



CONGRESSWOMAN

# NITA LOWEY



## ***New Congress Addresses Critical Priorities in First 100 Hours***

With a new Majority, Congress is taking our country in a new direction. In the first 100 hours of debate this year, the U.S. House of Representatives was once again the People's House, acting swiftly to address many of the toughest challenges facing

American families. Congresswoman Nita Lowey was proud to vote for vital legislation to:

- ▲ Reduce the cost of prescription drugs for seniors;
- ▲ Expand medical research;
- ▲ Lower the costs of college loans;

- ▲ Implement the 9/11 Commission's recommendations; and
- ▲ Reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

In this newsletter, you'll find more information about these and other priorities Lowey is fighting for in Congress.

### ***Focusing on Our Health***

Congresswoman Lowey supported a bill last month to **lower prescription drug costs** for seniors in Medicare Part D. It would require the federal government to use the purchasing power of 42 million Medicare beneficiaries to negotiate lower drug prices.

She also supported an expansion of federal **stem cell research**. American families struggling to recover from debilitating diseases deserve the promise of the cures this cutting-edge research can provide.

Lowey will continue fighting to provide affordable health care coverage for every American family.



***Last year, legislation authored by Congresswoman Lowey was passed to rename the Tuckahoe Post Office after Ronald "Ronnie" Bucca, a local resident and NYC firefighter who lost his life on September 11th. She joined his family at the dedication and renaming ceremony.***

## **Lowey Hails Bipartisan Reform**

Congresswoman Lowey supported the first bill passed by the new Congress to restore integrity, bipartisanship, and fiscal responsibility in the U. S. House. For too long, Washington has been divided by our differences rather than united in our goals.

"By working together, Congress can take America in a new direction to bring our troops home from Iraq, to lower the costs of health care, college, and energy, and to secure our nation," she said.

# Troop Escalation is the Wrong Course in Iraq

Congresswoman Lowey recently returned from a trip to Iraq, where she visited American troops who are risking their lives. She also met with Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki and urged him to lead his country to the political solutions that will end the strife in Iraq.

Now more than ever, she believes sending more Americans to be targets of the Iraqi insurgency will not resolve Iraq's civil war. It's time for the President to embrace an approach that holds the Iraqi government responsible for its nation's future, includes other nations in a regional solution, and brings our troops home to their families. Lowey is holding hearings to demand answers from Administration officials about spending in Iraq for which there has been too little oversight by Congress.

*Congresswoman Lowey talked with U.S. troops during her trip to the Middle East about the challenges they face in serving our nation.*



## 9/11 Commission Implementation Act Includes Vital Lowey Provisions

Five years after our nation was struck by terrorists on September 11th, Congress finally passed the full recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. This bill includes several measures by Congresswoman Lowey:

- Increased homeland security funds for New York based on risk-based assessments;
- Improved intelligence and information sharing with local law enforcement agencies;
- Worker protections to strengthen the air security workforce; and
- Federal grants for first responder communications equipment.

## Lowey Assigned to Powerful Posts

Congresswoman Lowey has been appointed to a number of key positions in the 110th Congress. On the Appropriations Committee, she is the new Chairwoman of the State Department and Foreign Operations Subcommittee and serves on the subcommittees responsible for funding homeland security, education, health, and labor initiatives.

A Member of the Homeland Security Committee, Lowey was also appointed to the new Select Intelligence Oversight Panel where she will fight to ensure that our intelligence efforts are part of a comprehensive national security strategy.



*Congresswoman Lowey joined Haverstraw Town Supervisor Howard Phillips, Police Chief Charles Miller and other police officers and elected officials to announce \$40,000 in federal funds she secured for new equipment for the force. Since September 11th, she has helped to secure over \$30 million in federal funds for local homeland security efforts.*

## Lowey Fights to Keep Kids Safe Online

While technology has provided us with many conveniences, it has put our youngest citizens at increased risk. Recent research indicates that one in seven children is solicited online, and 34% have had unwanted exposure to sexual material.

Congresswoman Lowey is fighting to protect our children from those seeking to harm them through the Internet. A Member of the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, she has voted for increased penalties for child predators and a national registry of sex offenders to help communities and families protect their children.

## Fighting for Energy Independence

Congress passed legislation last month to put America on the track to energy independence. Congresswoman Lowey supported the CLEAN Energy Act to:

- ▲ repeal \$14 billion in subsidies for Big Oil companies that are raking in record profits,
- ▲ invest in clean, renewable energy and efficiency, and
- ▲ establish a new Strategic Renewable Energy Reserve to implement a long-term energy independence strategy.

"American families deserve relief from the high gas and energy prices in recent years," Lowey said. "Through conservation, efficiency technology, and research and development of alternative sources, we can relieve our nation's dependence on foreign oil."

Lowey is the author of legislation to provide small businesses and homeowners energy audits to help identify cost-saving measures and to extend tax credits for use of alternative energy sources.

## Congress Acts to Reduce College Tuition Burdens

Tuition at four-year public colleges has risen 40% since 2001, and two-thirds of students graduate from college with an average of \$17,500 in debt. We must relieve this increasing burden on our families.

New legislation passed by Congress would make college more affordable and accessible for our families. The College Student Relief Act of 2007 would cut in half the interest rates on federal student loans over the next five years. Congresswoman Lowey is also fighting to increase Pell Grants and to make college tuition and expenses fully tax deductible.



*Congresswoman Lowey talked with Yonkers residents about issues of concern during Neighborhood Office Hours last spring.*

# VISITING WASHINGTON, DC



If your family or school is planning to visit the nation's capital this Spring, Congresswoman Lowey's office might be able to help. Visit [www.house.gov/lowey](http://www.house.gov/lowey)



and click on the "Visiting DC" link for helpful tour information and to request a reservation for a Capitol Tour.

**Visit**  
[www.house.gov/lowey](http://www.house.gov/lowey)  
**Today!**

**Congresswoman Lowey's website provides helpful information for the 18th District including:**

- ▲ policies affecting our families
- ▲ recent news
- ▲ contact information for her offices
- ▲ constituent services provided by her district office
- ▲ internship applications

## Sign up for E-mail Updates

If you would like to receive regular e-mail updates from Congresswoman Lowey, please visit her website at [www.house.gov/lowey](http://www.house.gov/lowey) to complete the online sign-up form. You may also complete this form and mail it to her office at one of the addresses below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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