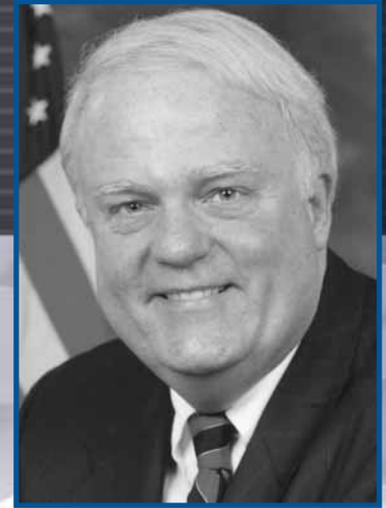


Congressman **Jim Sensenbrenner**

# News From Congress

Number 174 – March 2007



## Environment and Economy go Hand-in-Hand

I have been named the ranking Republican on a newly formed Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. This panel, headed by Massachusetts Democrat Edward Markey has no legislative responsibilities, but has subpoena power and a budget of over \$1 million a year, much of which was taken away from the House Ethics Committee. I voted against creating this Committee and for giving the Ethics Committee the money used to fund it.

Other committees of Congress are perfectly able to craft legislation and work to enact it into law. However, now that the Markey Committee has been created, I will vigorously demand that it look into the impact that any legislation will have on costs to consumers and American jobs.

Nearly nine years ago, when I chaired the House Science Committee, the head of the Energy Information Agency, who was a direct appointee of President Clinton, testified that US compliance with the Kyoto Global Warming treaty would raise the cost of electricity, natural gas and fuel oil by 60% to 80%, and the cost of gasoline by 60 cents per gallon. These costs would be devastating to consumers, particularly seniors on fixed incomes.

Further, since major trade competitors such as China, Mexico and India are exempt from the Kyoto treaty and have repeatedly stated they have no intention whatsoever of reducing emissions, any bill which ignores the economic consequences of its passage will devastate our economy,

particularly in the manufacturing sector, and cause a huge outsourcing of jobs to third world countries.

Perhaps that's why President Clinton never sent the Kyoto treaty to the Senate for ratification. There is a way to protect the environment without fleecing consumers and throwing thousands out of work. For this panel to be effective, there are two climates it will have to be concerned with - one environmental, and the other economic. There is no question of one or the other; we can, and must, have both. I'll be sure to work for a proper balance on this committee.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**To write about issues or request publications, contact me at:**

2449 Rayburn Building, Washington, DC 20515-4905  
TEL: (202) 225-5101

**To get help with federal agencies, contact me at:**

120 Bishops Way, #154, Brookfield, WI 53005-6294  
TEL: (262) 784-1111

**Outside Metro Calling Area: (800) 242-1119**

E-Mail: <http://sensenbrenner.house.gov/contactform>

Website: <http://sensenbrenner.house.gov>

*Reminder...*

**Office Hours &  
Town Hall Meetings**

*Back page*



# Looking out for our Fire Departments

This year already, there have been several fire departments throughout the 5th Congressional District that have secured grant awards from the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG). I have welcomed the news of these awards because the grants are given directly to local fire departments for the purpose of supporting operations, safety, training, firefighter health, and vehicle acquisition. This is an appropriate way to allow local communities to address their most pressing needs with regard to their fire departments.

These grants will be used to enhance the safety of firefighters with the purchase of new, state-of-the-art items, such as personal

protective equipment and thermal imaging cameras. In addition, Brookfield will use this money to provide a training program for continued education for its firefighters to include combat tactics and refined skills.

I congratulate these fire departments on their awards. The brave men and women who protect us must be ready to meet the ever-changing challenges in these growing communities. I am pleased that so many local fire departments have been successful in securing these grants and I will continue to support other departments as they seek funds through the AFG. When firefighters are safer, it follows that communities are safer.



Congressman Sensenbrenner pictured with members of the Slinger Fire Department, which received a grant award from the Department of Homeland Security earlier this year.

## Grants Awarded to 5th District Fire Departments in 2007

- Community of Brookfield - \$40,770
- Slinger Fire Department - \$95,499
- Wales Genesee Fire Department - \$111,773
- West Bend Fire Department - \$108,603

## FLAGS FLOWN OVER THE US CAPITOL

A new United States flag with a personally signed certificate marking the day it flew over the U.S. Capitol is available at cost (including postage) from my office. If you would like to place an order, please make your check or money order payable to "SENSENBRENNER OFFICE SUPPLY ACCOUNT" and send it along with this order form to the address below. Please allow 4 to 8 weeks for processing and delivery of your order. **Limit 3 per household.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

*Send order to:*  
**SENSENBRENNER OFFICE SUPPLY ACCOUNT**  
 120 Bishops Way, #154  
 Brookfield, WI 53005-6294

Number	Size	Price	Total
	3' x 5' nylon	\$17.02	\$
	4' x 6' nylon	\$21.52	\$
	5' x 8' nylon	\$26.02	\$
Grand Total			\$

Please place your order **promptly** to purchase flags at these prices. If the flag office of the U.S. Capitol makes any changes to these prices, I will be required to return your check as they have to be made out in the exact amount. Please consult my homepage at <http://sensenbrenner.house.gov> for the latest prices.

# Tax Relief for Tax Time

With April 17 right around the corner, taxes are on everyone's minds these days. The new Democratic majority in Congress has already indicated its desire to roll back much of the tax relief enacted in previous Congresses under the Republican majority. In keeping with that theme, and reflecting my commitment to Wisconsin principles of a smaller government with fewer taxes, I have cosponsored the following bills to help ease the burden on Wisconsin taxpayers:

## Adoption Tax Relief Guarantee Act

Makes permanent the \$10,000 child adoption tax credit, which is set to expire in 2010. Costs that may be covered include: attorney's fees, reasonable and necessary adoption fees, court costs, traveling costs, and other costs directly relating to the legal adoption of an eligible child.

## AMT Repeal Acts - Individual and Corporate

Two bills - one that eliminates the Alternative Minimum Tax on individuals, the other on corporations.

## Capital Gains Inflation Relief Act

Eliminates the tax on inflation for capital gains taxes.

## Education Improvement Tax Cut Act

Provides a \$5,000 tax credit for contribution to K-12 scholarships or for in-kind donations to instructional materials and/or materials for extracurricular activities, to public, private or home schools.

## Expensing Property Expands our Nation's Strong Economy Act (EXPENSE Act)

Creates incentives for American businesses to reinvest in their companies, employees and new equipment by eliminating the present system of asset depreciation.



Representative Sensenbrenner is presented with the Taxpayers' Friend Award for 2006 by the National Taxpayers Union because of his voting record to reduce and control the tax burden on American taxpayers.

## Family Education Freedom Act

Provides a \$5,000 tax credit for K-12 education expenses for parents with children in public, private, or home school.

## Health Care Freedom of Choice Act

Allows individuals to deduct 100 percent of their medical costs, including health care premiums from their taxes.

## Parents Tax Relief Act

Makes the Child Tax Credit Permanent; Universalizes the Dependant Care Credit to apply to stay-at-home parents as well as families utilizing commercial day care; Eliminates the Marriage Penalty Tax; Creates a Telecommunication Tax Credit to help parents spend time at home with their children; and Increases the personal tax exemption to help families care for children and elderly relatives.

## Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act

Would permanently extend the moratorium on Internet access taxes.

## Tax Code Termination Act

Would eliminate the Internal Revenue Code and force Congress to act on tax reform by requiring a new, simpler, federal tax system.

## Tax Relief for Families Act

Would repeal the Estate Tax and make permanent the following: Child Tax Credit, Marriage Penalty Relief, College Tuition Deduction, State and Local Sales Tax Deduction, and School Teach Expense Deduction.

## Timber Tax Act

Allows a deduction for qualified timber gains.

# You're Invited...

I host scores of Town Hall Meetings and Office Hours to provide you the chance to express your views on the issues before Congress or to help you with problems you may be experiencing in dealing with a federal agency. This newsletter includes my schedule of meetings for the next several weeks, and I invite you to attend one or more of them. Whether you need help or not, I hope you'll stop by to say hello and introduce yourself. Please contact my District office if you require special accommodations to attend.

## Office Hours

### Monday, April 2nd

9:00am . . . . Bayside Village Hall  
9:45am . . . . Fox Point Village Hall  
10:30am . . . . River Hills Village Hall  
11:30am . . . . Saukville Village Hall  
1:15pm . . . . Belgium Village Hall  
2:00pm . . . . Fredonia Village Hall

### Wednesday, April 4th

8:30am . . . . Kewaskum Village Hall  
9:30am . . . . Addison Town Hall  
10:15am . . . . Polk Town Hall  
11:15am . . . . Sussex Village Hall  
12:45pm . . . . Lannon Village Hall  
1:30pm . . . . Butler Village Hall

### Friday, April 13th

8:30am . . . . Helenville Fire Hall  
9:15am . . . . Sullivan Village Hall  
10:00am . . . . Palmyra Village Hall  
11:00am . . . . Dousman Village Hall  
11:45am . . . . Genesee Town Hall  
12:30pm . . . . Wales Village Hall  
2:00pm . . . . Nashotah Village Hall  
2:45pm . . . . Merton Town Hall  
3:30pm . . . . Merton Village Hall  
4:15pm . . . . Pewaukee Village Hall

## Town Hall Meetings

### Saturday, March 31st

9:00am Pewaukee City Hall  
1:00pm Thiensville Village Hall

### Sunday April 1st

1:00pm West Bend City Hall

### Monday, April 2nd

7:00pm Port Washington Police Department

### Saturday, April 14th

9:00am Mequon Safety Building  
1:00pm Wauwatosa Public Library

### Sunday, April 15th

1:00pm Richfield Town Hall

### Saturday, April 28th

9:00am Grafton Village Hall  
1:00pm Waukesha Public Library

### Sunday, April 29th

1:00pm Oconomowoc City Hall

### Saturday, May 5th

9:00am New Berlin City Hall  
1:00pm Hartland Village Hall

### Sunday, May 6th

1:00pm Shorewood Village Hall

### Sunday, June 10th

7:00pm Brookfield Safety Building

### Sunday, June 24th

7:00pm Delafield City Hall

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-4905

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

This mailing was prepared, published  
and mailed at taxpayer expense.

It is provided as a service to  
5th Congressional District constituents.



PreSorted Standard  
CAR-RT SORT

MC