

Dear Friend,

I wanted to update you on recent federal investments to create jobs, improve the quality of life, fight crime and stabilize property taxes right here in our community.

In a tough economy, Long Islanders face high taxes, a high cost of living and high energy costs. My job is to ensure that we get our fair share of federal funds. Whatever I can bring in from Washington means less of a burden on local property taxes.

Last Wednesday, President Obama signed into law the following important federal investments in our community that I secured as a member of the House Appropriations Committee:

- **Fighting Crime** – I secured \$300,000 for a gang prevention program based in Wyandanch. This adds to past funds that I have secured to fight crime and provide meaningful alternatives to young people in Huntington Station, Central Islip and elsewhere. We know that when a gang arises in any single neighborhood, it can soon spread throughout an entire community. Additionally, I secured \$300,000 to increase resources against sex offenders; and \$500,000 to combat hate crimes in our area.

- **Reducing Home Foreclosures** – When a home is in foreclosure, it reduces nearby property values and creates a community eyesore. I secured \$200,000 for an innovative foreclosure prevention and targeting program. The program will counsel homeowners on avoiding foreclosures; identify abandoned homes and clean them up; and rehabilitate foreclosed homes for sale to first-time homebuyers.

- **Creating Jobs** – Unemployment in the local construction trades is over 30%. And one of the fastest ways to put people to work is by investing in our infrastructure and supporting small business growth. That's why I secured \$850,000 to renovate ferry terminals in Bay Shore and Ocean Beach; and hundreds of thousands of dollars for various small business job training programs.

- **Reducing Health Costs & Improving Quality Care** – Medical professionals spend too much time on paperwork. I secured \$200,000 for local hospitals to upgrade their health information technology capabilities, improving health standards and creating high-tech jobs in our hospitals. I'm also proud to have secured \$100,000 for pregnancy services to help detect and treat postpartum depression; and \$100,000 for breast cancer support services in our community.

Bringing Federal Investments to Your Neighborhood

Monday, December 21, 2009

I target federal investments in areas that will lead to job creation and reduce energy costs; help veterans; improve the quality of life for my constituents, and stabilize local property taxes. And I REFUSE to seek so-called “earmarks” for profit-making corporations.

For ongoing information about my efforts, please visit my website at <http://israel.house.gov> .

Sincerely,

Steve Israel
Member of Congress