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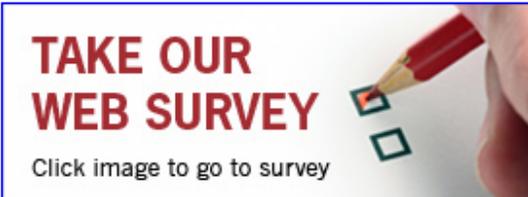
Last week was a busy one in Washington as the House and Senate continued work on funding the war. Tuesday, House and Senate leaders announced that a “compromise” had been reached on their troop funding bill. The “compromise” is nothing more than an ill-conceived proposal that sends a negative message to our brave troops on the frontlines. The Democrats’ proposal, which passed both the House and Senate later in the week, requires the withdrawal of U.S. combat troops to begin by October 1, 2007 at the latest, and sets a goal of April 1, 2008 for a complete pullout. By passing this legislation with an arbitrary deadline, Democrats are compromising the security of our troops and Americans here at home. When the time comes for our brave men and women in uniform to get the resources and reinforcements they urgently need, partisanship should not stand in the way of our duty to stand by our troops. Failure has never been in the vocabulary of an American warrior, and we should not start using it now. The President is set to receive this legislation early this week, and has promised to veto this bill. I hope that we can get back to the business of supporting our troops and finalize a proposal that meets the needs of our troops once this bill is vetoed. [Click here](#) to listen to my podcast on this issue.



Last week, the Medicare and Social Security Trustees released their annual report recognizing the strong need for Congress to address entitlement reform. They made it clear that both Medicare and Social Security are dying a slow death. Runaway entitlement spending is irresponsible, will cause massive tax hikes for hard working Americans, and puts Medicare and Social Security at risk of extinction. It is imperative that these important programs be preserved for our children and grandchildren. It is past time for Democrats and Republicans in Congress to heed the advice of the trustees, come to the table, and provide for real reform of Social Security and Medicare now.

In some good news, the House passed the Small Business Administration Act ([HR 1332](#)) last week. This bill creates four new Small Business Administration loan programs aimed at start-up businesses or business expansion. This legislation is important to the rural communities in District 11, as it increases access to loans for underserved groups and areas. It also creates new programs to provide loans of up to \$250,000 to businesses in low and moderate income areas. I voted in favor of this bill and am encouraged by the changes made to impact rural communities.

Finally, I want to extend my thanks to everyone who participated in the telephone survey I conducted last week. Your opinions are incredibly valuable to help me represent you better in Washington. Throughout the week, I was made aware of some calls that did not go through correctly, hanging up on some of you. In trying new technologies to communicate with you, some are not perfect and I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you or your family. If you were not able to take the survey, please [Click Here](#) to take it and the results will be added to our totals. We had an overwhelming response, and the survey was a great success. [Click here](#) to view the preliminary telephone survey results. Thank you for your participation.



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Thank you for reading the Conaway Chronicle. We will be back with you next week with another update from Washington.

The Conaway Chronicle will be issued every Monday or Tuesday when Congress is in session. I hope that you will find it informative and will continue to stay informed with my recent legislative activities in Washington. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for future issues of the Conaway Chronicle, please visit the website at www.house.gov/conaway or don't hesitate to call me at (202) 225-3605. Check out my blog at www.conawayblog.com!

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