Home Heating Oil

It is hard to forget the plunging temperatures and sky-high oil prices of last winter...and we can’t ignore the fear we all have about this winter. While some say we need to develop a coherent long-term energy policy, in my view, the next Congress achieved some legislative victories: assisting grandparents raising their grandchildren, protecting the elderly from unnecessary medications, increasing the value of eligible section 8 vouchers to offset rising housing costs, and strengthening the Violence Against Women Act. I supported full funding of both the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the “Ryan White” programs for persons living with HIV/AIDS. We also obtained funds for important projects in the 8th District: improvements to the Whooley House planning for the Urban Ring, computer purchases for Roxbury Community College, rehabilitation of Symphony Hall, support for the Children’s Hospital, the Boston University Medical School, and the Harvard Institutes.

We fought to protect young women wishing to testify against criminals. We sought Medicare coverage for vision rehabilitation services and a new program to help families face the high costs of long-term care. As a result of the President’s veto of the Estate Tax repeal, a new program was created to help families and states provide health coverage for vision rehabilitation services. We filed an amendment prohibiting insurance companies from using a patient’s genetic information to raise premiums, a provision of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

First, I believe that the political process is a game. It is one of the reasons why the average person feels so alienated. Our country will transfer power peacefully once more. Our democracy is a work in progress and it takes cooperation, unity, and a shared purpose to make it work.

The new Congress is even more divided than the last - a tiny 5 seat margin in the House and an even smaller margin in the Senate. It will not be easy for Congress to find common ground amidst the hatred and vitriol that are so prevalent in Washington and across the country.

But, beyond school construction, there are some other measures the federal government can try again this year to split supporters of public education. I have noted the many projects in the 8th District: improvements to the Muddy River, planning for the Urban Ring, community colleges, and the proposed federally funded school construction. We will continue to work on the issues of most concern to my constituents and our children first in Massachusetts.
Every day, constituents call our office seeking some sort of assistance. In fact, helping individuals with their problems is the main focus of government - real people have real problems, and sometimes, they need help. The requests we get cover every aspect of life - from the mundane to the extraordinary. We thought a few stories might give you a sense of our work. We have deleted particulars to maintain the constituents’ privacy.

Human Rights
One of our most satisfying cases involved rescuing the young daughter of a legal permanent resident of the United States from female genital mutilation. The mother was forced to leave her family behind when she fled persecution and wanted desperately to save her child from this barbaric custom. This case is in- fluenced by some tribes when a girl reaches puberty. We thought a few stories might give you a sense of our work. We have deleted particulars to maintain the constituents’ privacy.

Business Assistance
Over the past few years, the City of Chicago stabilized its fiscal situation. Much of their recovery was based on aggressive business development efforts. An important part of that effort was the creation of a new hotel - both for its economic and symbolic value. Several other developers are planning to build new hotels in the city. The city leaders asked for our assistance. Acting as mediators, we got all parties to reconsider their decisions and move forward. Happily, the project is now on track.

Housing and the Elderly
Working together with other members of the Massachusetts delegation, we changed federal law to save 18 seniors, some of them Holocaust survivors, can now stay in their homes. One of our most satisfying cases involved rescuing the young daughter of a legal permanent resident of the United States from female genital mutilation. The mother was forced to leave her family behind when she fled persecution and wanted desperately to save her child from this barbaric custom. This case is influenced by some tribes when a girl reaches puberty. We thought a few stories might give you a sense of our work. We have deleted particulars to maintain the constituents’ privacy.

Veterans
With the passage of a landmark law to help veterans, the value of those vouchers had not increased since 1995, even though their rents continued to rise. Under the new law, these 18 seniors, some of them Holocaust survivors, can now stay in their homes. One of our most satisfying cases involved rescuing the young daughter of a legal permanent resident of the United States from female genital mutilation. The mother was forced to leave her family behind when she fled persecution and wanted desperately to save her child from this barbaric custom. This case is influenced by some tribes when a girl reaches puberty. We thought a few stories might give you a sense of our work. We have deleted particulars to maintain the constituents’ privacy.

Health Care
Whether the subject is community health centers, the Patients Bill of Rights, prescription drug coverage, or biomedical research, I am constantly working on health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues. I have been involved in a number of congressional hearings in the past year on a variety of health care issues.