competed this year,” said Congressman Posey. “Creative thinking is at the center of innovation which leads to advancement and paves the way to a stronger future.”

[Click Here](#) for more on the Congressional Art Competition.

### ***CONSTITUENT SERVICES***

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#### ***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!

**P.S. Sign-up for regular email updates [HERE](#).**

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