



**Congressman**  
**G.K. BUTTERFIELD**  
*1st District of North Carolina*



### Contact Information

WASHINGTON, DC  
413 Cannon HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-3101 Phone  
(202) 225-3354 Fax

NORTH CAROLINA  
Wilson District Office  
216 West Nash Street  
Wilson, NC 27893  
(252) 237-9816 Phone  
(252) 291-0356 Fax

Weldon District Office  
311 West 2nd Street  
Weldon, NC 27890  
(252) 538-4123 Phone  
(252) 538-6516 Fax

Williamston District Office  
415 East Boulevard  
Williamston, NC 27892  
(252) 789-4939 Phone  
(252) 729-8113 Fax

## Energy Independence Legislation

The House passed a historic and sweeping bill to put us on a path toward energy independence this week.

Approved by a 235 to 181 vote, the legislation will strengthen our national security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil, lowering energy costs, growing our economy, creating new jobs and beginning to address global warming.

The cornerstone of the Energy Independence and Security Act increases the fuel efficiency of vehicles to 35 miles per gallon by 2020. This is the first increase in a generation and is supported by environmentalists, labor groups and the automobile industry (CAFE). This provision will save American families \$700 to \$1,000 per year at the pump with \$22 billion in net annual consumer savings in 2020.

- Lowering consumer energy costs – The bill requires for the first time that 15% of our electricity come from renewable sources saving consumers. It will save consumers \$440 billion through landmark new energy efficiency standards through 2030 for a wide range of products, appliances, lighting and buildings.

- Creating new jobs – The bill will create new jobs, with the investment in renewable energy through tax incentives for solar, wind, biomass, and geothermal technologies and cutting-edge energy research.

### In This Week's Issue:

- Energy Independence
- E. C. Coast Guard
- Goldsboro's P. O.

It will create good paying jobs in rural communities across the country through a historic commitment to biofuels, training workers for 3 million new "green" jobs over the next 10 years and will make small businesses leaders in renewable energy.

- Strengthening our national security – Reducing oil consumption by more than 4 million barrels a day in 2030, through the CAFE standard and a historic commitment to American-grown biofuels.

- The bill overall will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 35 percent of what is needed by 2030 to save the planet.

- \$50 million to fuel minority renewable energy research – The bill also includes an important provision that I put forward during markup which designates \$50 million to fuel renewable energy research at minority colleges and universities.

Far too often, minority institutions have been overlooked when it comes to research funding. As the research needed to expand renewable energy sources moves forward, this funding ensures that minority institutions are provided the opportunity to be part of the effort.

During committee markup on the bill in June, I spearheaded the successful effort to designate the funding to establish 10 "Centers of Excellence" at 10 Historically Black colleges or universities, 1890 Land Grant institutions, Hispanic serving institutions or Tribal serving institutions.

Recipients will be chosen by the U.S. Department of Energy and each would receive \$5 million for research in bio-fuels and cellulosic ethanol as renewable transportation fuels.

The centers would collaborate with the three recently announced DOE's Bioenergy Research Centers. This week, DOE announced it will invest \$375 million in three centers intended to accelerate basic research in the development of cellulosic ethanol and other biofuels from switchgrass, poplar trees and corn stalks, among other things.

North Carolina is a natural choice because it has such an abundance of biomass and cellulose materials like switch grass, wood chips and bark. North Carolina A&T has great potential for the research funding because of the institution's tremendous reputation in agricultural research and because it would enhance the work already being done there.

The funding is especially important because of how often minority institutions are left out when it comes to federal research funding. As an example, Butterfield pointed to a Government Accountability Office study conducted in 2003 which indicated that 1890 Land Grant institutions received less than 2 percent of the competitive funding available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Research into cellulosic fuels is extremely critical due to the increasing reliance on corn in producing ethanol. More than 100 ethanol plants have sprung up across the country as investments in alternative fuel increase, according to the Renewable Fuels Association, a trade group for ethanol producers.

The increased demand for corn has driven up prices for other commodities as farmers dedicate fewer acres to crops such as beans and grain. Farmers continue to see higher costs for feed and everyone is seeing higher prices at the grocery store. From milk to hamburgers to pizza to ice cream, there's a huge variety of foods that rely on corn in some way. Rising corn prices affect everyone.

Successful research into alternatives to corn ethanol would relieve some of the demand.

The Senate must now approve the bill so that it can go before President Bush to be signed into law.

## Tour of E.C.'s Coast Guard Station

Last Friday, Congressmen David Price and Elijah Cummings joined me for a tour of the Coast Guard Air Station and DRS Technologies' facility in Elizabeth City to learn more about how the private-public partnership is helping to safeguard national defense.

Congressman Cummings chairs the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee which oversees the operations of the Coast Guard and its \$8 billion-a-year budget, and Congressman Price chairs the Appropriations Subcommittee which oversees homeland security issues.

Coast Guard Adm. Thad W. Allen, the highest-ranking member of the Coast Guard, headed the tour and we were joined by Elizabeth City City Manager Rich Olson, Pasquotank County Commissioner Lloyd Griffin, Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Regional Airport Manager Scott Hinton and DRS General Manager Jeff Berry.

The tour included a briefing on the planned \$10.4 million Elizabeth City Aviation Research and Development Commerce Park, which is expected to create several hundred new jobs and expand Elizabeth City State University's aviation science program.

We also learned more about DRS Technologies, which recently announced plans to expand and become the first tenant at the 187-acre airpark, which will be located on Consolidated Road near both the airport and Coast Guard base.

The six-hour visit included tours of all of the facilities including the Coast Guard Station, Coast Guard Support Center, Air Station, Aircraft Repair and Supply Center, Aviation Technical Training Center, Rescue Center Training Facility and the future site of the new \$13.3 million Rescue Center Training Facility.

The visit provided an excellent opportunity for important decision-makers to see the excellent and important work being done in Elizabeth City.



Congressman Butterfield (L) visits Coast Guard Station Elizabeth City with Admiral Allen and Congressmen Price and Cummings.

## Goldsboro's P.O. Named in Honor of Phil Baddour, Sr.

Legislation naming Goldsboro's Post Office in honor of former City Councilman Philip A. Baddour, Sr. has been signed into law.

It's a great honor for a deserving person. Phil Baddour was a wonderful public servant who truly understood the importance of assisting anyone in the community who needed help regardless of status, race or economic situation.

In August, I offered legislation naming Goldsboro's main Post Office at 200 North William Street in honor of Mr. Baddour and his long commitment to the community. The legislation was co-sponsored by North Carolina's entire U.S. House delegation, and it was signed into law by President George Bush last Friday.

In October, I also offered legislation naming Goldsboro's Post Office at 3100 Cashwell Drive in honor of educator and former County Commissioner John Henry Wooten, Sr. I expect approval of that bill by year's end.

A copy of the legislation signed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senate President Pro Tem Harry Reid and President Bush will be sent to the Post Office for display.

Mr. Baddour was a downtown merchant for over 30 years and served on the Goldsboro City Council from 1979 until 1995. Upon his retirement from the City Council, Mr. Baddour was honored with a key to the city of Goldsboro and a resolution from the North Carolina League of Municipalities for his years of public service. Then-Gov. James Hunt also honored Mr. Baddour as a recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Mr. Baddour served as director of Wayside Fellowship and was the recipient of the Cancer Society's Outstanding Crusade Volunteer Award. He was also active in the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts of America. He was a lifelong member of the St. Mary Roman Catholic Church and served as chairman of the Parish Council.

Mr. Baddour passed away in 2002.