



BROOKLYN'S IN THE HOUSE

NEWS FROM CONGRESSWOMAN YVETTE D. CLARKE

11th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Representing: Brownsville, Ocean Hill, Crown Heights, Greater Flatbush, East Flatbush, Kensington, Park Slope, Carroll Gardens, Prospect Heights, Prospect Gardens, Grand Army Plaza, Windsor Terrace, Flatbush and Midwood

May 28, 2010

Rep. Clarke Closely Monitors Unrest in Jamaica

On May 24, 2010, the Jamaican Government declared a state of emergency in portions of Kingston in response to police station attacks by gang members supportive of an alleged drug lord wanted by the United States.

My thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones and I am calling for the immediate end to the violence that has poured into the streets. It is my hope that the Government of Jamaica will do everything in its power to protect its citizens and ensure that order is restored as soon as possible.

The 11th Congressional District of New York is home to thousands of Jamaican immigrants and Americans of Jamaican descent. On behalf of my constituents, my office has been monitoring the situation very closely. We will remain in close contact with the U.S. State Department and the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative partners to see if there is anything that the U.S. can do, within reason, to assist the Jamaican Government in restoring peace and stability to the region.

According to the U.S. State Department, "U.S citizens should consider the risks associated with travel to and within the greater Kingston metropolitan area" For the full alert concerning travel to Jamaica visit: http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_jamaica.html

Bolstering Our Nation's Cybersecurity Infrastructure

As Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity, and Science and Technology, I hosted a Cybersecurity roundtable discussion on May 25, 2010, entitled, "The Path Towards Cybersecurity: Key Viewpoints on Critical Infrastructure Protection." This forum presented a unique opportunity for policymakers to dialogue with critical infrastructure protection and resilience experts, including members of the National Council of Information Sharing and Analysis Centers. It is clear that our nation's response to these significant cybersecurity challenges will have



Rep. Clarke Hosts Cybersecurity Roundtable on Capitol Hill

considerable economic and security implications. We must address these challenges and strengthen our cybersecurity practices without destroying the creative engines that drive our economy and spur innovation. While there may not be a silver bullet, we must do what we can to protect our critical cyber infrastructure. For this reason, roundtables, like this one, are critical to securing our cyberspace.



Dear Neighbor,

It is not too late to participate in the 2010 Census. If the Census Bureau did not receive your completed census form, as a courtesy, a census taker may briefly visit your home to assist with the completion of the form. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share your information with anyone, including other federal agencies, immigration authorities or law enforcement agencies.

The census taker will never ask to enter your home. If a census taker visits you, here's what you should do:

- Ask to see his/her ID. All census workers carry official government badges marked with just their name; they may also have a "U.S. Census Bureau" bag.
- If you're still not certain about their identity, please call the Census Bureau at (347) 328-2540 or (866) 861-2010 to confirm they are employed by the Census Bureau.
- Answer the census form questions for your entire household (you must be at least 15 years old to answer questions) so that the census taker can record the results for submission to the Census Bureau.

Let's do our part so that our voices are heard.

Sincerely,
Yvette D. Clarke

Rep. Clarke Hosts Academy Night

On Monday, June 7, 2010, Rep. Edolphus “Ed” Towns and I will host Academy Night from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at St. Francis College, Founders Hall Brooklyn, NY 11201. I want to extend an invitation to all high school students, parents, and educators to attend this event. As a Member of the House Education & Labor Committee, I have always pushed for our youth to excel academically by increasing access to the tools and opportunities that exist within and beyond our community.

Representatives from the United States Military, Naval, Air Force, Merchant Marine, and Coast Guard academies in addition to the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps will be in attendance to share information about the pathways to officership in the profession of arms and answer your questions. As Members of Congress, we are responsible for nominating qualified candidates for appointment to these academies with the exception of the United States Coast Guard Academy. Each academy offers a fully funded 4-year college education and additional scholarships. We owe it to our children to provide more choices for their academic success. I am encouraging you to support our youth and join us as we explore the educational opportunities that exist within our nation’s Service Academies.

Extending Unemployment Benefits and Spurring Job Creation

On Friday, May 28, 2010, Congress passed the House Amendment to the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010, H.R. 4213 which encourages continued job creation by:

- restoring credit to small businesses;
- extending tax incentives for American R&D and energy;
- rebuilding American infrastructure;
- expanding summer jobs for young people; and
- providing tax relief for middle class American families.

This legislation also focuses on extending unemployment insurance benefits, as well as extending health care benefits to those who have lost their jobs. The House Amendment contains the following important provisions:

- an extension of unemployment insurance;
- an extension of the TANF Emergency Fund to continue support for State subsidized employment programs for needy parents and youth;
- an extension of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act subsidies so that the Small Business Administration can continue certain lending programs with reduced fees and higher guarantees;
- additional resources to create summer jobs for youth;
- an extension of provisions that will support affordable housing and create jobs; and
- proposals to close international tax loopholes that currently allow companies to shift profits among overseas jurisdiction to lower their U.S. taxes.

I will continue to push for and support legislation that stimulates the creation of jobs for our citizens and provides the much-needed assistance to our families.

The Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate that allows for additional Federal support for State Medicaid programs, was not included in the bill for final passage. The increased FMAP rate will expire in December 31, 2010.

It is vital that we work to extend the FMAP rate. I will be working very closely with the New York Congressional Delegation as well as House leadership to ensure that this issue is addressed, and specifically that FMAP is extended through June 2011.

Legislative Spotlight

As the only New York City Member on the House Homeland Security Committee, I was happy to join the New York Delegation in a show of support for H.R. 847, The James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009 during a hearing where the bill passed out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. I thank all the 9/11 victim families and first responders for joining us in Washington in supporting this legislation.

H.R. 847 amends the Public Health Service Act and will provide medical monitoring and treatment benefits to eligible emergency responders as well as recovery and cleanup workers who responded to the World Trade Center (WTC) terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

This legislation also provides initial health evaluation, monitoring, treatment benefits to residents, building occupants and area workers who were directly impacted and adversely affected by the attacks.

This bill will also require the WTC program administrator to:

- implement a quality assurance program;
- establish the WTC Health Program Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee;
- establish the WTC Responders Steering Committee and the WTC Community Program Steering Committee;
- provide for education and outreach on services under the WTC program;
- provide for the uniform collection of data related to WTC-related health conditions;
- conduct research on physical and mental health conditions that may be related to the September 11 terrorist attacks; and
- extend and expand arrangements with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide for the World Trade Center Health Registry.

I will continue to work at the federal level, along with my colleagues in the New York Delegation, to ensure that the victims and heroes of 9/11 are provided the services that will assist in their healing process.