

Where Do Government Documents Go?

Friday, March 19, 2010

Dear Friend,

Do you know what happens to public government documents after the government is done using them? Even though this information is supposed to be public, most of the time it is locked away in a warehouse and never made easily accessible. To me, that's about as transparent as a nuclear missile silo.

This week I introduced legislation that will redefine "public" – the Public Online Information Act. My bill will require that all executive branch agencies make their public documents easily available online in a timely fashion and in user-friendly formats. Additionally, each government agency will be required to create a searchable catalog of all disclosed public documents, and an advisory committee will be created to help develop government-wide Internet publication policies. People across the country – from scholars to schoolchildren – will be able to see any public executive branch documents from the convenience of their computer.

For more information on the Public Online Information Act, you can visit my website at <http://israel.house.gov>.

Also, this Monday, March 22, at 10:30 AM, my office will be hosting a jobs fair. This event will give employers on Long Island who are hiring a chance to connect with local job seekers. The event will be at the IBEW Local 25 Headquarters at 370 Motor Parkway in Hauppauge. You can find more information on my website: <http://israel.house.gov>.

Sincerely,

Steve Israel
Member of Congress